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## Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for November 8th, 2019

For the latest news from Scotland see our ScotNews feed at:

<https://electricscotland.com/scotnews.htm>

### Electric Scotland News

I mentioned last week that if you want to leave the EU then you should vote for the Brexit party. What persuaded me to this view is the report by Martin Howe QC, Chairman of Lawyers for Britain. You can read this report at: <https://lawyersforbritain.org/this-flawed-deal-is-a-tolerable-price-to-pay-for-our-freedom>

What most concerned me in this was the paragraph... "The most important and damaging feature which remains is the long term subjection of the UK to rulings by the ECJ. At present, the ECJ is a multinational court in which we jointly participate. After we exit the EU, it will become an entirely foreign court. It will be an organ of the opposite treaty party with whom we may be in dispute, owing no loyalty at all to the UK. It is virtually unheard of in international relations for any sovereign independent state to submit the interpretation of its treaty obligations to the courts of the opposite treaty party, allowing them to be effectively re-written for the benefit of that party".

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As to Scotland as you know I'm opposed to the SNP and don't believe in Scottish Independence under them. It seems to me that the dumber you are the more likely you are to back the SNP and hence the current row over education for which read the article at: <https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/fmqs-nicola-sturgeon-accused-of-mantra-of-denial-over-decline-of-subject-choice-in-schools-1-5041598>

Again what concerned me is....

However, a report published yesterday by Professor Jim Scott of Dundee University claimed that if the full extent of CfE was known in 2006, it would have been delayed or even cancelled.

Using national, local authority and individual school data, his report found attainment in Scottish national qualification Levels 3 to 5 in fourth year pupils has dropped by at least 32.9 per cent for each level since CfE was introduced in 2013. The number of Higher passes in S5 had also dropped by 10 per cent in the past four years - a reduction, the report claims, "Scotland cannot afford".

Mr Carlaw said this and the civil servants' report made a mockery of the First Minister's claim that education was her top priority.

He added: "She says it doesn't matter how many subjects a child studies, her claim is how many qualifications are achieved. Unfortunately for her, her civil servants looked at that too. They found that while pupils could previously leave school with 10 qualifications at Level 5, they were now, on average, departing with eight, so even on her own measures she is failing."

He added: "The truth is that both Nicola Sturgeon and John Swinney have claimed subject choice is not declining, despite being told differently by their own experts. They both now need to explain why they misled parliament.

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See my video for this newsletter at:

<https://youtu.be/OAynnWmpxbo>

Scottish News from this weeks newspapers

Note that this is a selection and more can be read in our [ScotNews](#) feed on our index page where we list news from the past 1-2 weeks. I am partly doing this to build an archive of modern news from and about Scotland as all the newsletters are archived and

also indexed on Google and other search engines. I might also add that in newspapers such as the Daily Record, Courier, BBC, Capx, ThinkScotland, etc. you will find many comments which can be just as interesting as the news story itself and of course you can also add your own comments if you wish

Scots fish and chip shop named one of the best in UK  
Carron Fish Bar in Stonehaven netted 2nd place in the 20 best chippys in the UK.

Read more at:

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/scots-fish-chip-shop-named-20798243>

Edinburgh Potato used in fight against potato blight

A hybrid potato that is resistant to the crop-destroying fungus known as blight is being trailed as a potential saviour of some of the country's best-known varieties of spud.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-50247977>

A 4,000 year old recipe decoded

A team of international scholars versed in culinary history, food chemistry and cuneiform studies has been recreating dishes from the world's oldest-known recipes.

Read more at:

<http://www.bbc.com/travel/story/20191103-the-worlds-oldest-known-recipes-decoded>

For snobby Nationalists and Greens, the real Scotland is as far away as ever

LIFTED almost word for word from The Road to Wigan Pier by George Orwell, it is worth remembering during this season of ill-will just how poorly Scottish Nationalists really understand Scottish people.

Read more at:

[http://www.thinkscotland.org/thinkpolitics/articles.html?read\\_full=14020](http://www.thinkscotland.org/thinkpolitics/articles.html?read_full=14020)

How Oligarchs and Populists Milk the E.U. for Millions

The European Union spends \$65 billion a year subsidizing agriculture. But a chunk of that money emboldens strongmen, enriches politicians and finances corrupt dealing.

Read more at:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/11/03/world/europe/eu-farm-subsidy-hungary.html>

Sir Lindsay Hoyle elected Speaker of House of Commons

Labour MP and deputy Speaker Sir Lindsay Hoyle has been elected by MPs as the new Commons Speaker, after John Bercow stepped down.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-50293505>

U.S. overtakes Germany, France in UK firms' trade sights

The United States has pushed past Germany and France as the most common trading partner for British businesses

Read more at:

<https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-britain-eu-exports/u-s-overtakes-germany-france-in-uk-firms-trade-sights-hsbc-idUKKBN1XF00B>

Boris Johnson's Brexit deal will not hinder a UK-US trade agreement

First, he made it very clear that the US was not after the UK's NHS in a trade deal. The second thing was his suggestions that Boris Johnson's Brexit deal would make a trade deal with the US more difficult

Read more at:

<https://brexitcentral.com/trump-and-farage-are-wrong-boris-johnsons-brexit-deal-will-not-hinder-a-uk-us-trade-agreement/>

Why the Brexit Party maintains that Boris Johnson's deal is not Brexit

Everyone is battle weary, but it is precisely at this point that Brexiteers must be resolute. This is no time for political expediency.

Read more at:

<https://brexitcentral.com/why-the-brexit-party-maintains-that-boris-johnsons-deal-is-not-brexit/>

The good, the plaid and the unbelievable

Scottish tailor and fashion designer Vixy Rae on how tartan bounced checks around the world

Read more at:

<https://www.sundaypost.com/fp/the-good-the-plaid-and-the-unbelievable-scottish-tailor-and-fashion-designer-vixy-rae-on-how-tartan-bounced-checks-around-the-world>

Glenfiddich Piping Championships 2019

Watch the Glenfiddich Piping Championships 2019

Watch this competition at:

<https://www.thepipingcentre.co.uk/glenfiddich>

## Electric Canadian

Assunta Howard

And other stories and sketches (1891) (pdf) including the Canadian Pioneers

You can read this at: <https://www.electriccanadian.com/pioneering/AssuntaHoward.pdf>

The Pioneers of Montreal

Souvenir of the seventh annual convention of Telephone Pioneers of America September 10th and 12th 1910 (pdf)

You can read this at: <https://www.electriccanadian.com/history/quebec/pioneers-montreal.pdf>

Wild Animals I have known and 200 drawings

By Ernest Thompson Seton (1898) (pdf)

You can read this at: <https://www.electriccanadian.com/lifestyle/wildanimalsihaveknown.pdf>

## Electric Scotland

The Home Preacher

Added service 14 by S. Martin with a link to his bio on Wiki and also to a book by him.

You can read this at: <https://electricscotland.com/bible/homepreacher/week14.htm>

Scottish Society of Louisville

Got in their November 2019 newsletter which you can read at:

<https://electricscotland.com/familytree/newsletters/Louisville/index.htm>

Farage interview with Donald Trump

An interesting interview.

You can watch this at:

<http://www.electricscotland.org/showthread.php/5471-Farage-interview-with-Donald-Trump>

A Guide to Family Devotion

By the Late Rev. Alexander Fletcher, D.D. with a memoir of the author. (pdf)

You can read this at: [https://electricscotland.com/bible/fletcher\\_alexander.htm](https://electricscotland.com/bible/fletcher_alexander.htm)

Talking to the Children

By Alexander MacLeod, D.D. (1872) (pdf)

You can read this at: <https://www.electricscotland.com/bible/talkingtochildren.pdf>

Edinburgh and South of Scotland Trades Directory

Including the counties of Berwick, Edinburgh, Haddington, Linlithgow, Peebles, Roxburgh, and Selkirk; also a Gazetteer of Scotland (1900) (pdf)

You can read this at: <https://www.electricscotland.com/history/edinburgh/trade1900.pdf>

Scottish Society of Indianapolis

Got in their October 2019 newsletter which you can read at:

<https://electricscotland.com/familytree/newsletters/indianapolis/ssioct2019.pdf>

Weird Tales

Scottish (1888) (pdf)

You can read this at: <https://electricscotland.com/lifestyle/weirdtales02.pdf>

Clan Munro Australia

Got in their September 2019 newsletter which you can read at:

<https://electricscotland.com/familytree/newsletters/munro/index.htm>

## The Story

D-Day at 75

A special feature package on the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Second World War's invasion of Normandy — detailing the heroism on the beaches, but also, in the skies and on the seas.

In the June-July 2019 issue of Canada's History, we commemorate the seventy-fifth anniversary of D-Day. Below is our collection of online articles, audio, images and video about the Second World War from the past ten years.

<https://www.canadashistory.ca/explore/military-war/d-day-at-75>

This story is in part to celebrate Remembrance Day.

And that's it for this week and hope you all have a great weekend.

Alastair