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Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for November 22nd, 2019

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

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

Electric Scotland News

Got my gutters cleaned as the last of the leaves were now of the trees. While doing that it was noticed that a part of the wood had rotted and the gutter was leaning over as a result so hopefully this will now last until Spring when I'll get the wood replaced.

Got a new smart meter for my central air system which was a free upgrade from my gas supplier.

Just got to get my car in for winterising to get me over the Winter.

As to the UK Elections. British Prime Minister Boris Johnson's Conservative Party holds a 16-point lead over the opposition Labour Party three weeks ahead of the Dec. 12 general election, according to an Ipsos MORI poll for the Evening Standard newspaper.

The Conservatives and Labour are sucking support from the Liberal Democrats and the Brexit Party, the poll showed.

Support for the Conservatives stood at 44%, up 3 points from last week's poll, and that for Labour was up four points at 28%.

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

Shock figures reveal child suicide rates have risen by 160% in Scotland
The huge increase has alarmed MSPs who want greater investment in mental health services.

Read more at:

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/politics/shock-figures-reveal-child-suicide-20882860>

Bill 21 is an outrage, but Canada must tread carefully

In both Quebec and Alberta, irritation with overbearing federalism and the promise of a better fiscal regime could combine to feed secessionist sentiment.

Read more at:

<https://nationalpost.com/opinion/conrad-black-bill-21-is-an-outrage-but-canada-must-tread-carefully>

Scotland's photograph album goes on display

The MacKinnon Collection, which contains more than 14,000 images, was bought by the National Library of Scotland (NLS) and the National Galleries of Scotland (NGS) for £1m in 2018.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-50425911>

Bushfire conditions worsen in east and west Australia

Rising temperatures, lightning strikes and gusty winds further raised fire danger on both coasts of Australia on Sunday

Read more at:

<https://uk.reuters.com/article/us-australia-bushfires/devastating-bushfire-conditions-to-worsen-in-australia-idUKKBN1XQ0RK>

Scottish Government reported for failure to answer questions on numbers of police mental health staff
The Scottish Government has been reported to the Information Commissioner over its refusal to say how many new mental health support staff the police will be given.

Read more at:

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/scottish-government-reported-for-failure-to-answer-questions-on-numbers-of-police-mental-health-staff-1-5047522>

The new dividing line in British politics (it's not Brexit)

Research suggests voters on low incomes are more engaged with politics than ever - and less loyal to any particular party. To finish off our 'Rebalancing Britain series', CapX spoke to Claire Ainsley of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and polling whizz James Kanagasooriam about the new battle lines of British politics.

Read more at:

<https://capx.co/free-exchange-the-new-dividing-line-in-british-politics-its-not-brexit>

Bear sculpture to honour John Muir unveiled in Dunbar

A steel sculpture of a bear in tribute to conservationist John Muir has been unveiled in Dunbar, East Lothian.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-50476004>

More than four years after Sheku died and we still have no answers.
What kind of a country is this?

Read more at:

<https://www.sundaypost.com/fp/the-length-of-time-it-has-taken-is-unacceptable-it-reveals-contempt-for-us-and-all-the-families-like-us/>

Return of the drink loved by Vikings and ancient Celts

High in the hills above Pitlochry in Perthshire a former soldier has embarked on a new mission to revive an ancient Scottish drink.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-tayside-central-50488465>

Le Mans 66 put in shade by tiny team of Scots who stunned motorsport

Ecurie Ecosse shook the world of racing in 1956 as the Edinburgh team defeated motoring giants Ferrari, Aston Martin and Jaguar.

Read more at:

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/revealed-how-tiny-team-scots-20898243>

See also...

https://electricScotland.com/lifestyle/ecurie_ecosse.htm

Dreich has beaten glaikit and braw to be named most iconic Scots word

Originally meaning enduring or slow, tedious, over time dreich has come to be defined as dreary, hard to bear and dull, gloomy.

Read more at:

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/weird-news/dreich-beaten-glaikit-braw-named-20915627>

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau unveils new cabinet

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has unveiled his new cabinet with former Foreign Minister Chrystia Freeland now tasked with handling Canada's internal divisions.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-50494869>

Alex Salmond accused of sexual assaults on 10 women
His QC, Gordon Jackson, said Mr Salmond was pleading not guilty, and judge Lady Dorrian set the trial date for 9 March next year.
The trial is expected to last about four weeks.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-50486713>

Conrad Black: The U.K.'s Boris Machiavelli can expect a big win

When it comes to the Brexit entanglement, Boris Johnson is the man the United Kingdom required to slice this Gordian Knot

Read more at:

<https://nationalpost.com/opinion/conrad-black-the-u-k-s-boris-machiavelli-can-expect-a-big-win>

Electric Canadian

William Coaker

Clerk, businessman, farmer, office holder, editor, labour leader, and politician.

You can read about him at: https://www.electriccanadian.com/makers/coaker_william.htm

The Romantic Settlement of Lord Selkirk's Colonies

[The Pioneers of Manitoba] By Dr. George Bryce of Winnipeg, President of the Royal Society of Canada, etc. (1909) (pdf)

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

Canadian Poets

This volume contains brief but inclusive records of fifty men and women to whom song has come first. Many of their poems are indigenous to the soil,— vitally, healthfully Canadian. Chosen and Edited by John W. Garvin, B. A. (1916) (pdf)

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

The Canadian Pioneers

By Abbé H. R. Casgrain Translated from the French by A. W. L. Gompertz (1896) (pdf)

You can read about them at: <https://www.electriccanadian.com/makers/canadianpioneers.pdf>

Three Years' Residence in Canada

From 1837 to 1839 with notes of a Winter voyage to New York, and journey thence to the British possessions to which is added a review of the condition of the Canadian people by T. R. Peston late of the Government Service at Toronto in 2 volumes (1840)

You can read this at: <https://www.electriccanadian.com/history/threeyears.htm>

Electric Scotland

The Home Preacher

Added Service 16 by Dr. M'Farlane

You can read this at: <https://electricScotland.com/bible/homepreacher/week16.htm>

Transactions of the Literary and Antiquarian Society of Perth

Volume 1 (1827) (pdf)

You can read this at:

https://electricScotland.com/history/perth/Transactions_of_the_Literary_and_Antiquarian_Pert.pdf

The coinage of Scotland Illustrated

From the cabinet of Thomas Coats, Esq., of Ferguslie and other collections by Edward Burns FSA Scot in 3 volumes (1887)

You can read this at: <https://www.electricScotland.com/books/pdf/coinage.htm>

My Trip in the "John Williams"

By R. Wardlaw Thompson (1900) (pdf)

You can read this at: <https://electricScotland.com/history/australia/mytripinjohnwilliams.pdf>

The Gospel in Ezekiel

Illustrated in a series of discourses by the Rev. Thomas Guthrie, D.D., Edinburgh (1870) (pdf)

You can read this at: <https://electricScotland.com/bible/gospelinezekiel.pdf>

Clan Wallace Society

Got in a copy of the summer 2019 newsletter which you can read at:

<https://electricScotland.com/familytree/newsletters/wallace/index.htm>

Scottish Banner

Was given a copy of the November 2019 issue which you can read at:

<https://electricScotland.com/familytree/newsletters/scottishbanner/>

A True History of several honourable names of Scot

In the Shires of Roxburgh and Selkirk, and others adjacent by Captain Walter Scot (Third Edition) (1786) (pdf)

You can read this at: <https://electricScotland.com/history/nation/truehistoryofscot786.pdf>

Tours in Scotland 1677 & 1681

By Thomas Kirk and Ralph Thoresby edited by P. Hume Brown (1892) (pdf)

You can read this at: <https://www.electricScotland.com/books/pdf/toursinscotland.pdf>

Tours in Scotland 1747, 1750, 1760

By Richard Pococke, Bishop of Meath Edited with a Biographical Sketch of the Author by Daniel William Kemp (1887) (pdf)

You can read this at: <https://www.electricScotland.com/books/pdf/toursinscotland02.pdf>

The Story

Scots firm to develop whisky distillery in Inner Mongolia

From the BBC

An Angus firm has won a six-figure deal to develop what is believed to be Inner Mongolia's first whisky distillery.

Forfar-based Valentine International will act as project managers for the distillery, which will be built in Ordos.

The "design and build" contract with the Mengtai Group was signed at the recent World Chinese Entrepreneurs' Convention in London.

Mengtai's core businesses include coal production and electricity generation.

The deal follows a series of events, led by Scottish Chambers of Commerce (SCC), which hosted business groups from Inner Mongolia under the SCC network's International Trade Partnership.

The project will see Mengtai provide all of the buildings and ancillary accommodation required for the distillery, while production equipment will be manufactured in Scotland and shipped to the Chinese autonomous region for assembly by Scottish engineers.

Valentine International owner Dave Valentine, who specialises in establishing commercial ventures in China, said: "The project will deliver a multi million-pound export bonus for at least two Scottish companies still to be contracted for the design and build of the distillery production equipment and for the supply of bulk whiskies.

"As the project progresses there will be opportunities for skilled industry experts required to oversee the operation during the initial phases of the development."

It is understood that Valentine International is close to choosing contractors for the project, the first phase of which is expected to complete by the end of next year.

'Mengtai Chairman Ao FengTing said his ambition was to produce China's best quality whisky, which would be "globally recognised in terms of world rankings".

He added: "Scotland is the 'home of whisky' and has the greatest expertise in terms of distillery equipment manufacture and know-how."

SCC, which recently signed a Memorandum of Trade with the Inner Mongolian General Chambers of Commerce, described the deal as "great news for Scotland".

Chief executive Liz Cameron said: "This deal creates a significant opportunity for Scottish suppliers worth over £3m.

"We are confident of more investors coming to Scotland as a result.

"It is an example of what can be achieved by forging relationships and adding value and confidence between businesses across the globe."

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

Alastair