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## Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for June 25th, 2021

For the latest news from Scotland see our ScotNews feed at:  
<https://electricscotland.com/scotnews.htm>

### Electric Scotland News

Two news items got my interest this week. One of course is about the new discovery of some 700 bodies in unmarked graves in another residential school run by the Catholic Church in Canada.

The other is how the SNP's strategy of angering the English seems to be paying off as more English people are being convinced they'd be much better off without Scotland. I have links to both these news items in the Scottish News below.

Also I got an email in from Beth Gay which indicated that she's likely to send in her Beth's Newfangled Family Tree tomorrow. I'll of course put it up and will announce that in next week's newsletter but if you're keen to read it do check out her page over the weekend.

I also want to note that I've been posting up the Rev. Nola Crewe's "Thoughts on a Sunday Morning" video on Sunday of each week into our Community. I always announce that in this newsletter but again if you'd like to view it on the Sunday then you can find it on YouTube.

#### MyHeritage

As I mentioned the other week I have taken a sponsorship deal from MyHeritage and just wanted to tell you that I'll be announcing a unique offer from them which will start around July 12th and run for around 5 days.

One of the reasons why you might want to take out a subscription is their picture facility which allows you to repair poor quality black and white pictures and ones that may have a tare in them or are blurry. You can also colorize them and also animate a face. All of which are really useful to have at your disposal. You can watch a demo of this on a YouTube video at: <https://electricscotland.com/webclans/myheritage.htm> where I've embedded a link to it.

### Scottish News from this week's 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 and world news stories that can affect Scotland and as all the newsletters are archived and also indexed on Google and other search engines it becomes a good resource. I might also add that in a number of newspapers 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 which I do myself from time to time.

Nicola Sturgeon humiliated as UK had to step in to bail out Scotland over welfare  
NICOLA STURGEON was dealt a huge blow after it emerged that the UK had to bail out Scotland over welfare.

Read more at:

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/1451345/nicola-sturgeon-news-uk-welfare-devolved-snp-powers-benefits-spt>

SNP fury at claim England would thrive without Scotland fleecing taxpayers

It is we English who bankroll her free health prescriptions; fund the entirety of her children's four-year long university courses; and subsidise her bloated, private-enterprise-killing, left-leaning, public sector.

Read more at:

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/1451147/snp-news-scotland-economic-ruin-england-bankrolling-nicola-sturgeon-spt>

Don't fall for SNP trap!

Warning Sturgeon exploiting English anger to further independence

Read more at:

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/1451738/nicola-sturgeon-news-snp-latest-scotland-independence-referendum-bernard-jenkin-funding>

Liz Truss starts crunch trade talks with Greenland - would be bumper deal for UK fishermen  
THE UK has held talks with Greenland to start the process of agreeing to a bilateral trade agreement with the Arctic nation, Express.co.uk can reveal today.

Read more at:

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/1451657/brexit-news-greenland-trade-deal-pele-broberg-liz-truss>

Why the SNP is never held to account

The Scottish Government won't get better without genuine scrutiny.

Read more at:

<https://stephendaisley.substack.com/p/why-the-snp-is-never-held-to-account>

UK and Norway sign major energy deal

BREXIT BRITAIN is forging a new energy partnership with Norway, the first of its kind with a non-EU member state.

Read more at:

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/1452638/brexit-news-norway-uk-power-project-nigel-williams-Kwasi-Kwarteng-latest>

The peerless beauty of Iona

By Maxwell MacLeod in the Scottish Review

Read more at:

<https://www.scottishreview.net/MaxwellMacLeod576a.html>

Give all Scots a say

The SNP portray themselves as paragons of virtue compared to those nasty Tories, but they are remarkably happy to marginalise their own compatriots by denying them a vote in any future independence referendum. For all their bluster, it's nationalists who really want a rigged vote.

Read more at:

<https://capx.co/if-there-is-another-referendum-scots-throughout-the-uk-must-get-a-say/>

All roads lead to Scotland as 6.4 million visitors book summer staycations

Scotland faces an influx of 6.4 million visitors this summer as UK staycationers head here in record numbers, according to industry data.

Read more at:

<https://www.sundaypost.com/fp/scottish-staycations>

Five years from the Brexit vote, 'Global Britain' is now much more than a slogan

The UK is now number 1 in Europe and number 2 in the world for foreign direct investment

Read more at:

<https://capx.co/five-years-from-the-brexit-vote-global-britain-is-now-much-more-than-a-slogan/>

Brits should be able to buy Aussie beef without being fed a load of bull

Of all the nonsense about the UK-Australia trade deal, the idea that "hormone-fed" beef would arrive on our shores was particularly egregious. Australia has never demanded that so-called 'HPG' beef be part of the deal - though if you look at the scientific evidence, there's no reason to be opposed to it anyway.

Read more at:

<https://capx.co/brits-should-be-able-to-buy-aussie-beef-without-being-fed-a-load-of-bull/>

How Russian MP told Putin to drop nuclear bomb on island off Scotland in show of strength  
In 2016, Mr Zhirinovsky urged Russian President Vladimir Putin to launch a nuclear strike on islands off the coast of Scotland - to prove Russia means business to the rest of the world. The prominent Russian politician made the demand as he wanted to make clear the Kremlin was serious about proving its military might.

Read more at:

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/world/1453580/vladimir-putin-news-royal-navy-uk-ukraine-scotland-island-spt>

New sun-driven cooling period of Earth not far off.

Nils-Axel Morner, a former head of the Paleo-Geophysics and Geodynamics Department in Stockholm, says a new solar-driven cooling period for the Earth is not far off.

Read more at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ViY2J3LPgN4>

Mass Indigenous graves found at another Catholic school in Canada

Hundreds of unmarked graves have been found near a former Catholic residential school in western Canada, an Indigenous group announces.

Read more at:

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/6/24/unmarked-graves-at-another-indigenous-school-in-canada>

Greater Manchester-Scotland travel ban row deepens

We have a situation... where Dundee has higher case rates than Bolton, but Bolton is under a travel ban [and] Dundee is not.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-manchester-57593545>

## Electric Canadian

Thoughts on a Sunday morning - the 20th day of June 2021

By the Rev. Nola Crewe

You can watch this at:

<http://www.electricscotland.org/forum/communities/rev-nola-crewe/26058-thoughts-on-a-sunday-morning-20th-day-of-june-2021>

Canada could be a world power, but not without rethinking our goals

A new geopolitical order is taking shape. The globe is rapidly realigning under American and Chinese spheres of influence and the pandemic has only raised the stakes.

Read more at:

<https://www.saltwire.com/nova-scotia/opinion/national-perspectives/conrad-black-canada-could-be-a-world-power->

[but-not-without-rethinking-our-goals-502071/](#)

Canada's little-known Russian sect

The fascinating but little-documented story of the Doukhobors, a pacifist religious sect who fled persecution in Russia to undertake one of the largest migrations in Canadian history.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/travel/article/20210623-canadas-little-known-russian-sect>

History of the Kangaroos

1st Canadian Armoured Carrier Regiment created during WWII (pdf)

Read about them at:

[http://www.electriccanadian.com/forces/History\\_of\\_the\\_Kangaroos\\_1st\\_Canadian\\_Armoured\\_Carrier\\_Regiment.pdf](http://www.electriccanadian.com/forces/History_of_the_Kangaroos_1st_Canadian_Armoured_Carrier_Regiment.pdf)

What Women say of the Canadian North-West (pdf)

You can read this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/pioneering/whatwomensaynorthwest.pdf>

Spaniards in Canada

Created a page for this ethnic group which you can read at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/spain.htm>

## Electric Scotland

Beth's Video Talks

Got in her talk for June 23rd 2021 - Edinburgh does not rhyme with Pittsburgh

You can view this at: <https://electricscotland.com/bnft/videos.htm>

Duke of York joins the Scottish Masons

Got sent in a couple of old newspaper cuttings by a chap in Texas about the induction of the Duke of York into the Scottish Masons which you can view at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/leaves/dukeofyork.htm>

Frederick Douglass

An American social reformer, abolitionist, orator, writer, and statesman. After escaping from slavery in Maryland, he became a national leader of the abolitionist movement in Massachusetts and New York, becoming famous for his oratory and incisive antislavery writings.

He also visited England and Scotland and have included 3 books about him at a new page I created at:

[https://electricscotland.com/history/america/douglass\\_frederick.htm](https://electricscotland.com/history/america/douglass_frederick.htm)

Lillian Beckwith

Added a small obituary to her page at:

[https://electricscotland.com/books/lillian\\_beckwith.htm](https://electricscotland.com/books/lillian_beckwith.htm)

Clan Buchanan

Got in their July 2021 newsletter which you can read at:

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

Ayr

Added two new videos to our page on Ayr and also added a link to a book on Ayr, Annals of Ayr in the Olden Time

1560 - 1692 by John H. Pagan, B. D. (1897) at:  
<https://electricScotland.com/history/ayr/index.htm>

A History of the Ayrshire Yeomanry Cavalry  
By W. S. Cooper M.A., L.L.M., F8A Scot., Captain, Ayrshire Yeomanry Cavalry (1881) which you can read at:  
<https://electricScotland.com/history/scotreg/ayrshireyeomary.htm>

The Origin and Early History of the Ayrshire Breed of Cattle  
By John Speir (1909) (pdf)

You can read this at: <https://electricScotland.com/agriculture/Ayshirebreedofcattle.pdf>

Ayrshire Breeders' Year Book  
Containing the Proceedings of the Annual Meeting for 1898, with a History of the Breed, Recent Milk and Butter Records and General Information about AvrsNres and the Ayrshire Breeders' Association. (1898) (pdf)

You can read this book at:  
<https://electricScotland.com/agriculture/Ayrshirebreedersyearbook.pdf>

## Story

IN a pocket book of homely and homemade appearance clad in a cover made doubtless from the skin of one of his own flock—ovine not human—Mr. James Laurie, the minister of Kirkmichael has noted down from the years 1711 to 1732 memoranda of his income and expenses, his bonds, his bills, drugs he used, wages he paid, crops he reaped, books he bought, bargains he made. For twenty frugal years this venerable little note-book served him, and after the lapse of 180 years it may also serve us; for it affords glimpses of the quaint quiet rural life of Scotland in the early part of the eighteenth century.

Kirkmichael, with a population of 700 souls, in those days was a remote parish through which ran tracks over the moors to Maybole and Ayr. There was no village then but only little clachans. There were stretches of heather and bog, in which forty years before covenanters had sought shelter from the malignant pursuers; there were pastures and lands reclaimed from the marshes, on which were grown poor grey oats and beer or barley, struggling for existence with thistles and wild mustard; there were the heather-covered hovels, in which the crofters lived in peat-reeked rooms or 'spences,' hardly divided from the 'ben' in which the cows and the poultry had a malodorous sleeping place. Here and there were the mansions of lairds which were sheltered by clumps of trees, which alone relieved the bare woodless landscape. These dwellings were mostly homely and unpretentious. Though there were one or two of more importance, such as Kirkmichael House, near to the manse, which an old writer describes 'as desirable a dwelling in all the country having good gardens and orchards, the first in Carrick planted with peaches and apricocks.' The manse, like most of the ministers' dwellings of those days, would be thatched, with a kailyard in front, the narrow little windows half glazed, giving dim light through walls three feet thick to the low chambers and four rooms which were divided by wooden partitions. Here resided a family consisting of the minister and his wife (Mistress Ann Orr 'that was,'), sister Betty, and four boys and three girls. Three women servants and a serving man, who slept over the byre, with a herd lassie completed the household.

A stipend of £80 was not wealth beyond the dreams of avarice for the most frugal establishment. But even this income was hard to get. Some lairds are hard up, and they pay with difficulty the teinds of 'white' or silver money, or 'victual,' in oatmeal and bere; and sometimes three years pass by before the minister is fully paid up his due of meal or money. He takes horse to Dinduff, and there he gets counted out 'three golden guineas and a banknote,' but for the rest he is obliged to accept a bill, and some 'precepts.' From prosperous Sir John Ferguson of Kilkerran he gets in 1721 'nine pounds and 3 and 20 pence and four and a plack,' which is supplemented by a bill. Impecuniosity being the badge of all their tribe, some of the heritor lairds adopt the plan of giving the minister their 'precepts,' or orders on their tenants who were to pay out of their rents the proportion of stipend allocated to their farms, and these men in turn put him off sometimes with a bill. To the farmers therefore the poor minister had to apply yearly for their shares of teinds, a few bolls meal from one, some pecks from another, and there were usually

some firlots wanting when brought by grudging tenants to the door. The victual stipend arrived in sacks or creels on horseback—2 bolls forming the 'load' of a horse—and was deposited in the giral at the back of the manse, with divisions to contain malt, meal, grey oats, white oats, beer and horse corn, which might get musty or eaten by rats before it was used, so that it was better to bargain for 'white seed corn instead of meal.'

Nor were the heritors more willing to keep the manse in repair than they are to keep its owner in money. The session or minister must look after it when it goes into decay, though the window panes are broken and the casements are rotten.

You can read the full story at:

<https://electricScotland.com/history/articles/review/review1.htm>

END.

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

Alastair

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