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## Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for April 8th, 2022

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

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

## Electric Scotland News

I thought I'd make a change to our story this week by providing a video entitled "Great Grand Mother" which tells the story of how women lived up to 1916 in Manitoba on the Prairies of Canada.

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Notice that the EU is continuing to purchase lots of oil and gas from Russia which clearly the Ukrainian President is not happy about. See the article below in our news section: "Sanctions are no good while Germany still buys Russian energy"

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I also note the Spectator article about "Nicola Sturgeon's secret state" which does make you wonder about the honesty of the SNP government.

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 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.

ScotRail goes back into public ownership

ScotRail is back in public ownership for the first time in 25 years. The train operator will now be run by a company owned by the Scottish government.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-60842268>

Queen's life at Balmoral celebrated in exhibition

The Queen's relationship with her Scottish summer holiday home at Balmoral is being celebrated in a special exhibition to mark her Platinum Jubilee.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-north-east-orkney-shetland-60932565>

Why seed banks aren't just for doomsday

Across the world, strategic seed banks keep safe seeds that could replenish agriculture after a cataclysm. But they aren't just for a worst-case scenario.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20220331-why-seed-banks-arent-just-for-doomsday>

Putin launches wheat threat as Russia set to spark second global supply shortage

VLADIMIR PUTIN has threatened to limit the global supply of wheat in response to Western sanctions on Russia, one of his allies has warned.

Read more at:

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/world/1590107/Russia-news-Andrey-Kelin-ministry-of-defence-anti-ship-system-ukraine-ont>

YouGov Poll Explains SNP Reluctance to Answer Difficult Economic Questions

YouGov polling carried out on behalf of These Islands highlights a series of problems facing the SNP in their push for a second independence referendum:

Read more at:

[https://www.these-islands.co.uk/publications/i379/keeping\\_the\\_dream\\_alive.aspx](https://www.these-islands.co.uk/publications/i379/keeping_the_dream_alive.aspx)

An icy mystery deep in Arctic Canada

Known as the Crystal Eye to the Inuit, Pingualuit Crater was once the destination for diamond-seeking prospectors. But the real treasure is the stories its deep waters can tell.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/travel/article/20220403-an-icy-mystery-deep-in-arctic-canada>

How a Scottish mountain weighed the planet

The 18th-Century quest to weigh Earth was crucial to better understanding our Universe and it took a lonely mountain in Scotland to help achieve the task.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/travel/article/20211007-how-a-scottish-mountain-weighed-the-planet>

The latest CO2 report

From John Redwood MP

Read more at:

<http://johnredwoodsdiary.com/2022/04/06/the-latest-co2-report/>

Is it the end of the road for motorways like the M8?

It is the busiest stretch of road in Scotland but is now, and will remain for years, the country's most notorious traffic jam.

Read more at:

<https://www.sundaypost.com/fp/going-going-cone-end-of-the-road-for-motorways/>

Break-ins increase after Scots police stations closed

Break-ins have risen in communities where Police Scotland has closed stations, we can reveal, as research suggests the cost-cutting move is followed by an increase in theft and car crime.

Read more at:

<https://www.sundaypost.com/fp/police-stations-closed/>

Which areas of the UK's energy plan will we see in Scotland?

Scotland will not bring back nuclear reactors despite nuclear power being a central part of the UK government's energy strategy. Panning differences and devolved policies mean the strategy will be different for Scotland. So where does the country stand on the key points of the UK's blueprint?

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-61022759>

Single shaming: Why people jump to judge the un-partnered

The number of singletons is increasing, yet people still insist on telling them they'll find a partner soon. What's with all the pity?

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/worklife/article/20220405-single-shaming-why-people-jump-to-judge-the-un-partnered>

The Bargain: how our ancestors saw an opportunity for Scotland that still makes sense

In the first of a series of four articles on the Union and how to save it, Tom Miers argues we need to understand the original bargain struck by Scotland in 1707 and the nature of the nationalist threat to it.

Read more at:

<https://thinkscotland.org/2022/04/the-bargain-how-our-ancestors-saw-an-opportunity-for-scotland-that-still-makes-sense/>

Working class heroes are a riveting sight

PORT GLASGOW had a sculpture placed in the last month within shouting distance of the SNP Government-owned Ferguson's yard.

Read more at:

<https://thinkscotland.org/2022/04/working-class-heroes-are-a-riveting-sight/>

Sanctions are no good while Germany still buys Russian energy

Every euro spent on Russian energy is a euro spent subsidising the murder of Ukrainians. Germany knows this, yet it has calculated that keeping its gas pipes flowing is more important. When Chancellor Scholz arrives in Britain tomorrow, the Prime Minister should call him what he is: Putin's enabler.

Read more at:

<https://capx.co/sanctions-are-no-good-while-germany-still-buys-russian-energy>

Nicola Sturgeon's secret state

As Westminster grapples with the P&O scandal, a very different farce over ferries has been playing out in Scotland. In the run-up to the 2014 independence referendum, a Glasgow shipbuilder went bust and was rescued by a Scottish National party adviser. It was later awarded a £97 million government contract to build two ferries. Neither emerged. The cost now stands at £240 million and last month Scots learned that there will be another eight-month delay to the boats. What happened? Why did so much public money change hands? Was the taxpayer swindled?

Read more at:

<https://www.spectator.co.uk/article/nicola-sturgeons-secret-state>

Nicola Sturgeon's Potemkin parliament

Is the word of a Scottish government minister worth anything?

Read more at:

<https://www.spectator.co.uk/article/nicola-sturgeon-s-potemkin-parliament>

## Electric Canadian

The Eskimo

By Franz Boas, Ph.D. (1887) (pdf)

An interesting article which you can read at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/first/eskimo.pdf>

Aboriginal American Poetry  
By John Reade (pdf)

An article which can be read at:  
<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/first/aboriginalpoetry.pdf>

Canada Greets You!  
Issued by authority of The Hon. W. D. Euler, Minister of Trade and Commerce, for Canada (pdf)

An old marketing publication promoting Canada which you can read at:  
<http://www.electriccanadian.com/lifestyle/canadagreetsyou.pdf>

Some Wabanaki Songs  
By John Reade (1887) (pdf)

Some First Nations songs which you can read at:  
<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/first/wabanakisongs.pdf>

## Electric Scotland

Beth's Video Talks  
April 8th 2022 - Advertising 101 part 1

You can watch this at: <https://electricScotland.com/bnft/videos.htm>

Life of Major-General Sir Robert Murdoch Smith, K.E.M.G., Royal Engineers  
By his son-in-law, William Kirk Dickson (1901) (pdf)

You can read this at:  
[https://electricScotland.com/history/scotreg/Life\\_of\\_Major\\_General\\_Sir\\_Robert\\_Murdoch.pdf](https://electricScotland.com/history/scotreg/Life_of_Major_General_Sir_Robert_Murdoch.pdf)

Clan Lachlan Association of Canada  
Got in their Spring 2022 newsletter which you can read at:  
<https://electricScotland.com/familytree/newsletters/lachlan/index.htm>

Sutherland and the Reay Country  
History, Antiquities, Folklore, Topography, Regiments, Ecclesiastical Records, Poetry and Music, Etc. with numerous portraits and Illustrations, Edited by Rev. Adam Gunn, M.A. and John Mackay (1897) (pdf)

A good read which you can get to at:  
[https://electricScotland.com/history/sutherland/Sutherland\\_and\\_the\\_Reay\\_Country.pdf](https://electricScotland.com/history/sutherland/Sutherland_and_the_Reay_Country.pdf)

Hylton Newsletter  
Winter 2022 - Surviving Winter in Scotland

You can read this at:  
<https://electricScotland.com/familytree/newsletters/hylton/index.htm>

Scottish Society of Indianapolis  
Got in their March 2022 newsletter which you can read at:  
<https://electricScotland.com/familytree/newsletters/indianapolis/index.htm>

Scottish Banner  
Got in their April 2022 issue which you can read at:

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

Colonel Alexander "Alick" John Fraser C.B.  
1821-1866 By LeeAnne Bloye (pdf)

You can read about him at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/scotreg/ColonelAlexanderAlickJohnFraserCB.pdf>

## Story

Great Grand Mother

This short film is an ode to the women who settled the Prairies, from the days of early immigration to 1916 - when Manitobans became the first women in Canada to receive the provincial vote - and beyond. Recollections of women are complemented by a series of quotations drawn from letters, diaries, and newspapers of the day, which are spoken over re-enacted scenes and archival photographs.

You can watch this at:

<https://www.electricensecanadian.com/history/articles/ggmother.htm>

END

Weekend is almost here and hope it's a good one for you.

Alastair

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