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Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for January 12th, 2024

Electric Scotland News

I was trying to find a book I'd read some time ago now which sought to prove that Israel was in fact Scotland. I still haven't found it but during my search I came across the book "How Scotland Lost Its Hold of the Bible"; By Iain H. Murray.

It starts...

Man is now thinking out a Bible for himself; framing a religion in harmony with the development of liberal thought; constructing a worship on the principles of taste and culture; shaping a god to suit the expanding aspirations of the age. ... The extent of the mischief no one can calculate. A soul without faith, a church without faith, a nation without faith, a world without faith – what is to be their future? What is their present? When faith goes, all good things go. When unbelief comes in, all evil things follow. By Horatius Bonar writing in 1883.

Now the book is only 28 pages so I thought I'd read through it and thus thought I'd share it with you and it can be read at:

<https://electricscotland.com/bible/How-Scotland-Lost-Its-Hold-of-the-Bible.pdf>

4,000,000

The number of working days lost as a result of public sector strikes last year in the UK

Source: Resolution Foundation

160

New Greggs bakeries will open this year, following a 20% increase in sales.

If you haven't heard of Greggs then find out more about them at:

<https://www.greggs.co.uk/>

A departure this week from our usual story in that I'm giving you information about an emergency heater/stove which I just purchased. I used YouTube videos to decide and have also provided links to them in the story should you wish to watch them. I purchased it through Amazon in Canada.

Scottish News from this weeks newspapers

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 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.

Here is what caught my eye this week...

2023: MyHeritage Year in Review

As we turn the last page of 2023 at MyHeritage, we reflect on another year of ups and downs, with moments of great success alongside moments of complexity. All these moments underscored the resilience and determination at the heart of the MyHeritage team.

Read more at:

<https://blog.myheritage.com/2024/01/2023-myheritage-year-in-review/>

For Richer, for Poorer?

Multiple reinforcing factors appear to be responsible: the large proportion of unproductive small firms; a lack of business dynamism; poor innovation systems; inadequate workplace skills; and repeated concerns over fiscal sustainability. Then there is political instability by Kevin Hague.

Read more at:

https://www.these-islands.co.uk/publications/i395/for_richer_for_poorer.aspx

Eurozone slump proves Britain was right all along to quit bloc, says Brexiteer
Figures published by the ECB last week indicate that inflation throughout the eurozone monetary union increased by 0.5 percent last month.

Read more at:

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/1852385/eurozone-recession-pound-sterling-reform-uk-brexit>

Family history hunt ends on tiny island home to just seals and sheep

Today, the inhabitants of the remote Scottish island Eilean nan Ròn total a community of grey seals, a flock of wild sheep and thousands of seabirds.

View this at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-highlands-islands-67884187>

Island of the Seals

Composer, sound artist and flautist Rob Mackay traces his family roots on Eilean nan Ròn, just off the north coast of Scotland. - Audio recording

Listen to this at:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m001v1mr>

Australia sees sense on its plan to ditch the monarchy

Australia's government has been determined to 'do a Barbados' and ditch the British monarchy for an Australian republic with an Australian president. But now, it seems, prime minister Anthony Albanese has lost his nerve.

Read more at:

<https://www.spectator.co.uk/article/australia-sees-sense-on-its-plan-to-ditch-the-monarchy>

Inuvik festival: After 30 days of darkness, celebrating the sun's return

The Inuvik sunrise festival in the Northwest Territories in Canada marks the return of the sun after more than 30 days of polar nights and no official sunrise.

Watch this at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-67918636>

Mouse filmed tidying up Powys man's shed every night

An avid wildlife photographer has captured his most unusual scene yet - a mouse tidying up his garden shed.

You can watch this at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-67907306>

Why the EV Market Is Sputtering

Ford's struggles in the EV market are an important reminder of who the real boss is in a free-market economy. It's not Ford. And it's certainly not the federal government.

Read more at:

<https://fee.org/articles/why-the-ev-market-is-sputtering>

Huge fishing boom heralded on coast of Britain in brilliant Brexit bonus

Britain is poised to reap the benefits of a brilliant Brexit bonus after the discovery of large shellfish beds in the Thames Estuary, offering the nation's fishermen a massive shot in the arm, an MP has revealed.

Read more at:

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/1854123/brexit-news-fishing-rishi-sunak-essex>

Royal Navy smashes Iran-backed rebels' 'worst-ever' Red Sea attack with sea viper missiles

Grant Shapps congratulated the Royal Navy this morning after one of its best battleships helped repel a major attack by Iranian-backed militants.

Read more at:

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/1853956/Grant-Shapps-Royal-Navy-Houthis-Red-Sea>

The Scottish coastal village with seaside walks and cosy pubs to escape the cold

For the latest edition of the Daily Record's weekly series highlighting Scotland's must-visit towns and villages, we have chosen the charming little hidden gem of Pittenweem.

Read more at:

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/scotland-now/gallery/scottish-coastal-village-seaside-walks-31859331>

£2bn town planned near Edinburgh Airport

A £2bn development with 7,000 homes as well as shops, schools, social and medical facilities is being planned for a site near Edinburgh Airport.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-67944481>

Crispy potato recipe takes 20 minutes in air fryer - and costs just 38p

A savvy cook has shared her recipe for creating the most 'unreal' and crispy potatoes in the air fryer, which saves you time, calories and cash in the new year.

Read more at:

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/lifestyle/unreal-crispy-potato-recipe-takes-31859548>

Electric Canadian

Report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples 1996
In 5 volumes, e-book edition 2013

You can read this report at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/first/aboriginalpeoples.htm>

McEachran, Duncan McNab

Veterinarian, professor, author, school administrator, inspector, and stockbreeder

You can read about him at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/makers/McEachran-Dncan-McNab.htm>

Thoughts on a Sunday Morning - the 7th of January 2024 - Words of Wisdom
BY the Rev. Nola Crewe

You can watch this at:

<http://www.electricscotland.org/forum/communities/rev-nola-crewe/26445-thoughts-on-a-sunday-morning-the-7th-of-january-2024-words-of-wisdom>

Emigration to North Western Canada
Information for intending Settlers (1893) (pdf)

You can read this at:

http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/manitoba/manitobanorthwes00cana_0.pdf

What Happened to Gander International?
Added a video to the foot of our video page

You can watch it at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/newfoundland/videos.htm>

Electric Scotland

The Complete Distiller

Combining theory and practice and explaining the mysteries and most recent improvements of distilling and brewing in most simple, easy, and familiar manner and containing all the instructions necessary for a complete acquirement of these useful arts adapted for the use of Private Families, Apothecaries, Distillers, and Dealers in Spirits or Wines by a gentleman of extensive practice and long experience, Ambrose Cooper, Distiller (1793) (pdf)

You can read this at:

https://electricscotland.com/lifestyle/bim_eighteenth-century_gentleman-of-extensive-p_1793.pdf

Mr. Paul's Pantry

Great recipes for Scotch pies and other favourites.

Was very impressed watching his recipes being created so decided to profile them in our Food section at:
<https://electricscotland.com/food/jsimpson/pauls-pantry.htm>

Scottish Society of Indianapolis

Got in their January 2024 newsletter which you can read at:

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

Argyll's Highlands

Or MacCailein Mor and the Lords of Lorne, with tradionary tales and legends of the County of Argyll and the Campbells and MacDonalds by Cuthbert Bede and edited by John MacKay (1902) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/glencreggan/argyllshighlands1902bede.pdf>

A critical history of free thought in reference to the Christian religion
Eight lectures by Adam Storey Farrar (1881) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/bible/History-of-Free-Thought.pdf>

Scottish Jews

I added two videos and a couple of biographies.

You can get to this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/world/Jews.htm>

Clan Munro of Australia Newsletter

Got in their December 2023 newsletter which you can read at:

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

Travels on Horseback in Mantchu Tartary

Being a Summer's ride beyond the Great Wall of China by George Fleming, Esq. (1863) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/china/travelsonhorseb00filemgoog.pdf>

Story

VESTA Self-Powered Camping Indoor/Outdoor Heater & Stove
(Compact, Off-Grid, Emergency unit)

I was aware that in the event of a power outage i had no means of getting some heat or to get a hot drink. I decided that this year I'd find a solution to this dilemma and so I purchased the VESTA Self-Powered Camping Indoor/Outdoor Heater & Stove. I thought I'd share with you some details on this unit.

About this item

No Electricity Required: Heat a Room and Cook without Power

Off-Grid Stove Heater: Great for Camping, Picnic, Emergency or Indoor Heating and Cooking

Compact & Portable: Weighs only 7.6 pounds! Easy to transport. Product Dimensions: 11"D x 7.5"W x 10.75"H

Warms Up To 200 SQ FT with Heat Powered Fan

Fueled by Canned Heat (3 Included): Safe for Indoor Use.

Canned heat is chafing fuel—odorless, smokeless, nontoxic, and generally safe for indoor use. It is still HIGHLY recommended to provide adequate ventilation in any room where it is in use.

Built-in Stove: Cook Food or Boil Water

Includes: 3 InstaFire 6-Hour Canned Heat

An Emergency Doesn't need to be a Disaster!

Holds up to 3 Canned Heat (The Insta-Fire Vesta Stove Includes 3 cans) Shelf Life Insta-Fire Canned Heat: When stored in ambient conditions above its freezing point, this product will last for many years. Product may freeze when temperature reaches 16 degrees Fahrenheit (-8 Celsius).

Includes: Three (3) containers of canned heat. Safely Heat a Room AND Cook Meals—All Indoors! Simple design: Just slide up to three cans of canned heat inside the unit, then light to use. No power needed: No electricity? Not a problem. You don't need power to run this unit! The Fan Turns on Automatically in Just a Few Minutes. The fan motor operates on heat and must absorb enough of it in order to run. It takes up to three minutes for the fan to start spinning. It takes another five to eight minutes to reach its full speed and emit maximum heat. At that point, the fan will blow three to four miles per hour, like a small space heater.

See a YouTube video of it being tested at:

Winter Car Camping with New InstaFire Vesta Heater and Stove

<https://youtu.be/l2bfNXpEcY?si=JwJpbVIG10-IKIQT>

A more detailed video inside a house at:

<https://youtu.be/DrhqBN4TCCE?si=74L-kEpIPCRuHLPI>

In the above video they talk about using an alcohol burner instead of the canned heat they supply so I did some hunting to find out more which you can view below in another YouTube video...

Goshawk ERA Burner - A Real Game Changer in Alcohol Stove Design

https://youtu.be/v00_5_MGVDA?si=4c5uoC0FSYQAhrMq

The MOST FUEL EFFICIENT alcohol stove

<https://youtu.be/rptyhGBRwGA?si=vtqRvFpH20p6wJj0>

Everclear VS Denatured Alcohol

I understand that Everclear is the best alcohol for indoor use.

<https://youtu.be/Mt69fbNhCgs?si=IPZBiVC3r9Kfi0TC>

Hope you've found this useful and you can purchase it from Amazon which is where I got it myself.

END

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

Alastair