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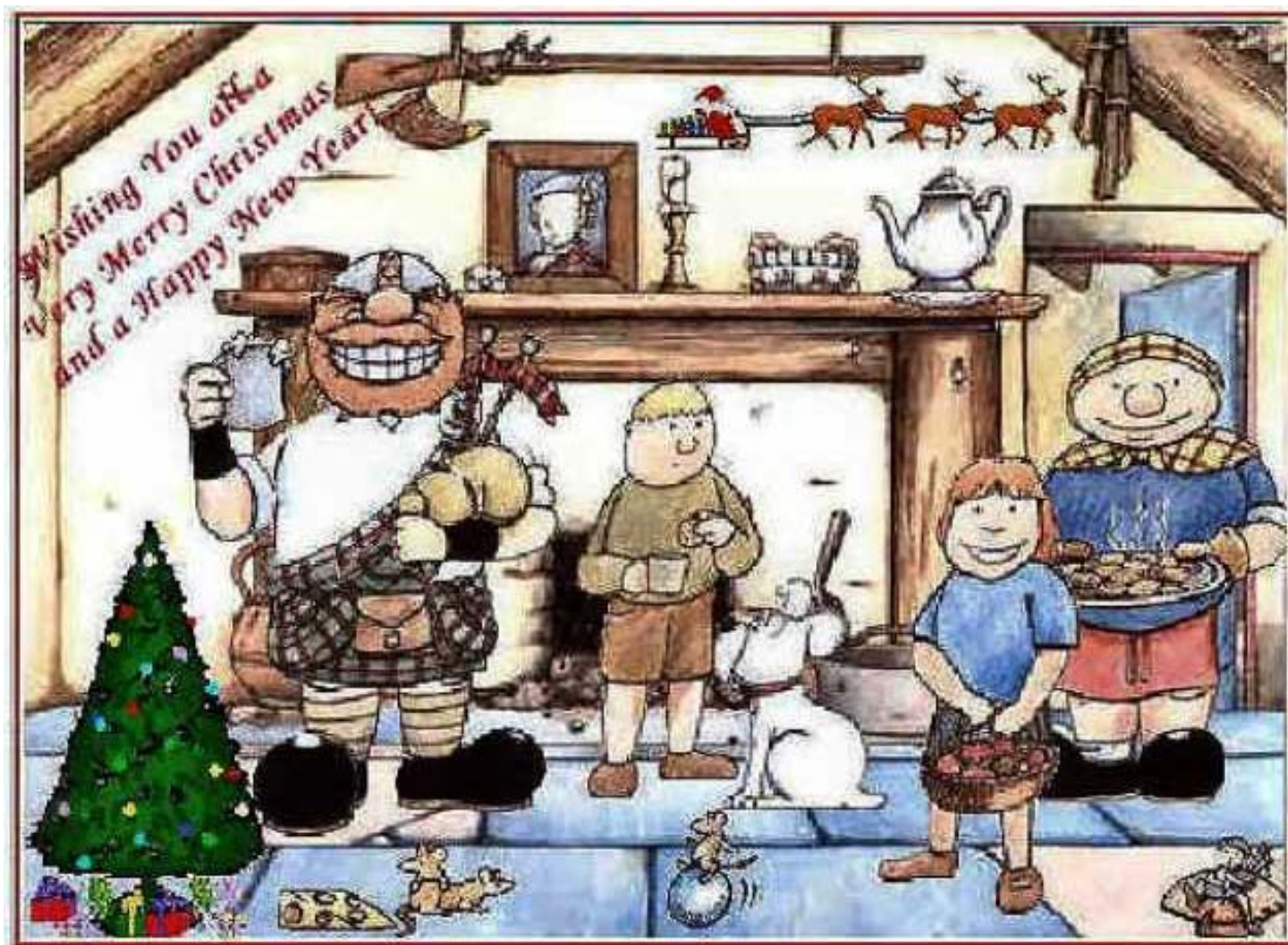
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Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for December 19th, 2025

## Electric Scotland News



My Canadian Experience

December 2025 entry at:

[http://www.electriccanadian.com/canada\\_add28.htm](http://www.electriccanadian.com/canada_add28.htm)

This week I've added videos on Canada's \$5B Lithium Shift No One Saw Coming, Should Canada Pivot to China?, Natural Resources Minister Tim Hodgson announces supports for forestry sector, Premier Ford announces tourism boost for Niagara Region, An exceptionally good day for Ontario businesses' as province moves to unlock free trade, Toronto tiny homes builder unveils 4 new units in Leslieville, Canada Has No Mobilization Plan! DND's Citizen Army Proposal Explained, Ontario launches bid to headquarter global defence bank, Mark Carney and Doug Ford ink deal to streamline reviews for major projects.

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I will be taking a week off over Christmas and New Year so no newsletter next week but there will be one on 2nd January.

## Scottish News from this weeks newspapers and other media

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...

### Prepare for life without America

America is tiring of the bargain it agreed with Europe after the Second World War, in which it would do the lion's share of security work in exchange for European deference. This deal held for a while, but now, every incentive points towards the US doing significantly less. We should prepare for the worst.

Read more at:

<https://thecritic.co.uk/prepare-for-life-without-america>

### Tributes to comedian Stanley Baxter after death aged 99

Scottish actor and comedian Stanley Baxter has died at the age of 99. Born in Glasgow in 1926, he was one of the biggest stars on British television for several decades.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/clyddr0dmrdo>

### Reform wins first by-election in Scotland

Reform UK has secured its first success at the ballot box in Scotland by winning a council by-election. David McLennan has been elected as a councillor in Whitburn and Blackburn in West Lothian, taking the seat from Scottish Labour.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c8dyy7e0dlgo>

### Canada's Conservatives on shaky ground as Carney snags another MP

A Conservative member of parliament said he will be crossing the floor to join Prime Minister Mark Carney's Liberals, putting his government just one seat shy of a majority and delivering another blow to the opposition party.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cy5ggqkl44lo>

### 911 upgrades increase accuracy

Move over analogue, Next Generation 911 has arrived in Chatham-Kent.

Read more at:

<https://chathamvoice.com/2025/12/09/911-upgrades-increase-accuracy/>

### As long as it's in Scotland I'm happy

The 1950 heist to reclaim the ancient Stone of Destiny

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/culture/article/20251211-the-heist-to-reclaim-the-ancient-stone-of-destiny>

### Make Russia pay for Ukraine - not taxpayers

At today's crunch summit, EU leaders have been struggling to find a way to break the deadlock over using frozen

Russian central bank assets to fund Ukraine's war effort. There is a legal mechanism that can deliver the cash Zelensky's forces need without confiscating Russia's property or leaving taxpayers on the hook.

Read more at:

<https://capx.co/make-russia-pay-for-ukraine-not-taxpayers>

How Scotland can become a wealthier nation

The first of a series from the Wealthy Nation Healthy Nation paper edited by Malcolm Offord

Read more at:

<https://thinkscotland.org/2025/12/how-scotland-can-become-a-wealthier-nation/>

A plan to revitalise the NHS in Scotland

The second in a series from the Wealthy Nation Healthy Nation paper edited by Malcolm Offord

Read more at:

<https://thinkscotland.org/2025/12/a-plan-to-revitalise-nhs-scotland/>

## Electric Canadian

The Great Canadian Fur Trade EXPLAINED

What Schools Don't Teach You. A video from YouTube.

You can watch this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/hudsonbay/index.htm>

The ENTIRE History Of Ottawa, Canada

(8000+ Years in 62 Minutes)

You can watch this at:

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

The ENTIRE History Of Vancouver, Canada

(10,000+ Years in 78 Minutes) 2nd video on the page.

You can watch this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/bc/index.htm>

The Oil Sands

A video about how the Oil Sands developed.

You can watch this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/alberta/oilsands.htm>

339 vs 4,000: The Impossible Victory That Saved Canada

Three hundred and thirty-nine French-Canadian soldiers stand in an autumn forest, facing an impossible choice: hold their ground against 4,000 American troops marching to capture Montreal, or watch their homeland fall to invasion.

Added this video to the foot of the page.

You can watch this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/french/index.htm>

What Eisenhower Told His Staff When Canada Broke Through Juno Beach in Just 47 Minutes

Added this video about three quarters down the page.



You can view this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/forces/index.htm>

The ENTIRE History Of Laval, Quebec  
(6,000+ Years in 61 Minutes). Added this video to the foot of the page.

You can watch this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/quebec/index.htm>

The ENTIRE History Of Montreal, Canada  
(383 Years in 75 Minutes)

You can watch this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/quebec/montreal.htm>

The ENTIRE History Of Hamilton, Ontario  
(200+ Years in 74 Minutes)

You can watch this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/ontario/hamilton.htm>

The Aborigines of Nova Scotia  
By William Elder (1871) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/first/micmac/Elder-AboriginesNovaScotia-1871.pdf>

Thoughts on a Sunday Morning - the 14th day of December 2025 - The Gift  
By The Rev. Nola Crewe

You can watch this at:

<http://www.electricscotland.org/forum/communities/rev-nola-crewe/26681-thoughts-on-a-sunday-morning-the-14th-day-of-december-2025-the-gift>

The ENTIRE History Of Nunavut, Canada  
(4,000 Years in 58 Minutes) A video and below it you will also find one on the Dorset Peoples.

You can watch this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/nunavut/index.htm>

The ENTIRE History Of Windsor, Canada  
(300+ Years in 93 Minutes) A video.

You can watch this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/ontario/windsor.htm>

The Beaver Magazine  
Added No. 2 Outfit 264 September 1933 (pdf)

You can read this issue at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/hudsonbay/TheBeaverSeptember1933.pdf>

Agnes Campbell MacPail  
First women member of parliament

You can learn about her at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/makers/agnes-macphail.htm>

## Electric Scotland

The Complete History Of The Celts In 2.5 Hours

A video which I've added to the top of our page, The Greatness and Decline of the Celts.

You can get to this at:

<https://electricScotland.com/history/celts/index.htm>

The Black Watch: The Most Feared Regiment in the British Army

Added this video to the top of our Black Watch page.

You can watch this at:

<https://electricScotland.com/history/scotreg/bwatch/index.htm>

How 500 Scottish Highlanders Stopped a Russian Army The Thin Red Line (Balaclava 1854)

I added a video about this battle almost half way down the page at:

[https://electricScotland.com/history/colin\\_campbell.htm](https://electricScotland.com/history/colin_campbell.htm)

Twenty-five years in Honan

By Murdoch Mackenzie (1913) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

<https://electricScotland.com/history/china/Twenty-five-years-in-Honan.pdf>

The Unpublished Diary Of Pierre Laval

By Josee Laval (1948) (pdf)

A take on what happened between France and Britain and reflections on the USA during this period.

You can read this at:

<https://electricScotland.com/history/france/The-Unpublished-Diary-Of-Pierre-Laval.pdf>

An Article by Bill Magee

Space Scotland & UAE Deepen Co-Operation in Satellite Research, Manufacturing & Launch Capabilities Agreement.

You can read this at:

<https://electricScotland.com/magee/article0043.htm>

When 900 Highlanders BROKE an Army of 25,000 in a Single Charge

A video of The True Story of Killiecrankie

You can watch this at:

<https://electricScotland.com/history/killiecrankie.htm>

The Writings of Samuel McFarlane of the London Missionary Society

By Samuel McFarlane with Islands In the Sun, The Story of Samuel McFarlane by Malcolm Homan McFarlane (2019) (pdf)

You can read this at:

[https://electricScotland.com/webclans/m/McFarlane\\_2019\\_12\\_15.pdf](https://electricScotland.com/webclans/m/McFarlane_2019_12_15.pdf)

Clan Henderson Newsletters

Found two copies on their quarterly newsletters for 1997 & 1998

You can read these at:

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

Slave Interviews

by Federal Writers Project (1936) (pdf) Added this book to our Salves in America page... the second last link on the page.

You can get to this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/america/slavery.htm>

Agile skills for a changing economy

Addressing the delivery deficit by Daniel Turner and Alastair Sim (Dec 2025) (pdf)

You can read this report at:

<https://electricscotland.com/independence/sip/Agile-Skills.pdf>

The Monks of the West

From St Benedict to St Bernard by The Count de Montalembert, Member of the French Academy in 7 volumes

You can read these volumes at:

<https://electricscotland.com/bible/monks.htm>

Anniversary Souvenir of the St. Andrew's Church, Guelph, Canada (1908) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/canada/guelph/anniversariesouve00stan.pdf>

## Story

Thought I'd provide a few links to some Christmas resources

Electric Scotland's Christmas page

<https://electricscotland.com/index98.htm>

Merry Quizmas

The now apparently annual Joxley Writes quiz of the year

<https://www.joxleywrites.jmoxley.co.uk/i/181689496/round-were-you-paying-attention>

Top Christmas Songs of All Time

It's that time of year again! Christmas is quickly approaching, and what better way to celebrate than with some top Christmas songs? In this playlist, you'll find some of the best Christmas music out there, perfect for getting you in the mood for the holiday season! From classic Christmas carols to modern Christmas hits, this playlist has everything you need to get into the holiday spirit!

[https://www.youtube.com/live/JSEicigUjPs?si=SFiTwtO9mehsmw\\_f](https://www.youtube.com/live/JSEicigUjPs?si=SFiTwtO9mehsmw_f)

Those Christmas Classic Oldies

I invite you to relax and enjoy this selection entitled "Those Classic Christmas Oldies", playing a edited selection of popular Christmas songs from approved YouTube playlists. Cosy up and enjoy this Video whilst chilling or entertaining with a glass of Christmas cheer or three!

<https://youtu.be/ZMTI2dS0Epl?si=dvAahN3zZX9AoeJ5>

The Walton's Christmas movie, the homecoming

<https://youtu.be/umEEEnFtmV0I?si=uitLdf-UPLFKE9Xo>

A HEARTWARMING CHRISTMAS story for kids and adults

<https://youtu.be/qwhJ-mNPiNU?si=9-1HlePGwkkpl5Im>

END.

Weekend is almost here and hope it's a good one for you. And also wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Alastair