



ELECTRICCANADIAN.COM  
AGRICULTURE & WILDLIFE  
ARTICLES  
BETH'S FAMILY TREE  
BOOKS  
BUSINESS  
CHILDREN'S STORIES  
CLANS & FAMILIES

CULTURE & LANGUAGE  
DONNA'S PAGE  
ELECTRICSCOTLAND.NET  
FAMOUS SCOTS  
FAMILYTREE  
FORUMS  
FOOD & DRINK  
GAMES

GAZETTEER  
GENEALOGY  
HISTORIC PLACES  
HISTORY  
HUMOR  
JOHN'S PAGE  
KIDS  
LIFESTYLE  
MUSIC

NEWSLETTER  
PICTURES  
POETRY  
POSTCARDS  
RELIGION  
ROBERT BURNS  
SCOTS IRISH  
SCOTS REGIMENTS  
SERVICES

SHOPPING  
SONGS  
SPORT  
SCOTS DIASPORA  
TARTANS  
TRAVEL  
TRIVIA  
VIDEOS  
WHATS NEW

HELP TERMS OF USE CONTACT US

## Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for July 26th, 2019

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

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

### Electric Scotland News

Boris Johnson is now Britain's new Prime Minister and he's certainly of to a fast start with his new cabinet. I posted up a couple of videos about him including his first speech outside No. 10 which you can view in our Community at: <http://www.electricscotland.org/showthread.php/5449-Boris-Johnson-The-Irresistible-Rise>

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You can view a video introduction to this newsletter at:

<https://youtu.be/dfN08girSlS>

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 Guardian, Scotsman, Courier, 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.

BBC have subjected us to unashamed anti-Brexit propaganda over the Past three years

For the past three years, we have been subjected to a deluge of unashamed anti-Brexit propaganda, every day, without fail

Read more at:

<https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/9537730/bbc-anti-brexit-propaganda/>

EU's new chief Ursula von der Leyen is the perfect advert for Brexit

Ursula von der Leyen narrowly squeaked into power in a secret ballot against no rival candidates in another triumph for European democracy.

Read more at:

<https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/9529921/eu-ursula-von-der-leyen-brexit/>

Britain and Sweden agree to co-operate on fighter plans

Britain and Sweden agreed on Friday to study air combat co-operation over the next decade and opened the door to other potential partners in a move that could see the Scandinavian country join a planned next-generation UK fighter project.

Read more at:

<https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-britain-airshow/britain-and-sweden-agree-to-co-operate-on-fighter-plans-idUKKCN1UE1AS?il=0>

Five EU countries negotiate with Boris to avoid No Deal Brexit

Figures from Ireland, Germany, France, Belgium and the Netherlands and are said to have contacted Mr Johnson - who is the favourite to become the next PM

Read more at:

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-7267403/Brussels-offer-Boris-Johnson-Brexit-extension.html>

Boris Johnson wins race to be Tory leader and PM  
He beat Jeremy Hunt comfortably, winning 92,153 votes to his rival's 46,656.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-49084605>

German manufacturing recession deepens, weakest showing in seven years  
A recession in Germany's manufacturing sector worsened in July with the performance of goods producers dropping to the lowest level in seven years

Read more at:

<https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-germany-economy-pmi/german-manufacturing-recession-deepens-weakest-showing-in-seven-years-pmi-idUKKCN1UJ0R8?il=0>

How Boris Johnson's top team shapes up

Over the last 24 hours we have seen the biggest turnover of Cabinet ministers outside of a post-election change in the party of government that anyone can remember.

Read more at:

<https://brexitcentral.com/we-finally-have-a-cabinet-that-believes-in-brexit-how-boris-johnsons-top-team-shapes-up/>

The advisers and officers of Johnson's new regime

Whilst a lot of attention has been paid to Boris Johnson's dramatic reshuffle, just as important will be the changing of the guard going on behind the scenes.

Read more at:

<https://www.conservativehome.com/parliament/2019/07/vote-leave-takes-back-control-the-advisers-and-officers-of-johnsons-new-regime.html>

Robert Jenrick the quiet radical now in charge of housing

Why the new Housing Secretary could be the man to unlock the new homes Britain desperately needs

Read more at:

<https://capx.co/robert-jenrick-the-quiet-radical-now-in-charge-of-housing>

Aberdeen home to earliest record of whisky still in 1505, say historians

The reference was found by research fellow Dr Claire Hawes, who was working her way through deciphering the 1.5 million words in Aberdeen's municipal registers

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-north-east-orkney-shetland-49032195>

## Electric Canadian

The Canadian Horticulturist

Volume 36 (1913) can be read at:

<https://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/agriculture/Horticulturirst.htm>

Canadian National & Patriotic Songs

Dedicated to the Children of Canada with sheet music (pdf)

You can to this collection at; <https://www.electriccanadian.com/lifestyle/canadiannationalpatrioticsongs.pdf>

The Great War Video Series

Key Canadian battles during the First World War led to the march to victory in 1918.

You can watch these at: <https://www.canadashistory.ca/explore/military-war/the-great-war-video-series>

The Canadian Liberal Monthly

Volume 2 No. 7 (March 1915) can be viewed at:

<https://www.electriccanadian.com/magazines/canadianliberalmonthly01.pdf>

The Canadian Mother's Book

By Helen MacMurcity, M.D.. (TOR.), Chief of the Division of Child Welfare (1927) (pdf)

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

## Electric Scotland

Character Sketches

By Norman MacLeod D.D. (1876) (pdf)

You can read this at: <https://www.electricscotland.com/history/macleod/charactersketches.pdf>

The Hereditary Sheriffs of Galloway

Their Forebears and Friends, their Courts and Customs of their times with notes of the early history, ecclesiastical legends, the Baronage and place names of the Province by the Late Sir Andrew Agnew, Bart. of Lochnaw in two volumes (1893)

You can read this at: <https://www.electricscotland.com/history/galloway/>

The Transactions of the Proceedings of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History & Antiquarian Society

Added the Volume for 1862 - 1863 which can be read at: <https://www.electricscotland.com/history/galloway/>

Catalogue of Books relating to Scotland

An interesting list of books which were collected from private libraries and offered for sale and you can read this at: <https://www.electricscotland.com/books/pdf/catalogueofbooksaboutScotland.pdf>

Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh

Scotland-based scientific journal which can be read at:

<https://www.electricscotland.com/books/pdf/royalsociety.htm>

An account of the Surname Edgar

And particularly of Wedderlie in Berwickshire by James Henry Lawrence-Archer (1873) (pdf)

You can read this at: <https://www.electricscotland.com/history/nation/edgar03.pdf>

The Naval Chronicle

Provided the first volume of this publication which went onto 32 issues. Also included a small bio of John McArthiur one of the two editors being a Scot.

You can read this at: [https://electricscotland.com/history/scotreg/naval\\_chroncile.htm](https://electricscotland.com/history/scotreg/naval_chroncile.htm)

Memorials of Edinburgh in the Olden Times

By Sir David Wilson, LL.D., F.R.S.E. second edition in two volumes (1891). Added this to the foot of our Edinburgh page at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/edinburgh>

## The Story

An article by CapX

Britain doesn't just have a new Prime Minister. Yesterday's Cabinet reshuffle makes it clear that we now have a new government, with a very different set of priorities.

The composition of the Cabinet tells us a lot about Boris Johnson's attitude towards an election.

Faced with the narrowest of majorities in the House of Commons, if Johnson feared an early election, he would have put together a broad church Cabinet designed to keep the show on the road for as long as possible. Survival from one week to the next would be the strategy.

Instead, Boris unveiled an unambiguously Leave-supporting Cabinet – with Dominic Raab as Foreign Secretary, Priti Patel at the Home Office and roles for Esther McVey, Andrea Leadsom and Jacob Rees-Mogg, the new Leader of the Commons.

Far from clinging to office and avoiding the electorate, the Johnson strategy is clearly to make good Britain's departure from the EU in fifteen weeks' time – and then face the electorate soon after.

For the first time since the EU referendum three years ago, the UK has a government unambiguously prepared to deliver what the electorate asked for. Michael Gove, Boris' co-leader of the Leave campaign, has been given a roving role across Whitehall to prepare the country for a no deal departure, should it be necessary. He will now attempt to do in 90-something days what Mrs May neglected to do over three years.

Three years ago, the electorate voted – by a million strong majority – for a profound change in the UK's relationship with the EU. Far from acting on that instruction, those in government, not only May era ministers but the senior civil service, have done everything possible to keep things the way they are. Yesterday marks the moment when that begins to change.

Not only are many of those that ran the Vote Leave campaign now in power. They entered office yesterday with an appreciation that they perhaps did not have three years ago; if Britain is to become a self-governing country once again, we need to radically overhaul the way we are governed.

Government departments as currently constituted just aren't up to it. They are often dysfunctional, as set up to fail, and full of those marinated in group-think. Too many civil servants are rewarded for serving time, rather than delivering successful projects.

The one person who understands this better than anyone is Dominic Cummings, formerly Vote Leave's chief strategist, and now the de facto chief executive of the Downing Street operation. Dominic, unlike many that opine on the subject, has a clear idea of what needs to be done to prepare for the possibility of a No Deal departure. He has, too, the drive and intellect to overcome the inevitable intransigence of the senior civil service.

Beyond those first 90-something days, he has a sense of the wider change required in the way we are governed.

Dom brings with him into Number 10 an effective team, too. The Vote Leave operation that now runs Downing Street is not only extremely competent and motivated, they are in my experience extraordinarily cohesive, too. I doubt Downing Street has ever seen anything like it.

Unlike almost everyone in the Westminster/Whitehall bubble, Dominic understands that the media narrative in politics is more often than not a work of fiction. Broadcasters and professional pundits are utterly out of touch with ordinary voters. He has the clarity of thought and confidence to look beyond the nonsense that the press lobby spew, and focus on the swing voters that decide election outcomes.

Getting us out of the EU at the end of October, defeating Corbyn in an election soon afterwards, and then transforming the administrative state. Any one of those would be a tall order. But I believe that each of those is now a perfectly possible outcome.

Yesterday, the outsiders came in – and they may well just turn the way we are governed inside out, too.

For the first time in a generation, we have a Tory government determined to change the status quo, rather than be part of it. Which is why this week might just prove to be one of those watershed moments in our country's history.

Future generations might just look back at July 2019 – the way we today view May 1979 when Margaret Thatcher took office, or July 1945, when Clement Attlee came to power – and realise that it that was the moment when things were never quite the same again.

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

Alastair