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Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for July 4th, 2025

Electric Scotland News

Found a poem in the September 1927 issue of the Beaver magazine which I thought said a lot about Canada of today while being written for our Diamond Jubilee 1867 to 1927 and here it is for you to read here and also to celebrate Canada Day on 1st July 2025.

1867- Canada -1927

Not in the cannon's roar, the trumpet blast.
Or rattling sabre, we recall the past;
Nor yet with braggart tongue seek to acclaim
Our rightful sonship in an honoured name;
But, with a grateful heart and rev'rent mien,
We bridge the years 'tween now and what has been,
And, in a solemn silence, pledge a toast
To that great dead yet ever-living host
Of statesmen, traders, loyal pioneers,
By whose brave deeds our fair Dominion rears.
Ah, Canada! none but Canadians know
The aching love we bear though seldom show;
The confidence and calm, the joy, the zest
Which we have drawn abundant from thy breast
Till now we stand, to man's estate full-grown,—
The spreading maple from a seedling blown—
Wide as the seas, reaching from Line to Pole,
With brotherhood of all mankind the goal.
Thus, with a flow'ring sense of nationhood,
Hail the future as Canadians should,
Setting our shoulders to the common load,
Fitting this land we love for man's abode;
Fearless in right, contesting what is wrong,
Speeding that Dawn which man has waited long.
With malice, hate and greed forever hurled
From Canada, the Empire and the world.
Thus, in our pride of manhood, as we scan
The coming years that hold this vaster plan,
Sons of a union born of a peace within.
Salute thee, Canada, our parent kin.
And this our prayer, as to the daily task
Our duty calls us, this alone we ask:
May "reason, truth and justice" ever stand
The triune symbol of our native land,
Binding with love our country strong and free,
And crowning this our Diamond Jubilee.

—Robert Watson.

Download the above poem as a pdf file at:
<https://www.electriccanadian.com/canada1867-1927.pdf>

New Features on MyStories: Audio Recording and Enhanced Editing

At MyHeritage, we're committed to helping you preserve your family stories and memories in ways that are natural and personal. Earlier this year we released MyStories, a new service that makes it easy to write a memoir and preserve life stories in a beautiful printed book. MyStories makes a perfect gift for yourself or a loved one. Users have already called it "an amazing experience" and "one of the best gifts I've ever given". Today, we are delighted to announce new features added to MyStories to enhance the experience: audio recording and transcription, and enhanced editing capabilities.

Learn more at:
<https://blog.myheritage.com/2025/07/significant-enhancements-to-mystories/>

Clan MacKenzie Podcast
You can listen to this 45 minute podcast on YouTube at:
https://youtu.be/tOYSh1qNOFA?si=wLyOZ_tsQvZX4kiG

Wishing our American friends a Happy 4th of July.

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...

Paddling the dramatic 'Grand Canyon of Canada'
Navigating the Nahanni River is a once-in-a-lifetime bucket list experience that reveals a remote and untouched side of Canada few travellers ever see.

Read more at:
<https://www.bbc.com/travel/article/20250620-paddling-the-dramatic-grand-canyon-of-canada>

Moose filmed in Jasper, Alberta, Canada
A wee video which I think you might enjoy

Watch this at:
<https://x.com/therealmrbench/status/1938370000508920282>

Fiscal challenges for the Scottish Government, Pt 96
By Mairi Spowage on June 29, 2025

Read more at:

<https://sceptical.scot/2025/06/fiscal-challenges-for-the-scottish-government-pt-96/>

The Myth of Compassion: Scotland's Managed Decline in a Methadone Lanyard
Let's begin with the unbearable truth. Scotland has confused management for mercy

Read more at:

<https://substack.com/inbox/post/167155515>

Conrad Black: The world is brighter thanks to Iran bombing
The U.S. president has satisfactorily ended a potentially dangerous and enervating war

Read more at;

<https://archive.is/Zqpps>

Dundee's links to South Georgia marked with new festival and Whale Memorial
They may be around 8,000 miles apart but Dundee has played a huge role in the story of the whales of South Georgia.

Read more at:

<https://www.sundaypost.com/fp/dundeels-links-to-south-georgia-marked-with-new-festival-and-whale-memorial/>

Salmon scandal: Report's shocking claims over Mowi fish factory conditions
A major report into working conditions at the world's biggest salmon producer has revealed shocking claims.

Read more at:

<https://www.sundaypost.com/fp/salmon-scandal-reports-shocking-claims-over-fish-factory-conditions/>

Airline launches new route between Scotland and Canada
The only direct service between Scotland and Montréal has started as Air Canada launches its new route.

Read more at:

<https://archive.is/FtrZY>

Rare 19th-century musical game patented by Scottish woman that can be seen at Edinburgh's Charlotte Square
Musical Game will be part of a new exhibition at the Georgian House in Edinburgh's Charlotte Square.

Read more at:

<https://archive.is/2tbDz#selection-617.0-617.100>

The Portugal Myth: How Decriminalisation Became the World's Favourite Drug Policy Fairytale.
If you've been in addiction recovery profession long enough to attend more funerals than birthdays, you start to hear the lies for what they are especially the ones dressed up in funding bids and academic praise.

Read more at:

<https://substack.com/inbox/post/167274571>

Keir Starmer: a historic Prime Minister
This week marks two Labour anniversaries. On Friday, Keir Starmer will have been in post for a year, and Saturday will mark 80 years since the election of Clement Attlee. While Attlee was the figurehead of a new era in British history, Starmer is the last, gasping torchbearer of a failed political settlement.

Read more at:

<https://capx.co/starmer-first-year-has-not-gone-well>

How Spanish-owned bank TSB was born in a tiny Scottish village
Edinburgh-based bank TSB is set to be bought over by Santander, after 10 years with rival Spanish owner Sabadell. The deal, which could see the TSB name disappear from UK high streets. is the latest change for the bank which was founded in Dumfriesshire in 1810, thanks to the vision of a Scottish clergyman.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cjrl17zw8rwo>

You can learn more about this Scottish clergyman at:

https://electricscotland.com/history/other/duncan_henry.htm

Electric Canadian

Twenty Years of York Factory 1694-1714

Jérémie's Account of Hudson Strait and Bay, Translated from the French Edition of 1720 with notes and introduction by R. Douglas, M.A., and J. N. Wallace, D.L.S. (1926) (pdf)

You can read this account at:

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

Sir Wilfred Grenfell: His Life and Work

By James Lennox Kerr (1959) (pdf)

You can learn about him at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/makers/Wilfred-Grenfell.pdf>

William Kirby

By William Renwick Riddell (1923) (pdf)

You can learn about him at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/makers/williamkirby00ridduoft.pdf>

See also his book The Golden Dog (pdf) at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/makers/The-Golden-Dog.pdf>

and also his book...

Annals of Niagara

By William Kirby, F.R.S.C., Edited with Introduction and Notes by Lorne Pierce (1927) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/ontario/annalsofniagara00kirb.pdf>

Alberta Elks News

December 2022 (pdf)

You can read this newsletter at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/alberta/Alberta%20Elks%20Association%20newsletter%20Dec.%2002022.pdf>

Canadian Highlanders

A Scottish Lament, The words by Lillie A. Brooks, The music by Ernest R. Bowles (1915) (pdf)

You can read this musical score at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/Scotland/alament.pdf>

Journal of Matthew Cocking, from York Factory to the Blackfeet Country, 1772-73

Edited with Introduction and Notes by Lawrence J. Burpee. (Communicated by Dr. Wilfred Campbell and read May 26th, 1908.) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/hudsonbay/adventurerfromhu00cock.pdf>

A Brief Sketch of the Life and Work of the Rev. Robert Campbell, D.D.

Minister of St. Gabriel Church, Montreal by the Rev. G. Colborne Heine, B.A., Minister Emeritus, West Mount, Quebec (1922) (pdf)

You can learn about him at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/Religion/abriefsketchofth00heinuoft.pdf>

Canadian War Cuts & Clippings

Volume XIII December 1918 to March 1919 (pdf)

You can read this volume at:

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

My Canadian Experience

Completed the June 2025 entry.

You can read this and watch the many videos at:

http://www.electriccanadian.com/canada_add22.htm

and also I have made a start of the July 2025 entry at:

http://www.electriccanadian.com/canada_add23.htm

Thoughts on a Sunday Morning - the 29th day of June 2025 - Canada Day

By The Rev. Nola Crewe

You can watch this at:

<http://www.electricscotland.org/forum/communities/rev-nola-crewe/26630-thoughts-on-a-sunday-morning-the-29th-day-of-june-2025-canada-day>

The Life and Times of The Rev. Robert Burns, D.D., F.A.S., F.R.S.E., Toronto

Including an unfinished Autobiography, edited by his son, The Rev. R. F. Burns, D.D., Montreal (1872) (pdf)

You can learn about him at:

http://www.electriccanadian.com/Religion/lifetimesofrevro00burn_0.pdf

Life of Joseph Brant-Thayendanagea

Including the Border Wars of the American Revolution and Sketches of the Indian Campaigns of General Harmar, St. Clair, and Wayne and other matters connected with the Indian relations of the United States and Great Britain, from the peace of 1785 to the Indian Peace of 1795 by William L. Stone in two volumes (1875)

You can read these volumes at:

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

The Magnificent Landscape Of Vancouver's Sunshine Coast

Added this video to our BC page.

You can watch this at:

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

Made in Canada Grocery Store Guide

This document is a user-sourced guide to products made in Canada, categorized into two sections: Products made in Canada by Canadian companies and Products made in Canada by Foreign-owned companies

You can read this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/lifestyle/madeincanada.htm>

The Beaver Magazine

Added No. 2 Outfit 259 September 1927 (pdf)

You can read this issue at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/hudsonbay/TheBeaverSeptember1927.pdf>

Churchill Town Centre Complex

The large, multi-use Churchill Town Centre Complex — which is the length of three football fields — is part of the final phase of redevelopment of Manitoba's most northern townsite of Churchill. (pdf)

You can read this report at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/manitoba/churchilltowncen00robb.pdf>

Electric Scotland

Tall Founts from CREO Engineering Solutions

By Brian Menagh, Director

An interesting article which you can read at:

<https://electricScotland.com/business/creo.htm>

CAMRA

Campaign for Read Ale Summer 2025 newsletter. (pdf)

A good newsletter which also carries an editorial of the above Tall Founts which you can read at:

<https://electricScotland.com/business/camra.htm>

Laura Everingham

Or, The Highlanders of Glen Ora By James Grant (1857) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

<https://electricScotland.com/lifestyle/highlandersofglenora.pdf>

Hay MacDowall Grant

His Life, Labours, and Teaching by Mrs. Gordon (1879) (pdf)

You can learn about him at:

<https://electricScotland.com/history/other/haymacdowallgra01gord.pdf>

A Daughter of the Highlanders

By Frances Jones Melton (1910) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

<https://electricScotland.com/lifestyle/daughterofhighla00melt.pdf>

The true position of the Scottish Episcopal Church

A sermon preached in the Episcopal Chapel of St. John the Evangelist, Edinburgh, on Sunday, December 11, 1842: the day appointed by the Diocesan Synod for receiving congregational offerings, in aid of the Scottish Episcopal Church Society, by Ramsay, Edward Bannerman, 1793-1872; Scottish Episcopal Church Society (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/thetruepositiono00rams.pdf>

General Hector A. MacDonald, C.B., D.S.O., A.D.C. to the Queen LL.D. (Glasgow)
A Biographical Sketch by David Campbell, author of "The Scots Reader" and "Old Scottish Stories"

You can read this sketch at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/scotreg/general-macdonald.htm>

The Jews of Barnow Stories

By Karl Emil Franzos translated by M. W. MacDowall (1882) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/world/jewsbarnowtrbym00frangoog.pdf>

Extracts from the Records of the Royal Burgh of Lanark

With Charters and Documents relating to the Burgh A.D. 1150-1722 by Robert Renwick (1893) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/records/extractsfromreco00renw.pdf>

An Essay upon Feudal Holdings, Superiorities, and Hereditary Jurisdictions, in Scotland

By Andrew MacDowall Bankton (1747) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/lifestyle/essayuponfeudalh00bankuoft.pdf>

Crest Badges of the Scottish Clans & Families

By David Allan, FSAScot, Umquhile Heraldic Artist & Calligrapher in the Court of the Lord Lyon (pdf)

Got sent this in and happy to make it available for you to look at and I've also added it to our index page of our Clans and Families section. You can get to this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/webclans/C&FJune25.pdf>

A Genealogical History of The Earldom of Sutherland

From its origin in the year 1630 written by Sir Robert Gordon of Godonstoun, Baronet with a continuation to the year 1651 (1813) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/webclans/stoz/genealogicalhist00gord.pdf>

An Abridgement of the History of Scotland

For the use of Schools from Stuart Robertson (1793) (pdf)

An old history where the letter 's' is written as an 'f' and you can read this at:

https://electricscotland.com/history/robertson-william_1793.pdf

The Paisley Channel

I am a proud Paisley Buddie, having been born in Ross Hospital the weekend St Mirren won the cup in 1959. My family immigrated to Australia when I was five years old. You know what they say - you can take the boy out of Paisley, but you can't take Paisley out of the boy. Anyway, after 25 years I returned to the UK, settled down in Paisley, and have never looked back.

You can watch this channel at:

<https://www.youtube.com/@ThePaisleyChannel>

The ancient & forgotten Old Beith Road from Paisley to Beith

Join me as I walk the original route of the Old Beith Road from Paisley to Beith, via Elderslie, Johnstone and Howwood. This road connected Paisley to Kilwinning and Irvine. I explore what remains.

And here is one video from the above channel which you can watch at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/renfrew/index.htm>

Temple Kirk: Headquarters of Knights Templar in Scotland

Added this video to our Knights Templar page.

You can watch this at:

https://electricscotland.com/history/knights_templar.htm

Chatham, Ontario: Scenic 4K Drive Through the Heart of Southwest Beauty

Embark on a mesmerizing 4K drive through the charming landscapes of Chatham, Ontario. Follow the scenic routes as they unveil the beauty of Southwest Ontario, from picturesque rural scenes to the heart of the city. This virtual journey captures the essence of Chatham's natural and urban wonders, providing a visual escape for travel enthusiasts and armchair explorers alike. Sep 12, 2024

You can watch this to see a little of where I live in Canada at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/articles/chathamkent.htm>

Story

This week I'm providing a video for you to watch. I discovered this video by accident on my web site and really enjoyed viewing it again so I hope you'll also enjoy watching it.

The Empty Glens

An epic journey to find Scotland's lost Highlanders. Great stories, great locations, great scenery, great music and great people.

You can view this at the foot of the page at:

<https://www.electricscotland.com/webclans/m/macinty2.html>

You might let me know if you'd like me to feature a video from time to time for the story?

END.

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

Alastair