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Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for January 2nd, 2026

Electric Scotland News

Happy New Year

My Canadian Experience

Completed the December 2025 entry at:

http://www.electriccanadian.com/canada_add28.htm

Also started the January 2026 entry at:

http://www.electriccanadian.com/canada_add29.htm

It's certainly been an eventful year in 2025. My overall feeling is that here in Canada we are set fair to do some amazing things in 2026 and beyond. Trump has certainly become a game changer for the world.

When I first came to Canada as a new immigrant I was really enthusiastic about what Canada could achieve in the world. We then got 10 years of Trudeau which in my opinion destroyed the country. Now that we have had some months with Carney I have become much more enthusiastic about the future.

I was at first cautious about what Carney would do but as the months progressed I have become a believer.

I've started my January 2026 Canadian Experience by highlighting a couple of videos that do a good job of explaining how Canada is now performing.

We've increased our GDP by 2.6%, our unemployment rate has declined, our inflation is on target at 2.2%. Also house prices down by 2%. We have been successful in building new trade with the world with non US energy exports to Asia and the World along with agriculture, and minerals. Our Aluminum industry has managed to keep on par with a major increase in exports to Europe and Asia. We will be going into talks with India and China early in the New Year which are both very large markets.

Also by removing a lot of inter Provincial taxes and barriers to trade internally and our Buy Canada regime we are set fair to do well in 2026.

I am particularly interested in seeing if we choose to purchase the Swedish Gripen aircraft instead of the F35. I feel this would kick start a major increase in our aircraft industry. Also, Prime Minister Mark Carney secured Canada's entry into the European Union's €150 billion SAFE defense program—making Canada the ONLY non-European country ever admitted.

Without Trump none of this would have happened and so I thank him for showing Canadians what we can achieve on our own.

Trump's Ambassador KICKED OUT of Canada — Diplomatic Crisis Explodes - Jan 1
In a stunning diplomatic escalation, Canada has expelled a sitting U.S. ambassador, triggering one of the most serious political crises between Washington and Ottawa in decades. In this 13-minute deep-dive, we break down what really happened, why Canada drew a hard line, and how Donald Trump's foreign policy style pushed a close ally to the brink. Told in the Rachel Maddow narrative style, this video connects the dots between diplomacy, sovereignty, trade, and global consequences — with context the headlines won't give you. This isn't just a diplomatic spat; it's a warning sign for alliances worldwide.

Watch this at:

<https://youtu.be/FUo6sID4QoA?si=Y37-x9tMswpMpn0m>

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...

Introducing MyHeritage DNA Traits

Discover what makes you, you, with MyHeritage DNA Traits. Ever wonder why you're an early riser, crave sweets, or can't stand cilantro? Your DNA may hold the answers!

Watch this at:

https://youtu.be/FJL7704fNp4?si=29_HfvxNU3uKzhPf

A new year message from ancient times

By Fay Young

Read more at:

<https://sceptical.scot/2025/12/a-new-year-message-from-ancient-times/>

Torchlight Procession kicks off World Famous Edinburgh Hogmanay 2025 / 2026

Massed pipes and drums followed by the Vikings from Shetland's South Mainland Up Helly Aa' Jarl Squad (SMUHA) led 15,000 torchbearers to kick off Edinburgh's Hogmanay. The Fire River lights up the city and starts the New Year celebrations!

Watch this at:

<https://youtu.be/HcScUpUnBIY?si=yH-amSu3l5okBtYo>

Robert Burns scholar joins campaign to save 'home' of Auld Lang Syne

A leading Robert Burns scholar has joined a campaign to restore the Dumfriesshire farm where holiday favourite Auld Lang Syne was composed. Professor Murray Pittock, of the University of Glasgow, has become an ambassador for the Saving the Home of Auld Lang Syne campaign, run by the Robert Burns Ellisland Trust.

Read more at:

<https://archive.is/OkN29>

Inside James Dyson's Multi-Million Pound Farm Empire

What if I told you the man who revolutionised your vacuum cleaner owns more British farmland than the Queen did—and he's using it to reshape the future of agriculture while making millions? James Dyson isn't just an inventor anymore. He's become Britain's biggest farmer, and what he's doing on his land will shock you.

Watch this at:

<https://youtu.be/Bs4Pohq8-iw?si=BH6tS8QISdEmttx>

Happy New Year 2026! Edinburgh's Hogmanay celebrates!
Happy New Year! Edinburgh's Hogmanay celebrates the arrival of 2026!

Watch this at:

<https://youtu.be/mSUqYd4zTiw?si=ntyn6PS2P35sw0nR>

The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, 2025, 75th Anniversary

Watch this years tattoo at:

<https://youtu.be/vQXghKdIYJw?si=9-JOTkZMnbgrF9-s>

New Year's Eve messages from Carney and other world leaders

World leaders gave their New Year's Eve messages ahead of the start of 2026.

Read more at:

<https://www.ctvnews.ca/politics/article/new-years-eve-messages-from-carney-and-other-world-leaders/>

Electric Canadian

My Canadian Experience

Made a start at the January 2026 entry with the Prime Ministers New Year message.

You can get to this and follow along during the month at:

http://www.electriccanadian.com/canada_add29.htm

My Canadian Experience

Completed the December entry which starts with a video on Canada posting a 2.6% GDP boom, far above forecasts. Oil exports jump, government investment accelerates, and unexpected global shifts — from German tourism to India's billion-dollar deals — are reshaping the economic landscape.

You can read and watch the videos at:

http://www.electriccanadian.com/canada_add28.htm

The Biography of a Grizzly

With 75 Drawings by Ernest Thompson Seton (1919) (pdf)

One for the children which you can read at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/children/biographyofgrizz00setoiala.pdf>

Food first

How agriculture can lead a new era for Canadian exports (pdf)

You can read this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/agriculture/Food-First-EN-Final-2025.pdf>

History of St. Andrew's Church

Grimsby, Ontario (1919) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/Religion/historyofstandre00stan.pdf>

Thoughts on a Sunday Morning - the 28th day of December 2025 - Counting My Blessings

By The Rev. Nola Crewe

You can watch this at:

<http://www.electricscotland.org/forum/communities/rev-nola-crewe/26685-thoughts-on-a-sunday-morning-the-28th-day->

[of-december-2025-counting-my-blessings](#)

The Beaver Magazine

Added No. 4 Outfit 264 March 1934 (pdf)

You can read this issue at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/hudsonbay/TheBeaverMarch1934.pdf>

Electric Scotland

The Kirk & Its Worthies

By Nicholas Dickson, Edited by D. MacLeod Malloch (1914) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

<https://electricscotland.com/bible/thekirkanditswor00dickuoft.pdf>

Colin Alexander McVean and the Meiji Japan's Public Works

An Apostle of Thomas Telford and Isambard Kingdom Brunel by Hideo IZUMIDA, Dr.Eng.(Tokyo), M.A.(Tsukuba) (pdf)
Sent in by his gt. grandson, Colin Houston.

You can read this account at:

https://electricscotland.com/history/japan/McVean_in_JapanV6a.pdf

Scotland's Other National Drink set to be a World Cup Winner

Scotland's aither national drink is expected to be a star player at the forthcoming Fifa Football World Cup with record shipments crossing the Pond to the States, Canada and Mexico in good time for the soccer tournament set to be staged in the three countries. An article by Bill Magee.

You can read this article at:

<https://electricscotland.com/magee/article0044.htm>

The God's Acres of Dumbarton

And Biographical Sketches of some of those who Sleep therein by Donald MacLeod (1887) (pdf)

You can read these sketches at:

https://electricscotland.com/history/dumbarton/The_God_s_acres_of_Dumbarton_and_biograp.pdf

Aberdeen's Shipbuilding Heritage

Rainbow Warrior / Sir William Hardy By Stanley Bruce (2017) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/aberdeen/RainbowWarriorJan2017.pdf>

Fifteenth Report of the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts

Published in 1899 (pdf)

You can read this at:

https://electricscotland.com/history/records/reportofroyalcom_g15grea.pdf

Sixteenth Report of the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts

Published in 1904 (pdf)

You can read this at:

https://electricscotland.com/history/records/reportofroyalcom_f16grea.pdf

Story

As this is New Years Day I thought I'd provide a video for you...

A REAL SCOTTISH HOGMANAY

Traditional Scottish New Year party in Glasgow

You can watch this at:

<https://youtu.be/1VvkJojAtfA?si=LZLymfJal3CoOmRa>

END.

Wishing you all a Happy New Year.

Alastair