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## Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for July 3, 2026

### Electric Scotland News

#### My Canadian Experience

Completed the June 2026 report which includes a video on the installation of the new Governor General.

You can read and view the videos at:

[https://www.electriccanadian.com/canada\\_add34.htm](https://www.electriccanadian.com/canada_add34.htm)

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#### MyHeritage

It's a big week for family history in North America! To celebrate Canada Day on July 1 and America's 250th anniversary on July 4, MyHeritage is offering free access to over a billion historical records from July 1–5, 2026.

Search Canadian censuses

<https://tinyurl.com/bbc4mmus>

Search U.S. City Directories

<https://tinyurl.com/m77jk8u5>

For Canada Day, we're making all 15 Canadian census collections, comprising 52.3 million historical records, free to search. These invaluable records reveal where your ancestors lived, who they lived with, their occupations, birthplaces, and many other details that help trace families across generations.

To commemorate the 250th anniversary of the United States, we're offering free access to our U.S. City Directories collection, featuring 1.3 billion historical records from approximately 26,000 directories published between 1860 and 1960. Consolidated records make it easy to follow individuals across multiple directories, and they're especially valuable for filling gaps left by missing census records, including much of the lost 1890 U.S. Census.

We're also continuing to celebrate America's 250th with our America 250 hub, <https://tinyurl.com/ybxhcdss> featuring fascinating resources and American family history stories that bring the nation's history to life through the experiences of ordinary families. New stories are being added all the time, so it's well worth checking back regularly and sharing the hub with your followers if you haven't already.

Please share these updates with your followers and encourage them to take advantage of the free access while it lasts.

Daniel Horowitz  
Genealogy Expert

### 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...**

#### **Scotland's attractiveness for FDI surges to record high**

Scotland has retained its position as the UK's leading destination for foreign direct investment outside London, in spite of a fall in the number of projects won last year, with the nation's attractiveness rating hitting a record high.

You can read this at:

<https://archive.is/chGw8#selection-1679.3-1683.124>

#### **You are Canadian heroes**

The forgotten hosts making World Cup history

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/sport/football/articles/cvg4pen8xq7o>

#### **Frank Gardner: Navy plans reflect sea change in how wars are fought**

The Royal Navy is to transform the way it operates over the next few years. Britain's six Type 45 destroyers, designed for air defence, will no longer be replaced by the planned Type 83 versions. Instead, the Navy is to get several cheaper ships called Common Combat Vessels that will act as hubs controlling a fleet of uncrewed vessels or drones.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cz9lv0xkz42o>

#### **Just how much trouble is Canada's economy in?**

Prime Minister Mark Carney has promised to reboot Canada's economy, building it into the "strongest in the G7".

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c70y1y909pdo>

#### **Conrad Black: The Carney government's Canada Day conundrums**

If Canada wishes to be taken seriously as a country, it has to behave like a serious country

Read more at:

<https://archive.is/TZkv1>

#### **From the trenches to the funny pages... the ink-readable history of comics in The Sunday Post**

As a paper launched to bring people news about the First World War, the first comics in The Sunday Post were more sombre.

Read more at:

<https://www.sundaypost.com/fp/the-ink-redible-history-of-sunday-post-comics/>

#### **Why did the chicken cross the road bridge? Highland hen's great egg-scape**

Why did the chicken cross the road, the longest bridge in the Highlands and busy roundabouts before turning up at a pet shop 10 miles away?

Read more at:

<https://www.sundaypost.com/fp/highland-chicken-in-great-escape-across-kessock-bridge/>

#### **Tartan Army defied Trump to save what was set to be worst World Cup**

When my three boys announced they were buying my husband a flight to Boston for his 60th birthday so he could join the oldest and the youngest on their World Cup adventure, I was conflicted.

Read more at:

<https://archive.is/VTUIJ#selection-1407.0-1407.67>

## **Canada celebrates its birthday as Mark Carney battles to keep it intact**

Canadians are gathering across the country to celebrate Canada Day, commemorating the birth of the nation 159 years ago. But beneath the festivities, twin challenges are testing the country's unity.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cwykxwd43pwo>

## **We're still standing**

Americans on the state of the nation in its 250th year

You can watch this at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/videos/c05yv6d9yq4o>

## **What to know about the looming deadline on North American free trade**

The US, Canada and Mexico are staring down a 1 July deadline to decide the future of a long-standing North American free trade pact. All signs point to them blowing past that date without a clear resolution.

Read more at:

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

## **Shetland Islands backs plan to connect islands with £1.5bn undersea tunnels (Scotland/UK)**

Councillors have backed initial plans to connect some of Shetland's islands with undersea tunnels, which could be in place within eight years. A feasibility study proposed replacing ageing ferries with tunnels from Shetland's mainland to Yell and from Yell to Unst, describing them as "economically transformative". Two more tunnels, to the islands of Whalsay and Bressay, could follow under the plans - which it is estimated could cost £1.5bn.

Watch this at:

[https://youtu.be/WZFPj7tx\\_8M?si=SZyRSSi0JGOlzZmK](https://youtu.be/WZFPj7tx_8M?si=SZyRSSi0JGOlzZmK)

## **Electric Canadian**

### **My Canadian Experience for July 2026**

Made a start at this month's entry with videos about Canada Day.

You can get to this at:

[https://www.electriccanadian.com/canada\\_add35.htm](https://www.electriccanadian.com/canada_add35.htm)

### **Adam Beck**

Manufacturer, horseman, politician, office holder, and philanthropist

Learn about him at:

<https://www.electriccanadian.com/makers/adam-beck.htm>

### **Indians in Canada**

Past and Present, An interim resource unit prepared for use by teachers of pupils of Indian ancestry in Alberta (1965) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://www.electriccanadian.com/history/first/IndiansinCanadap.pdf>

### **A Canoe Trip**

Through Temagaming the Peerless in the Land of Hiawatha issued by Canadian Pacific Railway Company (1900) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://www.electriccanadian.com/history/ontario/canoetrip.pdf>

## Thoughts on a Sunday Morning - the 28th day of June 2026 - Canada

Happy Canada Day . . .

Enjoy all the blessings we have and explore parts of it that you have never visited before: whether a trek to a mountain top, kayaking down the Yellowknife River or checking out a new restaurant that serves food from a land you will never visit.

Canada . . . a land of incredible beauty, natural resources and fascinating people.

My THOUGHTS . . .

<https://youtu.be/bw5nbY032TM>

God bless Canada and all who venture here.

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Nola-Susan Crewe JD, MDiv, MA, GCTJ  
Rector - St. Monica's Anglican Church  
Grand Prior III Canada (2017-2020) - OSMTH

### **The Beaver Magazine**

Added No. 3 Outfit 270 December 1939 (pdf)

You can read this issue at:

<https://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/hudsonbay/thebeaverdecember1939.pdf>

### **Travel in Canada**

Added a video to our Travel in Canada page

You can watch this at:

<https://www.electriccanadian.com/lifestyle/travel/index.htm>

## **Electric Scotland**

### **Records of my Family**

Compiled by Lieut.-Col. Ralph Henderson (1926) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/america/recordsofmyfamil.pdf>

### **Spencer Fullerton Baird**

A Biography including selections from his correspondence with Audson, Agassiz, Dana, and others by William Healey Dall, A.M., D.Sc. (1915) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/america/spencerfullerton.pdf>

### **Reverend John Craig**

His descendants and allied families 1709 - 1774 by Lillian Kennedy Craig (1953) (pdf)

You can read this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/america/reverendjohncraig.pdf>

## Practical Nursing

By Isla Stewart and Herbert Edmund Cuff, M.D., F.R.C.S. Volume 1, (1899) (pdf)

You can read this volume at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/medical/Practical-nursingvol1.pdf>

## Narratives of two excursions to the Ports of England, Scotland, and Ireland

In 1816, 1817, and 1818; together with a description of the breakwater at Plymouth, and also of the Caledonian Canal, translated from the French of Charles Dupin, Captain in the Corps of Naval Engineers, and Member of the Institute of France and illustrated by note, critical and explanatory, by the Translator (1800) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

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

## Robert Louis Stevenson

Did an update on his page to add three videos and a link to read his book Kidnapped and also a link to watch the movie on YouTube.

You can get to this at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/other/rlstevenson.htm>

## Story

Albert writes in the 8th April 'Farewell' .....

"In 1970, Alastair Dunnett, the then editor, summoned me to his room where I found him at a window gazing pensively at the North Bridge; editors earn their money easily.

In portentous tones, as one announcing the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse under starter's orders at the Grand National, he said: "Albert, I'm offering you a column with thirty bob (£1:50) a week expenses and all the tripe you can write." It was an offer I couldn't refuse and although my expenses increased, I have stuck rigidly to the spirit and practice of the offer's last part.

Alastair indicated he wanted my then five-days-a-week column to be grave but gay (in the old sense), pungent but subtle, learned but light rather like a cross between the styles of the French essayist Montaigne and the music-hall comedian, Max Miller. Readers can judge whether I succeeded.

One columnar midnight, when Alastair saw me at the typewriter, prose-purpling on a real wham-bang mind-moulder about my toothbrush's place in Einstein's Theory of Relativity, he said in the demotic, "Ease up laddie or ye'll bust yer biler", an adjuration I accepted gratefully. "

Writings of Albert Morris

Article 1 - That cleft-stick call to arms

PEOPLE have often admired my long, loping stride suggestive of Groucho Marx stalking a waitress. Know then that it was created in the bushlands of British Somaliland, a parched and quarrelsome corner of north-east Africa full of volatile, vehement tribes and crazy, recalcitrant camels.

In that oven-hot, ant-hill-dotted, thorn-bush-flecked, territory, with Beau Geste to the west, Biggles Flies South to the

*Albert Morris of 'The Scotsman'*



north, Prester John to the south and Sinbad the Sailor to the east, I pounded an Army .303, quick-striking, air-cooled Imperial typewriter in the service of good King George VI.

As an old Somali hand, I sense what is afoot there and expect a Ministry of Defence phone call asking for information and advice to boost Britain's role in a possible United States action against al-Qaeda's terrorist network in Somalia, a country that the Arabs claim was made from left-over pieces when Allah created the earth.

I can reveal that your average Somali is a cracking good chap who may not always play the straight bat, but knows how to hit opponents for six. When I was in Somaliland, his occupations included eliminating rival clansmen, stealing, feuding, praying and engaging in endless litigation over camels and territory. Doubtless, little has changed since then.

Described as "the Irishmen of Africa", Somalis are proud, violent, romantic, imaginative and quick-witted - not unlike the natives of Erin, a land of lush fertility and EU-boosted prosperity. A country of bush, rocks too hot to touch and brackish water has created a quick-tempered warrior race, fiercer, it is said, than Afghan tribesmen, with a contempt for pain or death, who can pull the trigger, sometimes before they are insulted.

Can you imagine the effect on a well-brought-up lad like myself from Edinburgh, town of the tinkling after-noon-tea cups and peppermint-sucking, Church Sundays, on being socially introduced to spear-and-knife-carrying Somalis with fierce, rolling eyes under mops of dusty, black, crinkly hair, many of whom regarded Britons as top of their good feud guides. One talked and walked carefully.

What was then British and former Italian Somaliland was garrisoned by the British Army where personnel, in outposts among desert tribes who often flew into ungovernable rages about very little when matters were sifted, felt themselves slowly slipping their regimental moorings in the Army equivalent of Le Cafard, the Foreign Legion's desert madness.

Peacock-proud Somali males often insisted on being treated like prince-lings and, if you had different views, could, socially, cut you dead in more ways than one. Many, however, had an austere dignity about them, best seen when walking, carrying only a spear while their women, burdened with household loads, struggled behind.

The spear and curved dagger have been replaced by the Kalashnikov, the hand-grenade and heavy machine-gun in a ravaged, famine-stricken land - as desolate as Afghanistan - where the government has collapsed and the two chief towns, Mogadishu and Berbera, are in ruins after years of civil war and clan feuding.

In 1993, a US force, on a UN humanitarian mission, became embroiled in Somalia's civil war and ended up fighting street battles against a Somali war lord whose forces shot down two American helicopters, kill-ing 18 US Army Rangers. The Americans then withdrew from Somalia.

Despite its resemblance to one of Dante's more uncongenial circles of Hades, I became fond of that nomads' land, its wilderness silences broken by the khareef - the hot desert wind - the tinkling of sheep bells, the passage of camel-borne caravans and its coastline flecked with dhows, heraldic in the sun. I also developed an admiration for the endurance qualities of the Twiglets-thin, poor but proud Somalis, who claimed, against all evidence, that their land was a Garden of Eden.

The bravest, most merciless but, when they accept you, the friendliest of African peoples, the Somalis are also among the most intelligent. If they could overcome centuries of mayhem and murder, they could transform a dangerous African dustbin into a prosperous, modern state.

I wish it well and wish Uncle Sam better co-operation with its people. If he, too, wishes my support, he can send a message in a cleft stick. An old bush strider will be quick to answer.

You can read other articles at:

<https://electricscotland.com/lifestyle/morris/index.htm>

END.

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

