

Thank you

Published: January 12, 2026, 11:41 pm

I know it's normal to send thank-you notes after Christmas, but as regular readers here may have noted, I am happy to break rules, and so I am sending this one on Christmas Eve.

I want to thank everyone who has read this blog this year. I genuinely appreciate people doing so. It is really quite strange to think that there will have been 10 million views of this blog in 2025, which will be more than 3 million more than last year. All I can say for that is, thank you.

And thank you too to all those who have offered their thanks to me, including the man who stopped me in the street as I was heading out for a coffee yesterday. I don't think we had ever met before, but he stopped me, saying he simply wanted to wish me a happy Christmas and say how much he enjoyed the videos and blogs this year, and how much he valued them. It was, in fact, his comment that made me think about writing this, because I realised I wanted to say thank you to everyone else in turn.

There is, most especially, one group of people whom I particularly want to thank, and they are those who have commented here. I might set the framework for what happens on this blog by publishing content every day, but there are many more comments published here than posts, and the vast majority are positive contributions to debate. I really value them, as I know many readers do.

Some of the commentators are regulars. PSR, Schofield, John Warren, Andrew, Ivan Horrocks, Clive Parry, Mike Parr, the 'Colonel', Andrew Broadbent, John Boxall and RobertJ (a new addition to this list this year) add many comments, but there are many more who now make regular contributions, and please accept my apologies if I have not named you. I am sure I have missed out some important people, and if I have, I am sorry. But, and I stress this, I value everyone who makes regular comments, often with very particular insights to add. I am genuinely grateful for the interaction, and I did, quite literally, read them all. And even if you contributed just once, I am still thankful. I never realised that this blog would become a community when I started it in June 2006.

So, my wish is, have a good Christmas. We will be publishing every day. But I will also be taking a lot of time off. I hope you also get that chance, and can share your holiday with those who matter to you. Go well, in other words, as I am inclined to say. It's been one heck of a year.

Comments

When commenting, please take note of this blog's comment policy, [which is available here](#). **Contravening this policy will result in comments being deleted before or after initial publication at the editor's sole discretion and without explanation being required or offered.**