

The train that took 70 years to arrive



IT'S taken a while to get there, but the first passenger steam train from London to call at the privately owned Dunrobin Castle station in Sutherland since the Second World War arrived in style yesterday.

More than 250 passengers were on board the Explorer train, operated by tour firm Steam Dreams, which stopped at Dunrobin, near Golsple, as part of its nine-day 2014 Highland

Explorer Tour. The trip set off from London Victoria on Friday and the six carriages were pulled by a 76-year-old Stanier Black Five locomotive.

Dunrobin, seat of the Dukes of Sutherland, is the northernmost point of the tour. Daniel Brittain-Catlin, who looks after the station on behalf of Sutherland Estates, said: 'The arrival of the Cathedrals Explorer was a great day for the station.'

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The rich 'should pay more road tax'

By **Ray Massey**
Transport Editor

WEALTHIER drivers should pay more tax per mile than poorer ones, a think-tank linked with Labour said yesterday.

All cars would be fitted with a 'black box' linked to global positioning satellites to track their mileage and calculate the levy when the driver refuels.

The Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR) says the driver's mobile phone could also be used instead of black-box technology.

Drivers should also pay more for 'unnecessary' short trips that could have been made on foot or by bike, and the pay-as-you-drive tax should go up in summer when there is more incentive to walk or cycle, the report adds.

It suggests that the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency should access to tax records so drivers can be charged automatically according to their income.

Its author Mark Rowney, a Labour candidate standing in local elections in Battersea, South London, said the tax would change behaviour because the existing flat-rate motor taxes - fuel duty and road tax - prices poor people off the road.

But AA president Edmund King said: 'This is beyond Orwellian'.

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