

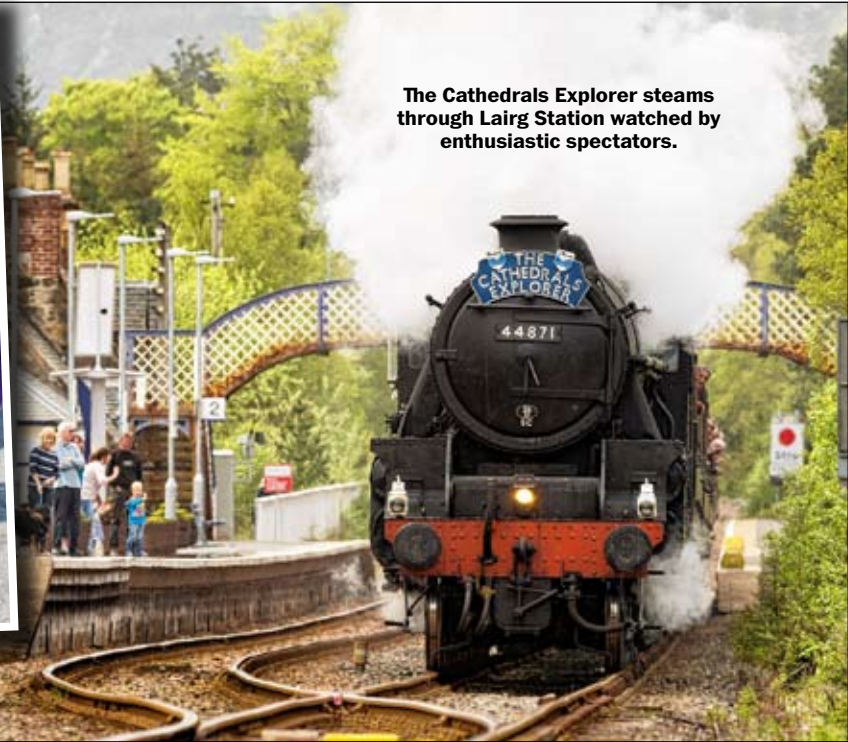
steam train visits county



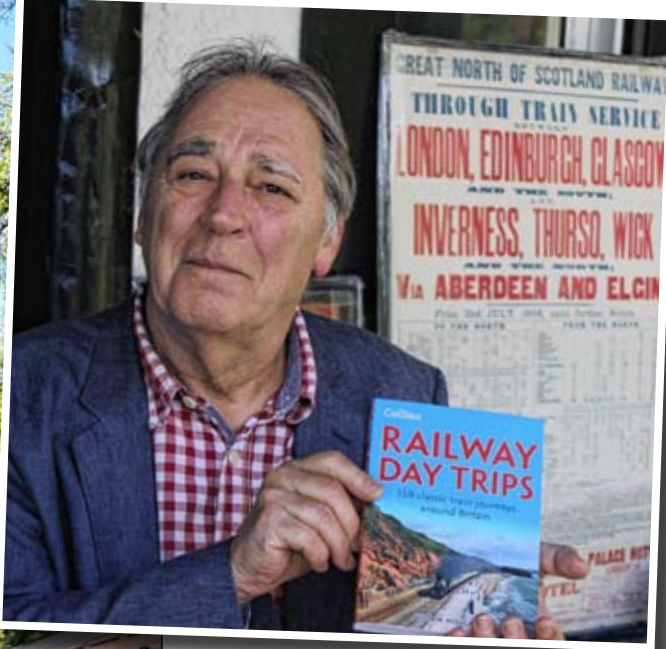
The Cathedrals Explorer at Brora about to return to Dunrobin. Picture: Willie Mackay



A family day out for Rogart residents George and Kay Murray who are pictured with their daughter Christine (far left) and her husband Richard Mackenzie. Also in the picture is Joan Spicer (second left).



The Cathedrals Explorer steams through Lairg Station watched by enthusiastic spectators.



Railway enthusiast and author Julian Holland set up a special stall at Dunrobin to sell signed copies of his work. Mr Holland recently named the Inverness to Dunrobin line as one of his top 150 one-day trips.

There was a festive atmosphere at Dunrobin station which was thronged with people waiting for the Cathedrals Explorer.

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What's Your Big Idea?

Do you have a great business idea but don't know where to start?
We want to help you!



THE INNOVATION CHALLENGE

Do you have an idea for a new business, a spin out opportunity or a business diversification which could be developed within the Dounreay Travel to work area? We want to help you!

THE COMPETITION

The Innovation Challenge is an exciting competition which aims to assist one individual or a business by offering the chance to initiate a new product or service over a minimum 12 month period. The competition is led by Caithness Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority and Cavendish Dounreay Partnership. It will be backed by expert support supplied from a wide range of organisations and networks. You might have a notion for a new business start-up concept, a spin out opportunity, or an idea for diversifying an existing business that has arisen from research and development.



The Innovation Challenge is an exciting opportunity that's all about growing ideas and growing yourself. We are looking for innovative business ideas that can operate within Caithness and North Sutherland. If you have one, then we want to hear from you - and we want to help you!

THE PRIZES

- Up to £10,000 investment.
- £10,000 working capital loan.
- 12 months business mentoring.
- One years' office accommodation & support in Thurso town centre.
- The winner will also benefit from a wide range of tailored support. This will be assessed after the winner has been chosen.

THE IDEA

You have until Monday 7 July 2014 to devise an innovative idea for a product or service that could be developed within the Dounreay travel to work area and ultimately sold nationally and internationally. Entries must meet one of the regional growth sectors below:

- Creative Industries
- Energy
- Financial & Business Services
- Food & Drink
- Sustainable Tourism
- Life Sciences

THE PITCH

Six ideas will be chosen to go forward from the idea stage; if one of the ideas is yours then you will be issued with a brief for the 'pitch' stage of the competition on Friday 1 August 2014. You will be given 19 days to prepare a ten minute presentation that you will deliver to a panel of expert judges on Wednesday 20 August. This will be followed by 15 minutes of questions. After the pitch, one winner will be chosen and the result will be publicly announced at the Caithness Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner on Friday 26 September.

HOW TO ENTER

For full entry rules, to find out how to enter or for more information. Visit: theinnovationchallenge.co.uk Or phone: 01847 630200

