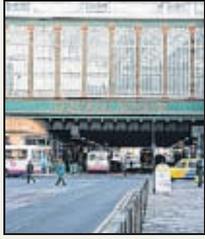


SCOTRAIL HUB SLAMMED



Disruption... Central

Zapped wires KO services

By CHRISTINE LAVELLE

TRAVELLERS were hit with cancellations and delays because of severe damage to overhead wires.

Passengers were helped from ten trains after a major power outage near Glasgow Central Station on Saturday night.

They were ferried on replacement buses yesterday as high-level lines at the hub were still axed.

ScotRail said: "We apologise to anyone affected. Our engineers are working to reopen the line."



Blunder... leccy plug

50 motor chargers on blink

SCOTRAIL chiefs have closed all 50 electric car charging points after it emerged they were faulty.

The plug-in stations will be offline for six weeks for repairs.

One at Pitlochry, Perthshire, was wired to Network Rail's supply, which meant it footed the bill.

Labour's environment spokeswoman Claudia Beamish said: "This will do nothing to encourage people to change to a more environmentally-friendly commute."

ScotRail apologised and promised urgent action.

This place is driving me loco

Departing is such sweet sorrow

58% punters who say they are satisfied with Queen St

28m customers at hub by 2030 after 40% user hike



STATION OF THE CROSS

Users vote Queen St worst in Britain

FED-UP rail travellers voted Glasgow Queen Street the worst train station in Britain.

A description of the hub, currently under renovation, as a "bomb site" was among a string of blasts in a damning poll.

Only 58 per cent of users said they were happy with the terminal operated by Abellio ScotRail as it undergoes a £100million revamp.

John McInnes, 46, a technician from Cumbernauld, said: "I hope they are going to finish it because it looks a disaster just now."

"It's embarrassing bringing friends or relatives here. They can't believe the mess."

And Cameron MacIntosh, 32, a sales adviser from Stir-

ling, said: "The station is an absolute bomb site."

"It really looks like a place from the Third World. I try to avoid it."

Labour MSP Colin Smyth backed their complaints last night. He said: "Passengers who travel in and out of Queen Street, on increasingly overcrowded trains, won't be surprised at this survey."

"Dithering and delays over the revamp mean they face another few years of misery before the work is completed. Passengers deserve better."

And Anthony Smith, chief executive of watchdog Transport Focus, urged the station operators to listen to commuters' gripes. He said: "Passengers' top priorities for stations include arrival time

information, waiting rooms and the overall look and feel.

"While Queen Street is being redeveloped it's vital ScotRail Alliance continues to talk to passengers about the improvements and makes sure staff are on hand to help."

"Investment in stations can improve passengers' satisfaction when targeted at features which make a difference to their experience."

The UK-wide survey conducted between September and November gave Gatwick Airport station the second-worst score, with a third of users slamming it.

Oxford station and Clapham Junction in London came next.

The top four were King's Cross and St

Pancras in London, Birmingham New Street and Reading, all of which have seen recent major refurbishments.

Queen Street is Scotland's third-busiest station, with 15 million passengers last year – a figure predicted to almost double over the next decade.

A ScotRail Alliance spokesman said: "Queen Street station is being transformed to deliver a modern and fully accessible transport hub."

"The number using it is set to increase by 40 per cent to 28million by 2030. To manage this growth, work is under way on creating a spacious, accessible facility designed as a positive addition to historic George Square."

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No surprises... Smyth

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No surprises... Smyth



Blast... Mr Luxmoore

Salmon farm hike eco hope

By JULIA HORTON

ENVIRONMENT chiefs say allowing supersized fish farms will cut pollution.

Lifting a ban that restricts sites to around 500,000 salmon will allow the industry to expand in remote locations with stronger tides, claims watchdog Sepa.

The protection agency insists waste would be better dispersed, reducing disease and the need for chemical treatments.

But conservationists disagree. Richard Luxmoore of National Trust for Scotland said: "If they increase the volume of fish, they will increase the problem of releasing sea lice larvae."

"It is going to be more detrimental to wild fish."

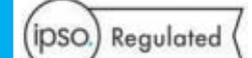
Sepa said it will soon announce "evidence-based proposals" on more sustainable locations.

Sewage from farms is expected to equal half of human waste by 2020.

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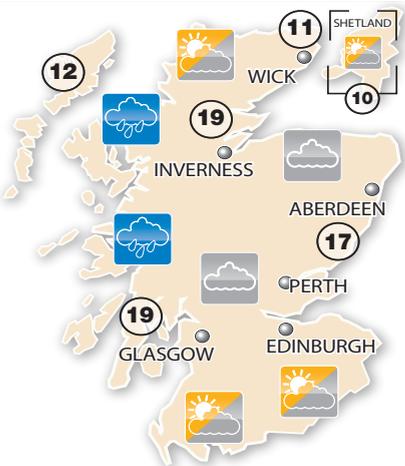


Vice girls in demo

SEX workers took part in an employees' rights march for the first time.

Activists from Scot-Pep and Sex Worker Advocacy and Resistance Movement joined the annual May Day rally in Glasgow yesterday.

Campaigner Molly said: "It's important for sex workers to be here on this iconic day – we are so often overlooked."



TODAY: A cloudy day in the east but temperatures will remain high for the bank holiday, though it will be breezy. Light rain in the north will ease off as we move into the afternoon. The sun will start to appear across most areas.

TONIGHT: The clouds will part to make way for a lovely sunny evening. It will remain warm with highs of 17°C.

OUTLOOK: Downpours are expected in the west tomorrow as temperatures begin to drop. Cloudy in the north east with wind gusts of up to 25mph on Wednesday. Light showers will be followed by sunny intervals on Thursday across the Central Belt.

TUE 15°



WED 13°



THU 13°



SUJIKO

To play Sujiko, enter the numbers 1 to 9 in the spaces so that the total in each circle is equal to the sum of the four surrounding squares.

				27
				15
				27
				24
10	26	27	30	

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Today's birthdays

ARCTIC Monkeys rocker MATT HELDERS, 32, left, kids' author MICHAEL ROSEN, 72, right, Hunger Games star ALEXANDER LUDWIG, 26, Grateful Dead drummer BILL KREUTZMANN, 72, History Boys director NICHOLAS HYTNER, 62, and Irish folk singer CHRISTY MOORE, 73.