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December 8, 2021



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Tory MPs will today come under pressure to vote against the government's Integrated Rail Plan after the proposals sparked a huge backlash from Northern leaders.

An article in the Manchester Evening News says Labour will use an Opposition Day debate to force a vote on the controversial vision for the North's railways, which includes scaled-back plans for the HS2 and Northern Powerhouse Rail projects.

Labour is using one of its 20 opposition day debates to urge the Prime Minister to “deliver, in full the infrastructure that was promised to the North at the last election”.

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Upgrades designed to transform Gatwick Airport Station have hit another milestone today, as Rail Minister Chris Heaton-Harris breaks ground on the next stage of works.

An article in the Worthing Herald says major building works will today begin on the second concourse.

In contrast to the current entrance, this new structure will tower above existing platforms, doubling the space for passengers and creating an eye-catching gateway to the airport.

ScotRail's restoring an important landmark as part of its £8 million redevelopment of Aberdeen station.

ScotRail says its aim with the repairs was to be sympathetic and keep the look of the pavilion as close as possible to that of the original building.

Some pre-existing materials were recycled and the solid granite treads in the Guild Street entrance were removed and modified in order to use the granite for the new stairs.

[Click here for more details.](#)

A businessman who secretly built the UK's biggest model railway feared his girlfriend would dump him if she learnt about his hobby.

An article in the Metro said train-mad Simon George spent £250,000 and a staggering eight years on his 200ft-long project.

When he met his partner Marie two years ago, he pretended he was renting an old mill to store and sell wine because he thought that ‘sounded sexier than building a model railway’.

He told the paper that she came down to the cellar one day and said “where’s all the wine”. In the end she appreciated the level of detail and work that went into it and they’re now engaged.

Photo credit: ScotRail