

# Plane TALK



**LISTENING  
OUT FOR  
THORLEY  
See over**

**BISHOP'S STORTFORD & THORLEY – SPECIAL EDITION**

**BAA Stansted** 

## "THANK YOU" ... to the many people who attended our special 'Noise Briefing' at the St Barnabas Centre in Thorley last Friday evening.

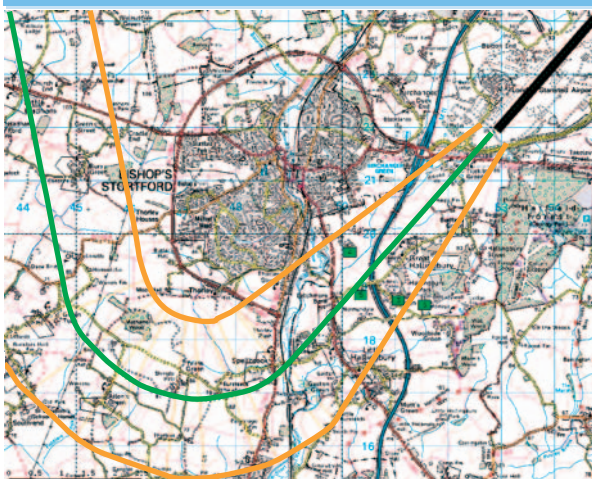
**S**pecial thanks to local MP, Mark Prisk, who asked us to organise the evening for local residents, and to Parish Council Chairman Richard Lavender, his parish council colleagues and a number of other community leaders for supporting the event.

This was one of a number of briefings held regularly throughout the area to give local people the opportunity to see at first hand what is being done to keep noise to a minimum in and around the community. On display were maps of aircraft patterns into and out of Stansted, and an interactive computer display allowed residents to look at how aircraft noise and track keeping is closely monitored at the airport. Many took the opportunity to locate their homes in relation to aircraft routes, and some very searching questions followed! Representatives of National Air Traffic Services were on hand to explain how the routes are planned and managed.



*From left to right: Cllr Bernard Engel, Cllr Duncan Peek, Mark Prisk MP, Mark Pendlington and Cllr Richard Lavender.*

## AIRCRAFT FLEW 99.5% ON TRACK IN AUGUST



Here is a map that shows one of the departure routes from the south western end of the runway at Stansted – the one that affects this area the most. About 125 planes a day take off from Stansted on this route during the 65% of the time that the wind is from the

south-west. They generally pass to the south of Thorley and their normal height is about 3000 feet.

The swathe of the take off route is 3km wide (shown in orange) with the centre line mapped in green.

# Listening out for Thorley

On the advice of our Noise and Track Keeping Working Group – a body that meets regularly and on which sit many local representatives – we placed sophisticated noise monitors at Thorley Hall and Thorley Street between February and June 2000. We returned to those same places between February and June 2002 to find out whether there was any difference in noise levels, and why. Here is what we found:

BUT, we are not complacent, and while we continue to monitor each take-off and landing at the airport, we rely on you too (please!) to keep us informed about any flights that you think infringe our strict noise and track keeping standards. Our dedicated freephone number is 0800 243 788. Speak to one of our specialist advisors, or leave a message.

## NUMBER OF FLIGHTS MAKING 65 DECIBELS (dBA) OR MORE

|                 | Thorley Hall | Thorley Street |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------|
| Feb – June 2000 | 2973         | 5269           |
| Feb – June 2002 | 1346         | 5098           |

Despite there being 1855 more flights over the area in 2002 than in 2000, noise levels were less. This is very good news and is due to the phasing out of noisier 'Chapter 2' aircraft as the number of newer generation planes in service increases rapidly; and because the aircraft turning point had been reinstated at 2.9 nautical miles from the end of the runway, with much improved track keeping techniques as well.



## FEEDBACK....

### YOUR COMMENTS ARE WELCOME

If you have a comment, suggestion or complaint that you would like to make please contact us by writing to: Stansted Feedback, Public Affairs, Stansted Airport Limited, Enterprise House, Stansted Airport, Essex CM24 1QW or email [stanstednoiseline@baa.com](mailto:stanstednoiseline@baa.com)

## CONGRATULATIONS...



...to pupils, teachers, governors and to all those who have worked so hard to continue to develop new facilities at local schools. It takes a great deal of time and effort, which is why we

have been delighted to have been given the opportunity to offer practical support too. Many of our staff are active members of school communities in their spare time, and we know just

how much this kind of success means to many hundreds of people.

So our congratulations go to:

- Thorngrove Primary - £1000 towards IT equipment and £500 towards an outdoor classroom.

- Thorley Pre School - £860 towards an outside patio play area.

- Herts and Essex High School and The Bishop's Stortford High School – £10,000 to support successful Specialist School Status bids.

## ISSUES UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT

A number of important issues were raised during the evening, including:

- Noise
- Aircraft flying off-track
- Night flights
- Pollution from aircraft
- Expansion

By way of follow-up, Airport Managing Director Terry Morgan, and new runway Project Director Alastair McDermid, together with senior colleagues from BAA and NATS are to meet Mark Prisk MP, Cllr Richard Lavender and other

community representatives at a special meeting at Stansted within the next few weeks.

**If you have issues that you would like included for discussion at that meeting, and did not have the opportunity to raise them with us on Friday evening, please contact us (information below) or write to Mark Prisk MP, House of Commons, Westminster, London SW1A 0AA. We are very grateful for his help in bringing issues to our attention.**

We will report back to you following the meeting.

## FOCUS ON THE FUTURE

With growth and development at Stansted very much in the headlines, here is a timely reminder about our commitment to consult with local people at every stage of our expansion plans. We keep in regular touch with your elected representatives, but always want to hear direct from YOU, what you think about the future of Stansted.

We are in the process of preparing to ask for permission to grow beyond our current limit of 25 million passengers per annum (currently 21 million people travel through Stansted each year) in order to make more use of the existing runway. A large number of studies are in progress by specialist teams to examine the impact of this growth on the environment, airspace, health,

ecology, road and rail infrastructure, employment, economic effects, energy and waste management. We will want to discuss the results with you as part of a wider consultation in advance of us submitting our formal planning application to Uttlesford Council some time next year. More news soon.

### Getting it right

Looking ahead to the proposed second runway, we are at the very earliest stages of planning and preparation. Many people expect us to have all the answers to their questions immediately, but we not only have to make the case for a second runway, we have to ensure it is going to be safe; that the impact on the environment will be kept to the absolute minimum; and that everyone who needs to travel around the area – passengers and residents alike – can do so on a road and rail system that can cope with the increased demand.

This means that all the accurate facts and information we all need in order to understand the nature of the scheme, and to decide whether permission is granted for the runway, must be gathered together as quickly as possible. The complexity and scale of the project, and our responsibility to the local community, requires nothing but the best and most detailed examination of the facts.

### Keeping you in touch

These studies are currently under way, and we are working with a whole range of experts, community leaders, councils, government bodies and other organisations to make these assessments as quickly and accurately as possible. Again, we will want to share this information with you.