



# FLY THE FLAG

September 2006

THE NEWSLETTER OF  
FRIENDS OF LYDD AIRPORT GROUP

## **FLAG attends public consultation meetings:**

FLAG representatives who attended a series of nine public presentations across Kent and East Sussex held by London Ashford Airport said they were pleased with the positive reaction of many of the people who attended.

Managers from the airport went to New Romney, Hythe, Folkestone, Ashford, and Rye to explain their plans and took part in some lively question and answer sessions with the audiences.

The meetings were attended by hundreds of residents and although a small minority were vocal in their opposition to the airport's plans, it was very pleasing to see that there was also a lot of support expressed by people who were prepared to actually listen to the proposals and make up their own minds based on the evidence in front of them.

FLAG's Tim Crompton said it was interesting to study the results of a survey carried out at each meeting. "It was good to see that of those people who responded, 60% said they felt development would either improve or not affect their quality of life. And almost 80% agreed that the jobs the airport will create for local residents are important. A majority also believed that buying products and services locally is a valuable way to offer support to local businesses."

## **Airport Authority supports the Local community**

FLAG understands that financial support has been provided to local events this year, including Lydd Club Day. All Saints Church heating fund & Kent Air Ambulance will receive a donation from ticket sales for the Air Show, showing the Airports commitment to helping local people.

## **New instrument landing system makes Lydd Airport safer:**

A new instrument landing system, or ILS as it's known in the aviation industry, went 'live' in June, making the airport much safer for pilots to use in poor weather.

Lydd Airport generally has a very good weather record but the new system will improve efficiency and safety even more. It's a big step forward for the airport and its plans to develop. The ILS is the latest in a number of improvements that have been made which will make the airport much more attractive to airlines.

## **GREAT SUCCESS FOR LYDD AIRPORT AIR SHOW**

A spectacular Air Show was held at London Ashford Airport on the 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> of September, around 20,000 people used this chance to see the airport many talked with members of FLAG about the benefits the development of the Airport will bring, and nearly 1,000 signatures were added to our petition in support of the Airport development.

Visit [www.f-l-a-g.co.uk](http://www.f-l-a-g.co.uk) where you can ask questions and support the development of Lydd Airport



## **NEW** FAL Aviation online Business Poll

FAL Aviation recently started an online series of polls to gauge support for a number of proposed routes. Tim Crompton, organiser of the Friends of Lydd Airport Group has taken on the job of widening the scope of this pole with his contacts within Local people and visiting contractors.

Tim said “I see many opportunities for get you home for a weekend type of flights; these contractors’ staff often live many miles away and put off seeing friends and families due to the long journey times involved. An opportunity certainly exists for an airline to provide this service”.

Tim has questioned many clients and customers regarding the idea and has incorporated feedback into the FAL online survey.

## **NEW** Environmental Impact Assessment

The EIA for London Ashford Airport is due to be released soon. The EIA has looked at among other issues, noise, traffic, economic impact and wild life issues. FLAG expects that this information will answer the worries of local people and reassure them that the management of the Airport has no wish to damage the area, in fact they are investing substantial amounts, £20 million so far, which is already improving the economy of the Romney Marsh & bringing employment for local people.

**NEW** Airport Authority believes TRAINING is the key to development. With their “recruit locally policy” the Airport are developing greater training facilities to cover the needs of Fire & Rescue, Air Traffic Control & Engineering. This can only be good news for local people wanting to further their careers in high quality employment. Three students from Southlands School have been given an opportunity for work experience in aircraft engineering at Lydd Airport

**IF YOU WANT TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF ROMNEY MARSH, WITH MORE HIGH QUALITY JOBS, GREAT TRAINING FACILITIES, BETTER TRANSPORT LINKS, AND IMPROVED LOCAL BUSINESS, SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF LYDD AIRPORT BY CONTACTING YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS & LET THEM KNOW ABOUT YOUR SUPPORT, IT COULD BE VITAL TO THE ECONOMIC WELLBEING OF THE MARSH AREA. CONTACT US OR VISIT OUR WEB SITE.**

**[www.f-l-a-g.co.uk](http://www.f-l-a-g.co.uk)**