

AirportWatch Conference 2009

around the theme of

Successful Airport Campaigning

Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th March

Central London Venue

Aviation has shot up the political agenda. During the last two years, campaigns against airport expansion have sprung up all over the country.

This conference is not just for AirportWatch campaigners. It is for everyone campaigning on airports and aviation.

It will focus on campaigning - and what makes a successful campaign.

Campaigners will talk about their successes – and failures.

You certainly don't need to have taken part in any dynamic campaign already to come to the conference!

It is a chance to meet people campaigning at airports up and down the country, share your experiences, look back on what has worked well and what has not, discuss new ideas with other campaigners, and be part of a wider - and more effective - national network.

The conference will have few long speeches! It will be as interactive as possible with a lot of opportunity to speak with fellow campaigners.



Why Two Days?

Feel free to come for just one day, or even less! But a lot of people – particularly from outside London – have said that, when everything is crammed into one day they don't get a real chance to explore things in-depth or have enough time to talk with their fellow campaigners.

So we are going for Saturday, and Sunday morning.

- The Conference is free, with just a £10 charge for lunch
- There will be a chance to socialise with fellow campaigners on Saturday evening.

We hope to put as many people as possible up with fellow campaigners on the Saturday night, if you need overnight accommodation.

Programme

Saturday

10.45 **Coffee, cakes and a chance for a chat**

11.15 **Welcome** from Chair Chris Crean, Co-ordinator West Midlands Friends of the Earth

11.20 **Successful Campaigning** – John Stewart

Veteran campaigner John Stewart, who last year was voted Britain's most effective environmentalist by the Independent on Sunday, will talk about what makes a successful campaign. It will include a brief update on the current state of play and on how it might develop in 2009 and 2010, particularly in light of the current economic situation

11.40 **Making an Impact in Scotland** – Dan Glass and Tilly Gifford

Exciting things are happening in Scotland. AirportWatch Scotland was formed in 2008. Through its "Plane Speaking" project, local campaign networks, rooted in the local communities, have been set up in both Glasgow and Edinburgh. Dan and Tilly will tell us how the campaign in Scotland got off the ground using interactive ways of working.

12.00 **Working in the West Country** – Jeremy Birch

AirportWatch South West was set up in 2007. Jeremy Birch will outline the successful regional working which is taking place in the West Country

12.20 **Break-Out Sessions** (Session 1)

The importance of economics and employment

A discussion, using examples of the reports by written or commissioned by campaigners, on how to challenge the claims made by the industry about economics and employment.

The role of direct action

People from the Plane Stupid network will lead a discussion on if, when and how direct action could be used in campaigning.

Tackling noise + climate change = more effective campaigning?

Noise and climate change are two of the big issues that motivate people to get involved in airport campaigning. A discussion around including both issues in a campaign can make it more inclusive and effective.

1.00 LUNCH

2.00 **Winning against the Odds**

A plenary discussion facilitated by Chris Crean and John Stewart. It will include:

- **The problem of unsupportive councils:** John will discuss with campaigners from London City, Gloucester and Manchester airports how they are tackling their local councils (with plenty of impute from everybody else!). Then Chris will discuss with campaigners who are also councillors what they think we could be doing.
- **An opportunity to talk about campaigning, including your own experiences.**

3.30 TEA

3.45 **Break-Out Sessions** (Session 2): *The earlier ones are repeated:*

Economics



Direct Action



Noise and Climate Change



4.30 **Creating our own flight path maps:** **Horst Weise and Martin Kessel from Germany**

Campaigners are often driven to distraction at the way airports, airlines and the Department for Transport will not give honest answers about flight paths. The Frankfurt campaigners have solved the problem: they have created their own flight path maps! They have developed the technology whereby they can map flight paths right across Europe. In a stunning visual presentation Horst, the co-creator of the technology, and Martin, the President of UECNA, the Europe-wide body of airport campaign groups, will show how we can all create our own flight path maps to use in our campaigns.

5.15 **Finish**

Sunday

9.30 **Welcome Back!** Chair Anna Jones, Aviation Campaigner, Greenpeace

9.35 **Using the Old and New Media:** Richard George and John Stewart

An interactive session on press and media work, including the use of social networking, blogging, YouTube, and making best use of the internet.

10.30 **Biofuels – why they are not the answer:** Deepak Rughani, BiofuelWatch

11.00 **Reflecting on Saturday**

A chance to explore in more detail with fellow campaigners ideas which can help make our campaigns more effective. All the ideas that Saturday prompted in your mind. All those things you didn't have time to say on Saturday!

11.45 **Moving forward**

A final plenary session discussing how we can move forward together during 2009.

12.00 **END**



AirportWatch Conference (March 28/29th 2009)

Booking form

Please reserve me a place at the AirportWatch conference.

Contact details:

Name

Email

Phone

Postal address

(details will not be passed to any other organisation).

Airport interest:

Please state whether there is an airport of particular interest to you, or if your interest is in aviation generally.

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Special requirements:

Do you have any special requirements? (There is a lift to the venue, and there is a hearing induction loop).

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Food and drink:

Coffee and tea will be available several times during the day, and there will be a sandwich lunch. Please state any dietary requirements. (There will be a suggested charge of £10 for food and drink, on arrival. Having done local research on cafes in the area, eating in appears the cheaper option).

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Accommodation:

If you would like to find accommodation with campaigners in, or near, London, please let us know - so we can try and match you up with a host.

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Help with costs:

We may be able to help with travel or accommodation costs. Please let us know if you need to have some or all of your costs refunded.

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Please return completed form, by email to: info@airportwatch.org.uk

or by post to: AirportWatch, 2nd Floor, Broken Wharf House, 2 Broken Wharf, London EC4V 3DT
(by 18th March at the latest)

If you have any questions or need further information, either email or ring Sarah on: 01372 722341