



THE SUN WILL NEVER SET ON MANSTON AIRPORT! PICTURE BY ROSS HARRIS.

Supporters of Manston Airport

Newsletter

26 August 2014

IN THIS ISSUE

Welcome back!

After the success of our last newsletter, we'd like to welcome you to our second edition. As always, it's been a busy few weeks in the fight to re-open Manston Airport. With the CPO process continuing and another release from RiverOak, the campaign is going from strength to strength. We hope you all saw our latest editorial in the Thanet Gazette (dated August 22nd 2014) on 'Why we're certain it can work' – our response to Ann Gloag's letter previously published in the Gazette. We're now making final preparations for Music for Manston. We hope you're as excited as we are and join us on 6th September.

New Committee Members

Firstly, we'd like to introduce our newest committee members Mark and Sarah Cornwell. We extend a warm welcome to both of them, as we're sure you will too. Mark Cornwell will be our liaison officer and spokesman, primarily interfacing with the press and other public duties. Sarah Cornwell will join the team and help with administration and general running of the group and campaign.

Mark and Sarah had this to say: "Hello all, we would like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves. You may recognise us from photos of supporters waving flags at the entrance to the airport. We have stood

on the corner along with others on an almost daily basis, come rain or shine, in order to maintain a presence at the airport and to keep the campaign alive.

Mark is a director of a local IT company and Sarah is a behaviour manager at a local school. We joined the campaign to support Manston Airport very early. We are both very passionate about the airport and believe that it is and always will be an asset to the community, as well as part of Thanet's heritage.

We plan to support the cause in the long run and will provide this organisation with dedication and passion, serving in any capacity that is called upon us. We look forward to working with the committee and getting to know each and every one of you over time!"

As always, we thank you all for your continued support and effort to re-claim our local airport.

Ruth Bailey, Wendy Fraser, Dave Holland, Oscar Maynard, Chris Suart, Mark and Sarah Cornwell.

www.supportmanstonairport.org



Latest RiverOak press release

Did you read RiverOak Investment Corp.'s latest press release and see the release of their response to the Airport Commission? Have a peak here!

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Music for Manston

The weather is looking good, the hog roast is ready... we hope you have your tickets! Check the line-up for our family-friendly concert and how you can join us.

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CPO News

The next stage of the compulsory purchase order, market testing, is well underway. Expressions of interest in becoming Thanet District Council's indemnity partner for the CPO closed on 20th August. On 22nd August, Supporters of Manston Airport were the first to confirm that two expressions had been received. Huzzah!

More information about RiverOak, one of the companies expressing interest is below. The second party is yet to be confirmed.

The two parties will now have to return a questionnaire to Thanet District Council before 1st September. This will be followed by the third and final stage to identify a

partner, this will include face-to-face interviews and is likely to take place in mid-September.

It is anticipated that this market testing exercise will be used to produce an options paper for the TDC cabinet to consider this autumn.

More information on the CPO process can be found on the TDC website at www.bit.ly/cpoprocess.

For up-to-the-minute information on the current situation, be sure to follow our Facebook, Twitter and website.

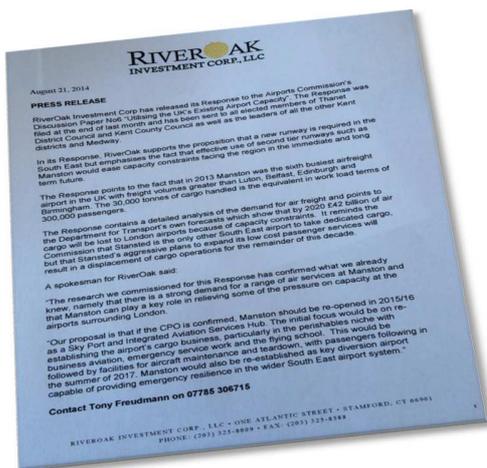
DOOR TO DOOR IN NETHERCOURT

We've been out and about in the Nethercourt ward of Thanet, going door-to-door to talk to local residents.

Wendy Fraser, group secretary, said "None of the residents were concerned about night flights and interestingly none had been asked their opinions regarding this in the past."

Most were unaware their ward councillors Gibson and Alexandru were against the re-opening of the airport, and signed our open letter addressed to the councillors.

We'll be back on the doorsteps to complete our survey this week. Results to follow soon.



Latest RiverOak Press Release

RiverOak, a US company, previously tried to purchase the airport with all offers refused by the owners. In their response to the Airport Commission (published first by SuMA), they set forward their vision for Manston as an immediate and long-term solution to air traffic capacity issues. RiverOak state that Manston was the UK's sixth busiest air freight airport last year and the 30,000 tonnes handled is the equivalent of 300,000 passengers in work load. RiverOak have identified Stansted as the only other South East cargo airport, but believes their focus on passenger services will limit cargo expansion.

RiverOak have stated that they will financially support Thanet District Council in their attempt to compulsorily purchase the airport taking full financial and legal responsibility for the CPO.

RiverOak spokesman Tony Freudmann said their research showed a "strong demand for a range of air services at Manston" and that "Manston can play a key role in relieving some of the pressure on capacity at the airports surrounding London."

Mr. Freudmann states "Our proposal is that if the CPO is confirmed, Manston should be re-opened in 2015/16 as a Sky Port and Integrated Aviation Services Hub.

The initial focus would be on re-establishing the airport's cargo business, particularly in

the perishables niche with business aviation, emergency service work and the flying school.

This would be followed by facilities for aircraft maintenance and teardown, with passengers following in the summer of 2017.

Manston would also be re-established as key diversion airport capable of providing emergency resilience in the wider South East airport system."

The full press release and RiverOak's response to the Airport Commission can be read on our website at www.supportmanstonairport.org/895/.



Tony Freudmann

Music for Manston

Music for Manston is an event organised by the Supporters of Manston Airport to keep the campaign in the forefront of the public's mind and also to raise funds in the fight to re-open Manton Airport.

It will take place at Manston Court Holiday Park (Manston Court Road, Ramsgate, CT12 5AU) on Saturday 6th September from 2.00pm – 6.00pm. Many thanks to Andy Girdler (site manager) for all his help and advice and to Sandwich Leisure Parks for allowing us to use their site.

Make sure that you bring your picnic blankets, chairs, pop up tents and picnics; or you could treat yourself to a hog roast or other freshly cooked food from our catering outlets. Hot beverages as well as cold drinks will be available along with a licensed bar.

We are very proud to present a wonderful line up of local talent for the concert including – Paul 'One Love' Messenger, Beggars Belief, Brad Pittance & the Pirates, Nylon Tigers, Jennifer Maidman & Friends. Again we would like to thank these musicians for giving up their time to play for us.

Thanks to Kerwyn Watson and Bywater Transport for the use of one of their trailers as a stage; and thanks to Truprint Media for the poster design.

There will also be plenty for the children with a bouncy castle, face painting and other great activities for the whole family.

There will be a variety of stalls including those from TG Aviation and the Spitfire and Hurricane Museum. SuMA merchandise will also be on sale.

Advanced tickets are £6 or £15 for a family ticket (2 adults plus 2-3 children). Tickets on the day will be £7 or £18 for a family (2 adults plus 2-3 children).

If you're as excited as we are, advanced tickets can be purchased by emailing contact@supportmanstonairport.org or sending Ruth Brackstone Bailey a private message on Facebook.

Unfortunately, no pets (except assistance dogs) will be allowed on-site for this event. Apologies to all those furry friends looking to party!

Parking on site is included in the ticket price, and St John's Ambulance will be in attendance. If you would like to camp overnight after the event, please contact Andy Girdler (site manager) on 07516 672686 or email info@manstoncaravanpark.co.uk. Places are limited so don't leave it too late!

To whet your appetite...

An interview with Paul 'One Love' Messenger

When did you start performing and how did you choose your name?

I started out solo 25 years ago and then it was all the rage to have 'one' in your name if you were solo.

What type of music do you play?

Reggae, Soul Latino and Acoustic pop. I average four gigs a week, depending on time of year. I have three CD's for sale, and two singles (all original work).

Where is your favourite place to play?

'You're only as good as your next gig' but playing Margate seafront gigs are always great fun. There are also some great venues I play throughout the SE that have really great management which makes my job so much easier.

Why did you agree to play for this Music for Manston fundraiser?

I agreed immediately as I have been an active supporter from day one and have even written a song for Manston appropriately titled 'Manston Song'.

Who are your musical influences?

Santana, Simply Red, Peter Green's Fleetwood Mac, Wishbone Ash, Lighthouse Family, Sade. David Gray.

What was your most memorable gig?

I was in a local pub (which remains nameless) when a heated argument developed mid-song. This escalated to such an extent that one man was hanging off my leg and I ended up having my ankle bitten during the guitar solo – ouch!

Who is the most famous person you have ever met?

Barry Mason (songwriter for Tom Jones and Englebert Humperdink) - I spent a whole morning with him giving me advice.

LOOK OUT FOR...



Great Artists

We have a great line up of local artists and bands including Paul Messenger, Beggars Belief, Brad Pittance & the Pirates, Nylon Tigers, Jennifer Maidman & Friends. Look out for Paul Messenger's performance of 'Manston Song'!



Delicious Hog Roast

Mouth-watering pulled pork with crunchy crackling and lashings of apple sauce; with thanks to Matthew Clements. How could you resist?



Fantastic Festival Tees

Available in a range of fabulous colours and sizes from Jo Sharp. A real souvenir to remember the event and show off to your friends! Order details on our Facebook page at facebook.com/supportmanstonairport or private message Jo Sharp on Facebook.

In Other News...

Wristbands

We now have more wristbands available at £1.20 each. They were so popular last time they were all sold out! Make sure you get yours while you can, on sale at Music for Manston on 6th September.



On Mr. DeNardo...

A bit of information found by one of our members on Mr. DeNardo, CEO of Riveroak and his aviation affiliations.

"Mr. DeNardo is also Managing General Partner of RiverOak Aviation Associates, a multifaceted asset management company focusing on off-market transactions in the aviation field including airports, MRO, and breakdown and recycling. The primary acquisition targets are undermanaged assets in European markets. The aviation team has experience in airport operations, acquisitions and financing of aviation properties, repurposing of former military properties and aircraft leasing."

More information on RiverOak's aviation has now been published on their website.

Passengers prefer smaller airports

For a better holiday or travel experience, passengers should use the UK's smaller airports, a survey has concluded. The poll by consumer group Which? found that smaller airports had customer satisfaction ratings of up to 85% compared with less than 50% for some of the largest airports.

Baggage reclaim was the most common cause of complaint for holidaymakers, with 37% citing it as a frustration. We all know this was never a problem at Manston!

Gov. Airfield Protection

Cabinet Minister Grant Shapps MP has said that the government are soon to evaluate whether a strategic network of General Aviation airfields is now required in the UK in order to protect jobs, training and growth in the sector for the future.

The investigation comes as part of the government's response to a General Aviation Challenge Panel Report. The panel raised the issue that the lack of a strategic overview of airfields meant that licensed aerodromes are closing at an alarming rate – putting this entire job-creating sector under threat.

Ian 'U-turn' Driver?

Ian Driver, Green Party councillor, has called for discussion to begin on Plan B for the Manston airport site. Cllr Driver said: "I have changed my position on the airport over the course of the weekend."

What changed Cllr Driver's mind? Answers on the back of a postcard please!

Players for Manston

Have you been reading our light-hearted Manston saga Players for Manston? If you haven't, you should be! Check out the witty yet comical tale of the Mannestone residents and the Waffles as they go in search of the mysterious CPO. You can read it on our website at www.bit.ly/PforM.



COME AND JOIN US!

Social Media

Have you liked us on Facebook and followed us on Twitter yet? If you like your news hot off the press and a good discussion, you'll love our pages.

Facebook www.facebook.com/supportmanstonairport
Twitter www.twitter.com/savemanston

On the Web

For more detailed information and the latest articles, have a browse of our website. Like a good chat? Register on our forums to meet other SuMA members.

Website www.supportmanstonairport.org
Forum www.forum.supportmanstonairport.org

Drop us an Email

If you want to contact the committee directly, just send us an email. We'll try to reply as quickly as we can!

Email contact@supportmanstonairport.org

