



On Tuesday 10th July, Greenspeak returns

## **Flying Sauces & Plane Pickle**

The economic argument against aviation expansion and the chilling reality of salad

All welcome

Downstairs at Terraces Bar and Grill, Marine Parade (100m east of Sea Life Centre),  
Brighton  
7.15 - 9.00pm £donation

The Government's intention to encourage the expansion of the UK's airports, including Shoreham and Gatwick, has been well documented and stirred up no end of protest from diverse groups campaigning on climate change, noise, pollution, the preservation of local towns and economies. We seldom hear the business case against expansion.

Errm, that's right - not everyone agrees that the aviation industry's sums add up or that claims about creating jobs hold up to scrutiny. Meanwhile, while our attention is on 'cheap frills' to the continent, the air freight industry is growing faster than you can say "I'll take a bunch of your finest Peruvian asparagus please", turning jumbos into giant flying refrigerators and carriers of essential goods, like gold and pianos. Is this really what we want?

### **Speakers**

**Rose Bridger** Food Systems Consultant: Rose has been researching and campaigning for several years, specialising in public sector food procurement, supply chain management, developing local supply chains and community action. She will be drawing on her work, including her recent paper 'The Chill Chain in the Sky: Aviation's Fastest Growing Sector'. It places the spotlight on an issue that has rarely been reported on or presented to the public, so we are fortunate to have this opportunity. Rose challenges the myths around food air freight, including that it is direct, demand-driven and brings widespread trade and development gains to poorer countries.

Rose says "The rise of food air freight has slipped under the radar and infrastructure development for phenomenal expansion is underway. Temperature controlled goods, mainly food and flowers, is the biggest and fastest growing air cargo sector, and key to aviation expansion plans. Many countries with widespread malnutrition are developing export zones for food and flowers on some of the best crop land, aligned with new and expanding airports. Return flights are often loaded with equipment for the export chain, and the export flights often criss-cross with inbound planes loaded with poor quality food aid."

**John Stewart** Chair, Airport Watch , UK Noise Association and Transport 2000: John is one of the leading spokespersons on the impact of aviation, well known as a campaigner for 25 years on transport and

the environment. He is widely respected for his work for the above organisations, HACAN Clear Skies and a myriad community groups across the country, his contribution to several important reports and for his engagement with the machinery of policy making. His alternative analysis of the economics of aviation is compelling, arguing that in fact *restricting* aviation is of benefit to the economy.

John calculates that aviation tourism alone creates a deficit of at least £15bn pa to the economy, while demonstrating that aviation expansion obstructs much needed investment in other transport infrastructure that is demanded by business and and required for regeneration. Others have suggested that British taxpayers subsidise the industry to the tune of more than £200 pa each, for the benefit of those in higher income brackets.

John says “The so-called success of aviation is built upon some of the most generous tax-breaks ever given to any industry in history. Cheap flights are costing us the earth; if the Government is serious about climate change, it’s got to get serious about tackling aviation.”

**Chair for the evening: Martin Grimshaw** Organiser, Greenspeak

....Followed by an open discussion - what do you think?

After a short rest and following on neatly from the last Greenspeak, this month's evening is guaranteed to make us think again about the implications of what 'they' do...and what we do. I swear you'll never look at a pack of mange tout the same way again. Even the Inuits are campaigning against British Government policy! April's 'Fuelling A Food Crisis', detailing the impact of rising fuel costs and 'Peak Oil' on our food, was perhaps the best Greenspeak ever and full to the rafters. A podcast of the last event, featuring Caroline Lucas MEP, Andre Viljoen and Paul Steedman, will be available via the new improved website in the future (fingers crossed).

**Greenspeak:** Expert speakers searching for solutions to the big issues, in a relaxed and sociable atmosphere, non-smoking, with food and drinks available. All are very welcome... [www.greenspeak-brighton.org.uk](http://www.greenspeak-brighton.org.uk)

See you there?

**ENDS**

Greenspeak is organised by Martin Grimshaw & assistants in association with Brighton & Hove Green Party ([www.brightonandhovegreenparty.org.uk](http://www.brightonandhovegreenparty.org.uk) or call 01273 766670)



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## References

1. Speakers may be contacted for further comment :

John Stewart - 0207 737 6641 or 07957385650. - [jdm.stewart@virgin.net](mailto:jdm.stewart@virgin.net)

Rose Bridger - 01484 326886 - [rosebridger@ntlworld.com](mailto:rosebridger@ntlworld.com)

Websites: AirportWatch - [www.airportwatch.org.uk](http://www.airportwatch.org.uk) : UK Noise Association - [www.ukna.org.uk](http://www.ukna.org.uk) :  
Transport 2000 - [www.transport2000.org.uk](http://www.transport2000.org.uk) : Rose Bridger - [www.rosebridger.net](http://www.rosebridger.net)

## 2. Background:

Planning law proposals make it easier to build new runways - 'Planning For A Sustainable Future' White Paper May 2007

[http://www.communities.gov.uk/pub/669/PlanningforaSustainableFutureWhitePaper\\_id1510669.pdf](http://www.communities.gov.uk/pub/669/PlanningforaSustainableFutureWhitePaper_id1510669.pdf)

Friends of The Earth report 'Pie In The Sky - why the costs of airport expansion outweigh the benefits' -  
[http://www.foe.co.uk/resource/briefings/econ\\_aviation.pdf](http://www.foe.co.uk/resource/briefings/econ_aviation.pdf)

Projected passenger numbers, Shoreham identified : Introduction to the White Paper 'The Future of Air Transport'

<http://www.dft.gov.uk/about/strategy/whitepapers/air/summary/thefutureofairtransportsummaryb>

Green Party Report 'Aviation's Economic Downside' -

<http://www.greenparty.org.uk/files/reports/2004/AED3.htm>

Inuits campaign against aviation expansion (May 07) :

<http://environment.guardian.co.uk/travel/story/0,,2090146,00.html>

## 3. Contact the Brighton and Hove Green Party press officer: 01273 766670

Want to talk to national Green Party principal spokespersons Sian Berry or Derek Wall? Contact the press office - Tel: 0207 561 0282 : [press@greenparty.org.uk](mailto:press@greenparty.org.uk)

## 4. The Terraces Bar and Grill: 01273 545250 or [enquiries@the-terraces.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@the-terraces.co.uk)