



RUNNYMEDE
BUSINESS
PARTNERSHIP



Edition 30
November
2008

AirTrack – Question Time

AirTrack is a proposed **new rail link** to connect Heathrow Terminal 5 to the existing national rail network to the south and west of London. The scheme, that is currently proposed, is for services to operate half hourly to/from **Waterloo, Reading, and Guildford** – the latter would include a stop at **Chertsey and pass through Egham**. If approved It is anticipated that the service would start in late **2014**.

BAA, as the scheme promoter, is now **consulting** on various aspects of the project. The first-stage public consultation, focusing on the works required to provide the link from Terminal 5 to Staines, was held in February this year. The **second phase** is now under way, it will consider the **effects of construction and operation** of the rail link on the local community and environment; the extent of works required for the whole Heathrow AirTrack scheme; and changes that may be required to existing rail services.

Further information can be found on:

www.baa.com, www.heathrowairport.com/airtrack , www.airtrack.org.

The speakers at our next Breakfast Forum meeting on **Tuesday 11 November** are Mike Noakes, General Manager, Rail, BAA and Richard Morris, a consultant with CJ Associates. As part of the consultation process on the **Runnymede section**, they will present details and answer questions on the scheme. In view of the limited time available, we ask that questions, for inclusion in the Q & A session, be sent in **advance**. Details will be supplied when places are booked.

This meeting is being hosted by **Foxhills Resort**; to celebrate the opening of their superb new spa facilities and refurbished and extended Clubhouse. They are also baking a special cake to be cut at the meeting, to celebrate the **10th anniversary of the Runnymede Business Partnership!** (More details on page 3)

One of the original Runnymede Business Partnership American Yellow School Buses will be there for delegates to get on board, after the meeting.

Delegates are also invited to play a **nine-hole game of golf** on the Par 3 Manor Course following the meeting, for the cost of only £15 to be paid for on the day.

Spaces will be limited so book your place for this meeting, and the golf, now! See back page for details.

INSIDE

.....
Economics
Breakfast Forum
report

.....
Medal Winners

.....
Yellow Bus
Sponsorship

.....
10 Years of
Service

.....
and lots more...





Economics - The Changing Balance of Power

On 27 June a packed audience at the **Runnymede Hotel, Egham**, heard local **MP Philip Hammond's** long term view on Economics - The Changing Balance of Power. Using his experience, as Shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury, and from previous Front Bench posts in Health, Trade & Industry, Work & Pensions and Small Business, his talk looked at the economic situation (as it was in June this year) and its effect on Britain's future economy. His forecast for us, as the world's 5th largest economy, at that time included:

- £ That we face a very difficult 6 months ahead.
- £ A massive shift in the balance of world economic power.

He said that Britain, with an economy based on extensive world trade, will have to adapt to seize the initiative and manage the change.

Delegates were delighted that Mr Hammond was able to stay on for a longer Q & A session than had been planned.

The event was sponsored by **Runnymede Borough Council**, as it formed part of the **Local Development Framework** consultation process. The Runnymede LDF team was there to give out information and answer questions before and after the meeting.

Runnymede Hotel -

Olympian welcome in record time!



Gold medal winners - Sailing

With just 48 hours notice, the Runnymede Hotel & Spa prepared a special Champagne reception for Team GB on Bank Holiday Monday, 25 August. The athletes and coaching staff were brought from Heathrow directly to the hotel in Egham, where they were met by friends, family and T.V crews with a rapturous welcome.

www.runnymedehotel.com



Royal Seal of Approval!

The Runnymede Civic Centre, which encompasses the Council Offices, Addlestone Library and Surrey Police, was officially opened on Thursday 9th October by HRH the Duke of Gloucester. The Duke an Architect himself was a ideal representative for the occasion and was impressed by the open, light and airy aspect of the building. Whilst on the Royal tour the Duke stopped to admire a display of the good work that the Runnymede Business Partnership performed, taking a special interest in the Yellow School Bus Scheme and it's available routes, which our GIS Specialist's where able to provide.

His Royal Highness is seen here with Tim Williams, CEO Runnymede Borough Council, and Peter Sims, Director of Technical Services



Business Benefits of Sponsoring the School Buses

Could these tick **your** boxes?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advertising/promotion ¹ | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Company Travel Plan ² |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Involvement | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carbon Offsetting |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corporate Social Responsibility | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Staff Pride |

1 Think how many people will see your logo when sitting behind the bus at traffic lights etc!

Logos are also on the bus passes and the front of the Yellow Bus guides - sent to parents of all new student passengers. If you check www.yellowbus.info you'll find the major sponsors not only have their logos displayed, but also a live link through to their own websites. If you'd like more details contact:

joanna.swatridge@runnymede.gov.uk

2 All major employers are encouraged to have a Company Travel Plan – have you got yours yet? For details see the Surrey County Council website: www.surreycc.gov.uk

Bupa getting on board!

We are delighted to announce that Bupa, the provider of private health insurance and health care services, is now a major sponsor of the Yellow School Bus scheme.

School Bus Report

Following the visit to Runnymede by the Rt Hon David Blunkett, and fellow members of the Yellow School Bus Commission, on their fact-finding tour, their report has been published. It can be seen in full on www.ybscommission.com. Its recommendations include the provision of dedicated school buses for secondary school students living over 2 miles from their school. Also, it notes that the Runnymede scheme is the only one that receives private funding.



RUNNYMEDE
BUSINESS
PARTNERSHIP



Celebrating 10 Years of Service

Established in 1998, the Partnership brings together the local business community, the three local Chambers of Commerce, Surrey Police, schools, colleges, Royal Holloway and the Borough Council in order to tackle issues affecting businesses across Runnymede.

Sponsorship – by local businesses enables us to organise various activities, which are usually free to participants.
Innovative solutions - have developed, from this partnership working, which have assisted businesses in the Borough. None of this would be possible without the invaluable time and effort of all those on our three working groups.

Our achievements to date include:

6 Business Directories – produced and distributed free-of-charge to all 1600+ Runnymede organisations listed. Sponsorship is sought to cover the printing costs of the 7th edition, due in 2009. Are you listed?

Check online at: www.runnymedebp.org.uk

35 Breakfast Forums – covering topical issues, with high calibre speakers, at top local venues. On average, 39% of delegates, who gave us feedback, have obtained business from contacts made at these meetings. Likewise, 65% made useful contacts. Have you booked your place at the next on 11 November?

Reduced peak hour congestion by – introducing an American-style school bus scheme, which now covers 4 local secondary schools and carries approx. 500 students to and from school every day. Also, by promoting company travel plans with major local employers, and by providing 750 spaces in cycle shelters at local schools and universities.

Set up a Loyalty Card Scheme to support local businesses – 5000 card holders benefit from the discounts and special offers given by over 90 local businesses

Produced a Work Experience Guide for Employers - soon to be updated to include the new 14-19 Diplomas. These will be sent out with the Spring Newsletter.

Published and mailed three Newsletters per year.

Produced Town Centre Guides – soon to be updated

Set up a Partnership website: www.runnymedebp.org.uk

Run half-day Training Seminars – on topics requested by local business people, at low cost.

The next, '**Gain the Sales Advantage – Enhance your Website**' is on 25 November.

Book via the email address below.

For further information on any of the above contact: joanna.swatridge@runnymede.gov.uk

STILL A NICE PLACE TO DO BUSINESS!

Again this year, 3 of the South East regions top 50 performing companies* are based in Runnymede! Two of them are again in the top 20! (3 Compass Group plc, 15 Samsung Electronics (UK) Limited, 42 Regus Group plc)

AND FOR NEXT YEARS LISTING...?

During the year several multi-national companies have moved into the Borough, including: Brocade - Egham, Future Electronics - The Glanty, Egham and OKI Europe Ltd, Egham

WELCOME - if you work for a new company in the Borough, we'd like to hear from you! We'd like to invite you to join in the activities of the Business Partnership. Even if you're not new, please get in touch if you'd like to be involved:

joanna.swatridge@runnymede.gov.uk

*Based on data supplied by PriceWaterhouseCoopers to South East Insight magazine 2008



Chambers of Commerce

ADDLESTONE AND DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

For details of Chamber activities contact

Cllr Peggy Broadhead

Tel: 01932 844465

e-mail: cllr.patricia.broadhead@runnymede.gov.uk

Address: c /o 2 Coombe Drive, Addlestone, KT15 1DB

www.addlestonechamber.co.uk

EGHAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

For details of Chamber activities please contact the

Chairman, Mark Adams, on

Tel: 01784 460108,

Address: c/o Strode's College, Egham TW20 9DR.

e-mail admin@eghamchamber.org.uk

www.eghamchamber.org.uk

CHERTSEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Chamber meets on the second Monday of the month
at 6.00pm at: The Crown Hotel, London Street, Chertsey.

Chairman, Douglas Showell,

Address: 58 Guildford Street, Chertsey, Surrey, KT16 9BE,

Tel: 01784 - 460108

e-mail admin@chertseychamber.com

www.chertseychamber.com

Breakfast Forum

Foxhills

Airtrack Question Time

Date: Tuesday 11th November 2008

Time: 7.45am

To reserve your free place at this event
please contact Joanna Swatridge

Tel: 01932 425272

joanna.swatridge@runnymede.gov.uk



Foxhills



AirTrack – the Runnymede Section Consultation

AirTrack is one of the most cost-effective rail schemes currently under consideration anywhere in the UK. It is a proposal to create a new direct rail link connecting Heathrow to the South West Trains rail network to the south and west of London. Rail access to Heathrow from this area - and much of southern England - is poor.

BAA, as the scheme promoter, is now consulting on various aspects of the project for the Runnymede section.

Find out more at the **Breakfast Forum meeting on 11th November.**



Staines



Heathrow



Holiday

