STANSTED AIRPORT NEWS



Issue 03 Winter 2019/20



Airport volunteers spread Christmas cheer

Colleague volunteering remains in full swing throughout the winter

We are so proud of all the time our colleagues have given to local areas in recent months. Christmas might have been the time for giving, but airport staff are working all year round to lend a hand to community projects.

Airport colleagues rounded off 2019 with plenty of festive volunteering in local communities, starting off at Harlow Foodbank, who received a visit from a team who had a great afternoon making up as many food packages as they could. A team of Airside Security Officers spent a similar day at Bishop's Stortford Rotary Club, filling up the car park with food packages to be handed out to families in the area. You might have also seen



airport colleagues swapping their work clothes for Santa hats and aprons, with three teams visiting Harlow's Leah Manning Centre, Harlow Rugby Club and the Princess Alexandra Hospital in Harlow, serving Christmas dinners to the elderly. Our staff really enjoyed getting out into the community to meet local residents and spread a bit of festive cheer!

"There is nothing more rewarding than helping out someone that needs support, especially at this time of year. Whether it's at the foodbank making up weekly packs for families or preparing and serving dinners to pensioners at a Christmas lunch, the feeling that you are just doing your bit is always welcomed, it's a humbling and rewarding experience all at once." Neil Banks, Business Change Integration Lead

The colder weather hasn't stopped green-fingered colleagues getting outside this winter either. Our Security Compliance team tried something slightly different to their day job when half the team were put to work at conservation charity Shepreth Wildlife Park, and the other half helped to

develop the garden and build flower bed borders at community project Plant Pots and Wellies in Harlow. A team of Security Duty Managers spent the day at Gardens of Easton Lodge to start the restoration of an area of old woodland, while Airside Security Officers donated and planted 200 bulbs to a local care home for the residents to enjoy in the spring.



"Everyone was so enthusiastic and hard working and we achieved so much more than we thought possible. Please can you pass on our thanks and ask all to come back again! They will be very welcome." Rowen Saunders, Director of Plant Pots and Wellies

While the weather remained dry, two teams put their DIY skills to the test by repainting the animal smallholding at Saffron Walden County High School and repainting the fences at Redwings Horse Sanctuary in Harlow.

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Work progresses on state-of-the-art new baggage system

£59 million baggage system upgrade progresses as part of one of Stansted's most important and complex projects

The brand-new baggage delivery system will update the current huge network of conveyor belts, lifts and chutes which operate under the main terminal, transporting up to 30,000 bags every day.

The work will coincide with recent improvements to the airport's check-in areas as part of Stansted's transformation project and are designed to comply with new EU regulations for baggage scanners.

The first phase of the project involved carefully constructing new chutes and track in and around the current layout of conveyer belts, so the airport could remain fully operational and continue to process the thousands of bags it handles every day.

When the automated system is fully installed in two years' time, special baggage carts will speed luggage around the network at 18 kilometres

per hour, taking each bag about six minutes to travel from check-in to being ready to load onto an aircraft.



The new system has been designed and is being installed by airport baggage system specialists BEUMER Group.

"The BEUMER Group is delighted to be working with London Stansted and installing our state-of-the-art autover® independent carrier system (ICS) at the airport. When the project is complete the autover® system will transform the airport's baggage operation, improving performance and efficiency for both passengers and airlines at Stansted Airport."

Klaus Schafer, Managing Director BEUMER Group

'Friendly Wi-Fi' service introduced across the airport

A new scheme to ensure that all internet content is appropriate for all ages has been rolled out across the airport, making Stansted one of the first UK airports to offer safe, child-friendly Wi-Fi to its passengers.

Stansted's free Wi-Fi is incredibly popular with its passengers, in the last 12 months, five million passengers accessed the airport's free Wi-Fi. As well as this, Stansted's passenger demographic is lower that other large UK airports, with 48% of travellers being between 16-34 years old. The new certification means that the airport's Wi-Fi filters will deny access to inappropriate content, offering the large volume of families that travel through the airport reassurance that their children can safely surf the internet.



"I would urge other airports and transport operators to follow this lead and sign up and become certified – to demonstrate to their customers that they take online safety equally seriously as they do operational safety." John Carr, Secretary of the UK's Children's Charities Coalition of Internet Safety

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Gold award for environmental work

Airport wins second prestigious international environmental award

This month, Stansted was awarded Gold for the second year in a row at the Green Apple Awards, following the airport's first ever biodiversity week in which 3,000 silver birch trees were handed out.

The Green Apple awards have become established as the country's major recognition for environmental endeavours among companies and an international, independent, nonpolitical, non-profit environment group dedicated to recognising, rewarding and promoting environmental best practice around the world.

They have become one of the most popular environmental awards in the world and are supported by the Environment Agency, amongst other independent bodies.

Working together for climate initiative

Colleagues from various departments teamed up with National Citizens
Service Programme students from
Stansted Airport College at the end of November, to take part in a Social Action Project to help the airport meet its environmental objectives and encourage students to learn more about the environment around the airport and college campus.

85 students were joined by Harlow College tutors and 30 airport colleagues who volunteered their time to help with a number of activities. Across both days, 5,000 daffodil bulbs and just over 1,200 horse chestnut trees were planted around the college site, which will support The Woodland Trust's 'The Big Climate Initiative' along with Stansted's own biodiversity goals.

"It was fantastic to work with students from Stansted Airport College. Hearing them talk about their enthusiasm for both aviation and the airport environment was really encouraging to see in young people. This was also a great opportunity for staff to engage with students from the airport's on-site college and work together for the same goal." Emily Ferris, Community Relations Advisor



The teams also created bug and insect homes which will be placed in the forest and woodland areas that surround the airport and college. For those who access the areas around the airport, the team also cleared a mile and a half of footpath while others litter-picked along six miles of roads, footpaths and walkways. A celebration was also held for the students to thank them for their time.

Academy celebrates successful year for local employment



In the month when over 800 jobseekers attended London Stansted's jobs fair, the airport has revealed nearly 1,000 people secured on-site employment in the last year thanks to the work of the Stansted Airport Employment and Skills Academy. In one week alone this month, 20 people who enrolled onto the on-site Employment and Skills Academy Aviation course have secured employment in a number of departments across the airport, from baggage handling to terminal security to hospitality.

Record employment success is one of the key highlights of the airport's latest Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Report which outlines Stansted Airport's progress in managing its environmental, economic and social performance across the last 12 months.

This winter, companies across the airport have been looking to fill 400 vacancies, showcased at the last jobs fair. With over 200 companies based at the airport, there are plenty of career opportunities for all.

"We are really proud to train in-house at Stansted Airport, offering positions to people with the right skills for the aviation industry. Current roles include customer services agents, cabin crew, baggage handlers, cargo officers, drivers and security officers. There are also apprenticeship schemes, senior managerial positions, plus full time and part time positions that can fit around employees' commitments outside work, such as childcare and university or college." Vesela Ivanova, Employment and Skills Manager, Stansted Airport



Local schools' winning library boost

World Book Day winners handed selection of books in partnership with WHSmith

Following a World Book Day competition launched back in March calling for local school children to write poems, short stories and illustrations about travelling through an airport, the first ever 'Little Book of Travel Tales' was born. Along with a behind-the-scenes tour of the airport, winners also received a selection of books for their school, donated by WHSmith.

Throughout November and December, we have been delivering books to the winner's schools and meeting local students, who have received an array of exciting titles for their school libraries.

Amongst the schools who received the prizes were some of the airport's local schools, including Bishop's Stortford College, The Christian School Takeley, Magna Carta Primary Academy in Stansted Mountfitchet and Windhills School in Bishop's Stortford.



Meet our local residents working at the airport



"I started working at the airport in 2016 as a Terminal Security Officer and since then, I have worked in a number of different roles which have most recently led to me joining the Corporate Social Responsibility team. I love working here as my roles have allowed me to meet some fantastic people and I'm always broadening my knowledge about the aviation industry. I have recently moved closer to the airport which is now even more convenient." Katie Nicol, Takeley resident

Students help to film new advert

College media students put their studies to the test at the airport

Media students from Harlow College were invited to Stansted Airport in December to put their studies to the test, giving them the opportunity to take part in carrying out the filming for a new advert for Stansted Airport's Employment and Skills Academy.



Students were given a tour of the airport to scout good filming locations, which also gave them the opportunity to see airport staff in a real-life working environment. Stansted Airport has been working closely on a number of projects with students from both Harlow College and Stansted Airport College in recent months, as the airport is committed to educating local students and preparing them for the workplace.

Contact us

Email the community relations team at stn_communityrelations @stanstedairport.com

