



British Rail Eurotunnel High Speed Link

Outcome of Bromley's public meeting of Monday, 23rd January

Several new facts were unveiled by BR which can only add to our concern over the selection of one of the three routes which will be made by BR early in March.

1. Trains will now travel at speeds of 100-125 mph in SE London instead of 60-90 mph proposed last September.
2. Goods trains from the Channel Tunnel will pass through Bromley and onto the Catford Loop line.
3. Some passenger trains will run during the night.

This means that the whole of Ravensbourne Valley will be disrupted by rail traffic day and night.

Other facts were not made clear at the meeting -

1. That the construction of the high speed link will not commence until after 1993.
2. Until the high speed link is available passenger trains from the initial terminal at Waterloo will run on existing tracks through Beckenham Junction to Shortlands and on through Bromley South with some peak hour trains being diverted onto the Catford Loop line.

Action

The mood of the meeting was that we should unite with Kent and Bexley to oppose all 3 routes proposed by BR on environmental grounds. The argument being that the line will cross not only areas of high population density and cause considerable disruption to people's lives in its construction and operation, but also areas of outstanding natural beauty in the 'Garden of England'.

The French route, on the other hand, will cross areas of low population density and wide open spaces. Even so, they have committed 25% of their budget for environmental protection measures.

BR's proposals are cheap and short-sighted and we urge everyone to write immediately requesting a dedicated route protecting the environment and without disruption to existing services. Please write to

BR Channel Tunnel Project Unit,
Room 513,
Waterloo Station,
London SE1.

Mr. J. Hunt M.P.,
House of Commons,
London SW1A 0AA.

RVPS AGM

Please note that we will hold our second AGM at Christ Church Hall, Highland Road on Thursday, February 23rd at 7.30 pm. Our guest speaker is Mr. John Hunt M.P..