

Aerodrome still pulls in the stars



■ Flying food: Caroline Whitney owns 3 Greens restaurant in Elstree Aerodrome

Picture NL20711 by Peter Beal

A FORMER hub for film-makers is proving it still has star quality with a spate of celebrity appearances.

Elstree Aerodrome's restaurant, the 3 Greens, in Hogg Lane, has seen famous faces including Ronan Keating, Ricky Gervais, Paddy Ashdown, members of Spandau Ballet, George Michael, and chef Jamie Oliver taking private planes from the air base.

Owner and chef Caroline Whitney took over running the restaurant in October 2008.

She said: "We have recently got a lot of celebrities and politicians, which has been lovely.

"We get quite a lot of plane spotters here but now they can also spot the celebrities.

"I think they may all be using Elstree aerodrome as the landing fees in London are phenomenally high and over here they are a little less or maybe just because it is a little oasis away from the busy

life they have."

The airfield has been open for 75 years and was originally built on 150 acres of land next to what was the Aldenham Country Club.

Private flying continued until the outbreak of the Second World War and during the war Elstree was used as a maintenance and modification base for Halifax and Wellington bombers.

It is also believed the airfield was used to despatch Lysander aircraft for clandestine landings in France, to drop off spies.

Ms Whitney said: "I leave the celebrities be and let them eat, as I don't want to hound them. But I may start keeping a visitors' book."



Have you spotted any famous faces at the aerodrome? Tell your story at:

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