



LOCAL AIRFIELDS

The area between Somerford Road and Bure Homage was a very early airfield, started in July 1926 when Surrey Flying Services began running pleasure flights from 'Burry's Field'.

Later, Francis Fisher expanded into adjacent fields and in 1933 it was used by Sir Alan Cobham to conduct air tours and display his 'Flying Circus'. For the rest of the 1930s the airfield was known as Christchurch Airport and ran a mixture of airline services.

In WW2 the airfield was requisitioned to become RAF Christchurch, initially hosting the RAF Special Duties flight conducting radar and communication trials for research stations including ADEE/ADRDE and SRDE.

Later in the war it was used by the USAAF for operations in France, including D-Day. After the war the airfield reverted to civilian use for aircraft and gliders.

By 1964 the airfield was officially closed, and the land formed a mix for housing and industrial areas.