

HELICOPTER RALLY AND GARDEN PARTY

On Saturday, June 14th, Mr and Mrs Charles Hughesdon once again extended their generous hospitality to members of the Association and their guests at a Garden Party in the grounds of their home, Dunsborough Park, in Surrey. The weather was perfect and the 450 guests who attended enjoyed a delightful afternoon.



FLIGHT Photograph

Mr and Mrs Charles Hughesdon meeting one of the Aircraft

Among the early arrivals by air were the Westland "Widgeon" and WS-51 piloted by W H ('Slim') Sear and John Fay, bringing in Mr and Mrs E C Wheeldon, Mr and Mrs Hollis Williams and Sir Norman and Lady Hulbert, T M ('Tim') Clutterbuck piloted the Helicopter Services' Bell 47G, with their Chairman, Mr David Brown, and C T D ('Sox') Hosegood in a Bristol Sycamore brought Mr Peter Masfield, Mr Strachan and other Bristol personnel. Service aircraft were represented

by a R A F Bristol Sycamore, piloted by F/Lt A J Clarke, from South Cerney, with G/Capt G C Petty from the Central Flying School, and a Royal Navy WS 51 from the Empire Test Pilots' School bringing in the School's newly appointed Commandant, G/Capt R E Burns, piloted by W/Comdr Ian Macdonald Our Past President, Lord Douglas of Kirtleside and Lady Douglas, with Captain and Mrs J W G James, arrived in a British European Airways' WS -55 piloted by Captain J A ('Jock') Cameron Air Marshal Sir Hugh Walmsley, Managing Director of Air Service Training, arrived in their Hiller 12C, piloted by their Chief Flying Instructor, George Webb The 'Skeeter' from Saunders-Roe was piloted by John Jeffery John Morton made a late but nevertheless impressive arrival in the Fairey Ultra-Light and delighted everyone with his descent on to the back of a lorry Much interest was shown in the Agusta Bell 47J, piloted by Colonel de Giorgi, which Hordern Richmond had invited from Italy, bringing in Mr Harvey Gaylord, President of the Bell Helicopter Corporation and other guests Mr Richard Fairey piloted his family in his S 51, to complete the party

It is particularly gratifying to the Association to be able to record the wide variety of helicopters which took part in the Rally and contributed so much to making the afternoon such a success Members and guests were able to inspect the helicopters at close quarters, and some had the opportunity of a short flight

We are greatly indebted to Mr and Mrs Hughesdon for inviting us to Dunsborough Park We are also grateful to Shell Mex for providing refuelling facilities, to Mr W A R ('Bill') Harris, a very efficient 'officer-in-charge of flying,' and to the many others who co-operated in supplying equipment, ground staff and other facilities so willingly