

Helicopter Rally and Garden Party

7th June, 1958

The Association was fortunate in having one of the few fine days in June for its third Garden Party when Mr and Mrs CHARLES HUGHESDON again were hosts to 450 members and their guests in the grounds of their home Dunsborough Park, Ripley

Despite quite a few last minute cancellations of aircraft, eleven helicopters flew into the Rally and a most impressive flying demonstration was given by Sq -Ldr Gellatly in the Fairey "Rotodyne," making its second appearance in public

MR AND MRS
CHARLES HUGHESDON



WORLD HELICOPTER photograph

The Bristol contingent consisted of the Bristol 173 and two "Sycamores" flown by Capt Peter Wilson, Captain Robert Smith and Mr D Farquahson, and the passengers were Mr Masefield, Mr Harvey, Mr and Mrs Raoul Hafner and Mr and Mrs Strachan Our President, Mr Mensforth, with Mrs Mensforth and Mr Wheeldon arrived in a Westland "Widgeon" piloted by Sq -Ldr de Vigne, and Mr John Fay brought in the remainder of the Westland party including Mr and Mrs Hollis Williams, Colonel and Mrs Richardson, Mr Collins, Mr Fitzwilliams and Mr Oppenheimer, in a "Whirlwind" Another "Whirlwind," from British European Airways, flown by Captain Eastwood flew in our Past President, Lord Douglas, with Lady Douglas and their small daughter Mr Richard Fairey also piloted his family in his S 51, and Mr J Jeffrey, piloting the Saunders-Roe "Skeeter," had Mr T L Ciastula as a passenger Air Marshal Sir Hugh Walmsley arrived in a "Hiller" from Air Service Training, piloted by Mr W H Anderson, and Sq -Ldr John Dowling and Sq -Ldr D C L Kearns arrived in a "Sycamore" from the Central Flying School, South Cerney The Fairey "Ultra-Light" was brought in on a trailer for static display, to complete the assembly

Several members and guests had the opportunity of a short flight in some of the aircraft, including Mr Hughesdon who was flown over to Kempton Park in the "Skeeter"

The Association wishes to record its appreciation to Mr and Mrs Hughesdon for having us again and for being so generous in their hospitality We would also like to express our thanks to the firms who sent along aircraft, which contributed so much to the success of the afternoon, to Captain Cyril Hagues, of British European Airways, for looking after the flying arrangements, and to Shell-Mex for providing refuelling facilities