

The Journal of
THE HELICOPTER ASSOCIATION
OF GREAT BRITAIN

Publications Committee F C Smettem (Chairman) B H Arkell M J B Stoker (Hon Sec)

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Editorial

This issue, the second number of "The Journal," brings with it the close of a year which has been somewhat eventful both in helicopter development in England and for the Helicopter Association of Great Britain, and it may not be inappropriate to review briefly the events of 1947 in both respects

On the development side, there have been several convincing demonstrations of the practical application of helicopters to everyday life. Outstanding among these being such demonstrations as the flight of the Parliamentary Secretary of the Ministry of Civil Aviation from his home in the country direct to the heart of London, the landing of a helicopter in the Horse Guards Parade, the recent demonstration to the Elder Brethren of Trinity House when the Vice-Chairman of the Council of the Association was picked up by winch and cable from the gallery of the Dungeness Lighthouse and lowered into a life-boat on a choppy sea, thus demonstrating in this country the ability of a helicopter to rescue marooned crews of lighthouses or lightships. A more recent demonstration was the landing of Captain Lamplugh on a bombed site in front of his offices in the heart of the City.

Two British helicopters were on show at the S B A C Exhibition in September and a third has successfully undergone initial flying trials. British European Airways have formed a Development Flight to explore the practical application of helicopters as an ancillary to scheduled air services. Public interest in helicopter flight has been considerably stimulated.

As far as the Association is concerned, membership has increased during 1947 by 65 members. The Association has become accepted by official and technical bodies as a source of information and an authority on all matters pertaining to rotary wing flight. A number of authoritative and interesting papers and lectures have been read to members and their guests by leading scientific, technical and practical authorities on the science of rotating wing flight. By no means least among these being a most interesting talk by Mr Igor Sikorsky during his visit to England in September.

It is the Association's aim to embrace all branches of interest in the development of rotating wing flight, the scientific, the technical, operational, practical, and particularly the student interest.

The Association's activities on behalf of members are, of course, limited by its income, which is, for the greater part, derived from members' subscriptions. Increased income from membership will broaden the Association's activities and enable it to do still more to promote development and interest in rotating wing flight. The Council, therefore, appeals to each member to strive to enrol at least one new member during 1948.

DINNER TO MR I SIKORSKY

On the evening of September 8th, 1947, a small informal dinner was held at which Mr Igor Sikorsky was the guest of honour

Other overseas guests were Mr Grover Leoning, Mr J S McDonnell, Mr F N Piasecki, Mr W W Kellett and Mr Robert H Stanley

The dinner was given by the members of the Executive Council of the Association who were joined as hosts by Mr F L Massey-Hilton, Mr J Fearn, Mr E Mensforth and Capt Uwins. Mr Arthur Carpmael was responsible for the arrangements and obtained the permission of the Master for the dinner to be held in the Hall of the Worshipful Company of Armourers and Braziers. The informality of the function made considerable appeal to the guests, as did the beauty and antiquity of the Hall and the craftsmanship of the armoury exhibits.

After toasts had been proposed to H M the King and The President of the U S A, Mr R A C Brie, in a short and apt speech welcoming the guests, drew a contrast between the antiquity of the Company in whose Hall the function was being held and the craft which it represented, and the modernity of the science and craft represented on this occasion.

Mr Grover Leoning responded on behalf of the guests. At the Chairman's request, Mr Carpmael, a Past Master of the Worshipful Company of Armourers and Braziers, gave some interesting details of the history of the Company and of the Hall, which was very much appreciated.

SOCIETY OF LICENSED AIRCRAFT ENGINEERS AND HELICOPTER ASSOCIATION OF GREAT BRITAIN (JOINT PANEL)

A Joint Panel representing the Society of Licensed Aircraft Engineers and the Helicopter Association of Great Britain has been formed to consider and discuss with the Air Registration Board requirements for Helicopter Maintenance Engineers Licences and the endorsement of licences to cover helicopter maintenance. The Panel is composed as follows —

SOCIETY OF LICENSED AIRCRAFT ENGINEERS

MR W J ANDREWS, Chairman of the Council

MR D W RICHARDSON, Vice-Chairman of the Council, and Chief Instructor
Messrs de Havilland's Technical School

MR M T HOLDHAM, Member of the Council, and Instructor Messrs
de Havilland

HELICOPTER ASSOCIATION OF GREAT BRITAIN

MR G B L ELLIS, Chief Development Engineer, Helicopter Division,
Fairey Aviation

MR A McCLEMENTS, Experimental Engineer B E A Helicopter Unit

MR J LEASON, of B E A Helicopter Development Flight, Helicopter
Engineer

NEW MEMBERS

The following have been elected to membership since the last published list

MEMBERS — J R Anderson, L S Armandias, N A Adler, R von Bahr, A C Barlow, E L Bird, R B Brigham, R H Bryant, N J Capper, C Cullmore, A Davenport, V Dibovsky, A D Duncan, S W Farley, J Fearn, G N C Fuller, W Garrow-Fisher, G W T Gray, W W Hackett, R Hafner, J C Hendra, F L Hodgess, L L Irvin, R F Lane, I M D Little, Y-S Lung, N L Lupton, E Mensforth, A J Mollart, R L Napier, J S Neale, R Oakes, A E Page, A J Pegg, W H Perry, G J Sissingh, G H Tidbury, K W Turner, S B Weller, R H Whitby, J K Williams

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS — A H R Baker, E K Bailey, A J Bristow, O V Brooks, R E Burns, K Charles-Batson, J F Fewell, L P Gibson, L H Hayward, J D Hayhow, M P Hanvey, T Harrison, N E Ingpen, A S Johnston, Mrs E Nelson, E J Ockelford, H J Parham, H J Penrose, G T Perkins, D M Ridgway, J S Rivaz, P F Reed, J D Rogers, D A Smith, C Turner, R W Usher, A R Yates

GRADUATE MEMBERS — I A Anderson, D D Bamber, H D Barr, Miss M Cade, C P Drury, A E Gale, N A Harper, G G Hunt, G Meyrick, S Mills, W N Patrickson, Miss E Potts, C Ridley, Miss M Wilkins, L A Wingfield