

The Journal of
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OF GREAT BRITAIN

Editorial Offices Londonderry House 19 1 ark Lane London W 1 Tel Crosvenor 1771

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Editorial

The first open air meeting of the Association was held on Saturday July 10th, at Heston Aerodrome. Although hitherto no programme has been arranged during the summer months, the popularity of such gatherings seems assured. Unfortunately it was not possible to make the arrangements on any other date and considering the unavoidable clash with the Gatwick Air Display, the attendance of over 150 members and guests reflects the keenness of the Association on this type of meeting.

We wish to record our thanks to The Fairey Aviation Company for the courtesy shown in extending this first invitation.

Following the paper read by Dr J A J Bennett on the Gyrodyne, which is reproduced in this issue, a short film was shown which included some of the early flight trials and later shots of the machine flying over the record course at White Waltham. There followed an excellent tea party in the Control tower restaurant and the meeting concluded with a flight demonstration of the Gyrodyne. In this respect another precedent was created. It was obviously impossible to arrange for members to fly in the machine, but an exception was made in the case of our Chairman who promptly accepted the Fairey Company's invitation to fly, and thus became the first passenger outside the Company's staff to fly in the Gyrodyne.

It is to be hoped that in subsequent years, further similar meetings can be arranged to give practical demonstrations of the various types of helicopters at present being developed in this country.

The Association is also looking into the possibilities of organising an Anglo-American, or International, Forum and Flying Meeting and a sub-committee has been formed for this purpose. While it seems unlikely at present that the organisation will be sufficiently far advanced to be able to hold such a meeting next year, the response and keenness which has so far greeted the sub-committee's activities is such that we feel there will be no lack of participants when the organisation is developed.