

## **Keith Wood, OBE**

Keith Wood was one of our members and one of the original team of “boffins” at the illustrious home of British Radar, Bawdsey Manor.

Keith was born in 1915 at Birmingham and on his 15th birthday went to wireless college at Colwyn Bay. In 1935, after reading “a very mysterious and intriguing” job at Bawdsey Manor, he was interviewed by a panel there that included Robert Watson Watt. He was principally involved in early experiments in airborne radar. Later tests produced the first air-to-air pulse radar contact.

After the war he headed the Blind Landing Experimental Unit at Martlesham and Sutton Heath. Keith was there for ten years before becoming Superintendent in charge of the Atomic Weapons research establishment at Orfordness. In the early 1960’s he joined the team at the Directorate of Electronics and research planning the electronic navigation, radar and automatic landing requirements of Concorde.

In 1972 Keith joined the Decca Navigation Company and in 1982 the Electronic Engineering Association. He worked until the age of 87. His working life spanned what could only be described as a exciting and momentous period in aviation history.

Keith Wood was willing and able to talk of his experiences at societies such as ours until the last. He was a modest man but surely our most distinguished member.

Keith Wood OBE lived at Felixtowe. He leaves a wife, Dorothy and a daughter, Judith.