

AAIB Bulletin No: 9/95

Ref: EW/G95/07/13

Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: DH82A Tiger Moth, G-AIXD

No & Type of Engines: 1 De Havilland Gipsy Major 1 piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1938

Date & Time (UTC): 20 July 1995 at 1745 hrs

Location: Rendcomb Aerodrome, Gloucestershire

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - Minor Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Aircraft destroyed

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 32 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 609 hours (of which 308 were on type)
Last 90 days - 25 hours
Last 28 days - 15 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot had been flying in company with another Tiger Moth in the local area. On the final approach, while maintaining a separation of two wingspans from the other aircraft, G-AIXD struck power cables on the airfield boundary. Both left wings folded back against the fuselage and the aircraft impacted in a nose down attitude on its left side. The pilot was able to vacate the aircraft unaided just before it caught fire and was destroyed.

The pilot attributed the cause of the accident to his failure to see the cables while concentrating on maintaining a safe separation from the other aircraft. He also considered that the fact that he was wearing a protective helmet prevented injuries that otherwise would have prevented him from vacating the aircraft before it caught fire.