

Slingsby T67B Firefly, G-BLTT, 10 August 1996

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Ref: EW/G96/08/07 Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Slingsby T67B Firefly, G-BLTT
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming O-235-N2A piston engine
Year of Manufacture:	1985
Date & Time (UTC):	10 August 1996 at 1240 hrs
Location:	Newcastle International Airport
Type of Flight:	Private
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1 - Passengers - 1
Injuries:	Crew - Minor - Passengers - None
Nature of Damage:	Canopy frame distorted
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence
Commander's Age:	65 years
Commander's Flying Experience:	5,738 hours (of which 3 were on type) Last 90 days - 53 hours Last 28 days - 10 hours
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

During the recovery towards the end of an aerobatics sortie the canopy came open, and the compass housing attached to the canopy struck the pilot a glancing blow causing a superficial wound. The aircraft was landed safely. The pilot stated that the manufacturer cannot find any reason for the canopy opening inadvertently, other than conjecturing that it was not located properly.

Unlike the later versions of the T67, which have a fixed windscreen and separate canopy, the T67B has a one-piece windscreen and canopy assembly. Examination of the CAA database only revealed one other similar occurrence to a T67B that had been the subject of MOR action.