

No: 2/85

Ref: EW/G84/10/09

Aircraft type and registration: Bell 206A Jetranger G-ROGR (light single engine helicopter)

Year of Manufacture: 1969

Date and time (GMT): 26 October 1984 at 1510 hrs

Location: Essendon, Herts

Type of flight: Private (Pleasure)

Persons on board: Crew — 1 Passengers — 3

Injuries: Crew — None Passengers — 1 passenger with minor injuries

Nature of damage: Substantial — to rotor head, and fuselage

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 45 years

Commander's total flying experience: 791 hours (of which 479 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and other sources

The helicopter had landed in a field owned by the pilot, and upon which a house was being re-built. Three building workers were embarked on the aircraft for the purpose of viewing the house from the air. As the collective lever was raised to initiate lift off, the aircraft rolled rapidly to the right and came to rest on its starboard side, the rotor blades striking the ground and causing the rotor head to become detached.

The occupants evacuated the aircraft and received only minor injuries. There was no fire. It was subsequently discovered that the right skid had become hooked under a partially hidden tree stump, which was angled from the vertical sufficiently to restrain the skid and cause the aircraft to roll over. The helicopter was substantially damaged.