

No: 11/83

Ref: EW/G83/04/04

Aircraft type and registration:	Steen Skybolt G-BFHM (Homebuilt 2 seat aerobatic biplane with tailwheel landing gear)	
Year of manufacture:	1979	
Date and time (GMT):	14 April 1983 at 1230 hrs	
Location:	Highwood Hall Airstrip – 5 miles North of Leavesdon	
Type of flight:	Private (pleasure)	
Persons on board:	Crew – 1	Passengers – 1
Injuries:	Crew – Nil	Passengers – Nil
Nature of damage:	Substantial damage to landing gear and fuselage	
Commander's Licence:	Private	
Commander's Age:	33 years	
Commander's total flying experience:	382 hours	

The aircraft was being flown by the owner and constructor. On landing it touched down tailwheel first in a flared attitude and the landing gear progressively collapsed. The landing was reported as not especially heavy. Weather conditions were good with light variable winds and the aircraft touched down 40 metres from the threshold of a 900 metres strip. It came to rest after 70 metres having sustained substantial damage to the landing gear, fuselage and propeller. The two occupants were uninjured. The aircraft had flown a total of 272 hours. No specific cause for the collapse of the landing gear was established.