

No: 12/87

Ref: 1c

Aircraft type and registration: ARV Super 2 G-BMWM

No & Type of engines: Hewland Engineering AE 75 piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1987

Date and time (GMT): 28 October 1987 at 1220 hrs

Location: Nr Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire

Type of flight: Training

Persons on board: Crew — 2 Passengers — None

Injuries: Crew — None Passengers — N/A

Nature of damage: Destroyed — beyond economic repair

Commander's Licence: Airline Transport Pilot's Licence with Instrument and Full Instructor's ratings

Commander's Age: 45 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 6600 hours (of which 8 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot.

The aircraft was on a flight from Burnaston, Derby, to Cranfield, Bedfordshire at 1000 feet agl. A climb was about to be initiated but the cruise rpm of 5500 suddenly increased and there was obviously no drive to the propeller.

The instructor took control and carried out a forced landing having transmitted a "Mayday" call. Because of its inaccessibility the fuel cock was left on. The forced landing into a soft grass field was carried out successfully although the wheels were sinking into the ground. At about 10 mph the nose landing gear collapsed and the aircraft tipped onto its back.

The instructor kicked out the students side of the canopy and both left the aircraft within an estimated 20 seconds. They were wearing diagonal upper torso restraints which held throughout the excursion to the inverted position. There was no fire.

The propeller shaft was found to have failed. This is a known defect and this type of aircraft has been effectively grounded by a Mandatory Service Bulletin until modifications have been approved.