

No: 10/89

Ref: EW/G89/07/29

Category: 1c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Bleriot 11-225 monoplane, G-AVXV

No & Type of Engines: 1 Anzani Fan 25hp piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1909

Date and Time (UTC): 25 July 1989 at 0500 hrs

Location: English Channel, 2.5 miles East of Dover

Type of Flight: Commemorative (pleasure)

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Substantial - to wings, propeller and engine

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence with IMC Rating

Commander's Age: 36 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 272 hours (of which 7 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the Managing Director of the engineering facility and an AAIB telephone enquiry

The aircraft was engaged on a commemorative flight from Marck Aeroport, Calais, to Dover Castle Meadow. During the flight the engine suffered a gradual overheating problem which resulted in a reduction in power. The pilot was eventually forced to ditch in the English Channel some 2½ miles from Dover and was rescued uninjured by an accompanying SAR helicopter.

The aircraft was recovered from the sea and it is hoped to restore it to a flying condition.