

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Thruster TST Mk1, G-MTKA	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Rotax 503 piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1987 (Serial no: 867-TST-021)	
Date & Time (UTC):	21 July 2012 at 1230 hrs	
Location:	Otherton Airfield, Staffordshire	
Type of Flight:	Training	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 2	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Left and right wings, nose fairing and fuselage main tube damaged	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	69 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	9,670 hours (of which 250 were on type) Last 90 days - 22 hours Last 28 days - 5 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

At approximately 100 ft agl, after taking off from Otherton Airfield on a training flight, the aircraft's engine lost power. The commander took control and elected to make a 90° turn to the right, towards a crop field, in order to avoid a hedge and power lines. During the landing the aircraft's right wing touched the crop, resulting in a ground loop that damaged the wings, nose fairing and fuselage main tube. The aircraft owner

reported that following the accident the engine was stripped, revealing scoring marks on the exhaust side of both pistons, consistent with engine overheating and seizure. He attributed the engine failure to misadjusted carburettor jet needles in both carburettors, which caused the engine to run with a lean mixture and subsequently overheat.