

No: 9/84

Ref: EW/G84/07/08

Aircraft type and registration: Falco F8L G-VEGL (Light single engine fixed wing aircraft)

Year of manufacture: 1958

Date and time (GMT): 15 July 1984 at 1418 hrs

Location: Sandown, Isle of Wight

Type of flight: Private

Persons on board: Crew — 1 Passengers — 1

Injuries: Crew — Nil Passengers — Nil

Nature of damage: Abrasion of flaps, undercarriage doors, lower engine cowling. Propeller damaged and engine shock loaded.

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age:

Commander's total flying experience: 1038 hours (of which 3 hours were on type)

Information Source: Accident Report pro-forma completed by the pilot.

After an uneventful cross country flight the pilot performed the pre-landing checks and was satisfied by an indication that the landing gear was locked down. As the aircraft touched down the pilot realised that the undercarriage was not extended and cut the engine. The aircraft slid to a stop and the occupants got out uninjured.

The owner reports that the undercarriage micro switch located on the nose undercarriage had been activated by contact with an obstruction in the engine bay, giving an indication of undercarriage going down and locked and preventing electrical power being applied to the undercarriage motor.

The aircraft had been rebuilt 3 flying hours previously and the flight on which the problem had occurred had been the first of any length since the rebuild.