

No: 11/83

MICROLIGHTS

Ref: EW/G83/06/08

Aircraft type and registration: Skyranger Microlight G—MJNB
(single engine microlight aircraft)

Year of manufacture:

Date and time (GMT): 15 June 1983 at 1708 hrs

Location: Field adjacent to Sunderland Airport

Type of flight: Private (training)

Persons on board: Crew — 1 Passengers — Nil

Injuries: Crew — Nil Passengers — N/A

Nature of damage: Propeller shaft, nose wheel and forward fuselage
damaged

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 28 years

Commander's total flying
experience: 55 hours (of which 4 hours were on type)

Whilst on the downwind leg of the circuit the pilot noticed that he could not achieve a satisfactory rate of climb so he decided to return to the airfield. During a shallow turn on to the base leg the engine stopped. The aircraft was landed in a field adjacent to the airfield but due to the rough surface it turned over onto its back. The engine was returned to the manufacturers for investigation. A strip examination revealed a partial seizure of one of the cylinders. The manufacturers concluded that 'the seizure could have been caused by inadequate cooling air passing over the engine barrels or possible inadequate fuel supply at higher engine speeds'.