

No: 9/84

Ref: EW/G84/07/13

Aircraft type and registration: Micro Biplane Aviation Tiger Cub G-MMEY (single seat biplane microlight aircraft).

Year of manufacture: 1983

Date and time (GMT): 22 July 1984 at 1500 hrs

Location: Farm Field, half mile north of Woburn, Beds

Type of flight: Private (pleasure)

Persons on board: Crew — 1 Passengers — Nil

Injuries: Crew — None Passengers — N/A

Nature of damage: Damage to cockpit, undercarriage and engine cowling, broken propeller shaft.

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence, Group 'D'

Commander's Age: 41 years

Commander's total flying experience: 350 hours (of which 14 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report pro-forma completed by owner/pilot.

The pilot of G—MMEY had taken part in a weekend 'fly-in' at Woburn Abbey, and on 22 July he took off for a local flight. This was uneventful until the aircraft was approaching the Woburn field. At an estimated height and speed of 800 ft and 50 kt respectively the engine note increased sharply and the pilot immediately realised that the propeller had become detached. He switched off the engine ignition, placed the aircraft in a dive in order to increase airspeed and selected as a landing site a grass field alongside a wood. However, it became apparent that there was insufficient height to reach the chosen field, and so the pilot elected to land in an adjoining wheatfield. The aircraft nosed over onto its back on touching down but the pilot escaped without injury. There was a fuel leak, but this stopped when the aircraft was returned to an upright position. The propeller and a portion of shaft were not found.