

No: 5/83

Ref: EW/G83/04/02

Aircraft: Auster 6A G-ASOC (light single engine fixed wing aircraft)

Year of manufacture: 1946

Date and time (GMT) 3 April 1983 at 1415 hrs

Location: Greatworth, Northants

Type of flight: Private (club)

Persons on board: Crew - 1 Passengers - Nil

Injuries: Crew - 1 Passengers - Nil

Nature of damage: Substantial damage to engine and propeller, fin and rudder and starboard mainplane

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's age: 47 years

Commander's total flying experience: 283 hours (of which 120 hours were on type)

The aircraft was in use for glider towing. The pilot was asked to retrieve a glider which had landed in a field away from the operating airfield. He arranged for an experienced glider pilot to go to the field, inspect the surface and make hand signals to wave him off if the field appeared to be unsuitable for landing. After arriving over the field, the pilot flew a dummy approach, checked the field for length and obstructions and noted that the pilot on the ground was clearing him to land. He then made a normal approach and landing but during the ground roll the main wheels hit a tractor rut and the aircraft turned over onto its back.