

**No: 8/86**

**Ref: 1b**

**Aircraft type and registration:** Falco F8L G-OCDS

**No & Type of engines:** One Lycoming O-320-A3A piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:** 1958

**Date and time (UTC):** 21 June 1986 at 1307 hrs

**Location:** 0.5 nm north of Seaview — Isle of Wight

**Type of flight:** Private (pleasure)

**Persons on board:** Crew — 1                      Passengers — 1

**Injuries:** Crew — None                      Passengers — None

**Nature of damage:** Engine, propeller, and undercarriage substantially damaged

**Commander's Licence:** Private Pilot's Licence

**Commander's Age:** 38 years

**Commander's Total Flying Experience:** 757 hours (of which 72 were on type)

**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report submitted by the pilot.

Whilst practising for the Schneider Trophy Race, at a speed and altitude of respectively 140 knots and 500 feet, the aircraft suffered a bird strike. The bird penetrated the engine air filter grill and lodged in the carburettor throat, thereby blocking the engine air supply. A glide approach was made to a beach, but the usable area was reduced due to the presence of pedestrians. The landing gear was selected down just prior to touchdown, in the hope that, in its partially extended condition, it would assist deceleration after touchdown on the soft and wet sand. The initial ground run was straight, but a slew to the right developed as the speed decayed and the aircraft came to a halt close to some rocks. There were no injuries.