

No: 12/88

Ref: EW/G88/10/10

Category: 2c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Bell 206A, G-AYCM

No & Type of Engines: 1 Allison 250-C18 turboshaft engine

Year of Manufacture: 1970

Date and Time (UTC): 2 October 1988 at 1245 hrs

Location: Hapton Valley Colliery, Burnley, Lancashire

Type of Flight: Private (pleasure)

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 3

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - 1 (minor)

Nature of Damage: Aircraft destroyed

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence (Helicopter)

Commander's Age: 40 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: Fixed wing: 57 hours
Rotary wing: 65 hours (of which 18 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and telephone enquiries

The helicopter was parked on a concrete area facing some 30° to the right of a gusty wind. Having conducted an external inspection of his helicopter and with his passengers aboard, the pilot started the engine and lifted into a hover. He then applied left yaw pedal in order to turn the helicopter into the wind but it moved to the right towards a parked caravan. The pilot next attempted to gain height and fly over the top of the caravan, however the helicopter started to yaw to the right despite the continued application of left pedal. He lowered the collective pitch lever and the helicopter then landed between an iron fence and a lorry. It struck the lorry and the tail boom was torn off. The rest of the helicopter then fell onto its left side and the occupants were able to extricate themselves. The pilot attributes his loss of control to the gusty wind which made it difficult for him to manoeuvre in a confined area.