

No: 1/84

Ref: EW/G83/11/12

Aircraft type and registration: Campbell Cricket – G-AYRA (light single engined autogyro)

Year of manufacture: 1971

Date and time (GMT): 13 November 1983 at 1120 hrs

Location: East Carleton near Norwich

Type of flight: Private

Persons on board: Crew – 1 Passengers – Nil

Injuries: Crew – Nil Passengers – N/A

Nature of damage: Substantial – Mast, keel, axle, rotor blades, propeller, nosewheel and parts of engine damaged

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 39 years

Commander's total flying experience: 345 hours (145 hours fixed wing and 200 hours rotary wing)

Arriving over the airstrip at which he intended to land, the pilot flew a circuit at 800 feet. He then made one pass over the field during which he noted the various obstructions such as power cables and trees. Having completed another 800 foot circuit he commenced an approach. During the landing the autogyro flared too high and floated across the field at a height of approximately 18-20 feet above the ground. The pilot realised that he could no longer land in the field and decided to carry out an overshoot. Because there were power cables in front of him he elected to make a turn and pass over another line of cables. During the turn the rotor blades came in contact with the cables and detached. The aircraft fell from a height of about 35 feet and struck the ground on its right side.