

No: 7/92

Ref: EW/G92/05/25

Category: 1c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Socata MS894A Rallye Commodore 180, G-AXOT

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-360-A3A piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1969

Date & Time (UTC): 26 May 1992 at 1040 hrs

Location: Lundy Island, Bristol Channel

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 3

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Minor damage to nose landing gear frame and propeller

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 51 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 439 hours (of which 110 were on type)
Last 90 days - 7 hours
Last 28 days - 7 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft was on a private flight from Hinton-in-the-Hedges to Lundy Island. The pilot reports that on arriving overhead the Lundy Island grass airstrip he carried out two low level circuits to inspect the landing surface. Subsequently during the final stage of the landing run the nose landing gear struck a small mound which collapsed the landing gear frame and allowed the nose of the aircraft to contact the ground. The engine was not under power, negligible impact forces were felt and all occupants vacated the aircraft via the normal exit without injury. At the time the pilot was in radio contact with Chivenor ATC, and he reported the accident to that unit. A Royal Air Force Search and Rescue helicopter was quickly at the scene and transferred the pilot and passengers to the mainland.

The landing strip at Lundy Island is orientated NE/SW and is 400 metres long. There are no markers to indicate either its length or width. The description in Pooley's Flight Guide includes the information that the runway surface is rough and aircraft are accepted at pilots' own risk.