

No: 10/83

Ref: EW/G83/07/12

Aircraft type and registration:	De Havilland DH 89 A Rapide (light twin-engine fixed wing biplane aircraft) G-AKIF
Year of Manufacture:	1944
Date and time (GMT):	16 July 1983 at 1535 hrs
Location:	Sparsholt, near Wantage, Berkshire
Type of flight:	Private
Persons on board:	Crew – 1 Passengers – 1
Injuries:	Crew – Nil Passengers – Nil
Nature of damage:	Substantial to lower left wing. Minor damage to fairings, fabric, and perspex canopy
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence
Commander's Age:	37 years
Commander's total flying experience:	1720 hours (of which 12 hours are on type)

The aircraft was landing on a private grass strip, 700 metres in length, and in a direction of 250° magnetic. The wind was estimated at 120°/5–8 kt, and the weather was good. Towards the end of the landing run, the aircraft swung some 45° to the left, and because of the configuration of this aircraft type, the pilot was reluctant to employ heavy braking. The aircraft struck a fence on the left side of the runway, and the lower left wing suffered substantial damage, with minor damage to the fairings, fabric, and perspex canopy.