

No: 9/89

Ref: EW/G89/07/08

Category: 2c

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** Schweizer 269C, G-BOCO

**No & Type of Engines:** 1 Lycoming HIO-360-D1A piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:** 1987

**Date and Time (UTC):** 11 July 1989 at 1235 hrs

**Location:** Oxford Airport

**Type of Flight:** Training

**Persons on Board:** Crew - 2                      Passengers - None

**Injuries:** Crew - 2 (minor)              Passengers - N/A

**Nature of Damage:** Beyond economic repair

**Commander's Licence:** Airline Transport Pilot's Licence

**Commander's Age:** 53 years

**Commander's Total Flying Experience:** 300 hours Fixed wing; 5,120 hours Rotary wing (of which 450 were on type)

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

The helicopter was on a dual instruction flight at Oxford Airport, Kidlington. The instructor reports that having joined the circuit and made a good landing, the student pilot was hovering the aircraft into wind about two feet above the ground, and trimming the cyclic control. The student asked for help in trimming the control precisely, and the instructor had noticed that he had been operating the trim button to the rear. As the instructor was in the process of moving his hand forward to take control, the student released his hold on the cyclic control, which immediately sprang forward causing the aircraft to pitch nose down. The front skids struck the ground and due to the momentum of the aircraft it continued to pitch forward until the main rotor also struck the ground. The aircraft came to rest semi-inverted and both occupants escaped through the left side door. They both suffered minor scratches from the broken canopy perspex. Both pilots had been wearing full upper torso restraint harnesses which held throughout the accident sequence.