

**No: 10/86**

**Ref: 1b**

**Aircraft type and registration:** Schempp-Hirth Janus CM G-BMBJ

**No & Type of engines:** 1 Rotax 535A piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:** 1985

**Date and time (UTC):** 20 July 1986 at 1715 hrs

**Location:** Enstone Airfield, Oxfordshire

**Type of flight:** Private (pleasure)

**Persons on board:** Crew — 1                      Passengers — 1

**Injuries:** Crew — None                      Passengers — None

**Nature of damage:** Substantial to the rear fuselage, minor to the left wing tip

**Commander's Licence:** Private Pilot's Licence

**Commander's Age:** 48 years

**Commander's Total Flying Experience:** 60 hours (of which 5 were on type)

**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and AIB telephone enquiry

The Janus CM is a high performance sailplane powered by a small engine mounted on top of the fuselage. When the engine is not required during flight it can be retracted rearwards into the top of the fuselage.

After a normal motor launched take-off and 45 minute flight, the aircraft returned to the field, with the engine retracted, for a glide approach and landing on runway 26. The wind was reported as 300°/05 knots. The aircraft was allowed to drift too far downwind, resulting in a low approach and early touchdown in the vicinity of a field of barley located south of the tarmac runway threshold.

The left wing tip went into the barley and the aircraft swung to the left and into the field. The aircraft received substantial damage to the rear fuselage and minor damage to the wing tip. The pilot was wearing full upper torso restraint and was uninjured.