

No: 1/89

Ref: EW/G88/10/17

Category: 1c

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** SHEMPP-HIRTH Janus CM, G-LIME

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

**Year of Manufacture:** 1986

**Date and Time (UTC):** 26 October 1988 at 1510 hrs

**Location:** Aboyne Airport, Aberdeenshire

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

**Persons on Board:** Crew - 1                      Passengers - 1

**Injuries:** Crew - None                      Passengers - None

**Nature of Damage:** Substantial - Beyond economic repair. Break-up of fuselage, right wing severed.

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

**Commander's Age:** 20 years

**Commander's Total Flying Experience:** 600 hours (of which 100 hours were on gliders with 10 hours on type)

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

The aircraft was essentially a sailplane with a retractable engine mounted behind the cockpit canopy. The aircraft was returning to the airfield with the engine retracted. The pilot realized that he could not reach the airfield in the aircraft's "clean" configuration due to strong lee wave activity, and extended the engine. After 3 attempts to start the engine the pilot became preoccupied with avoiding power cables and the engine retraction procedure was initiated but not completed. The aircraft narrowly missed the cables and carried out a forced landing in a public car park north of the airfield.

The right wing struck a parked car slewing the aircraft 90° to the right and nosing it in to a row of parked cars. This then turned the aircraft right through another 90° causing the tail to collide with a car reversing out of the row. The aircraft was effectively destroyed, but the occupants suffered only minor bruising. Eight cars were struck causing damage of varying severity.

The weather was fine with wind 240°M at 5-10 kt, good visibility, and temperature +6°C.