

MW6 (Modified), G-MYCU

AAIB Bulletin No: 2/99 **Ref:** EW/G98/11/12 **Category:** 1.4

Aircraft Type and Registration: MW6 (Modified), G-MYCU

No & Type of Engines: 1 Rotax 532 piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1993

Date & Time (UTC): 20 November 1998 at 1300 hrs

Location: Radlett Airstrip, Hertfordshire

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Damage to right hand landing gear and lift strut

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 40 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 300 hours (of which 14 were on type)

Last 90 days - 12 hours

Last 28 days - 4 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and AAIB enquiries

Some 5 minutes after taking off from Radlett Airstrip the engine speed increased and then stabilised. The pilot turned back to land at Radlett, but about one minute later the engine speed dropped to about 5,000 RPM and this was later followed by engine seizure during the approach. The pilot landed the aircraft short of the runway in a field containing some sheep and during the landing roll one sheep was struck and killed, causing slight damage to the aircraft; however the pilot escaped injury.

Subsequent examination of the engine found that the carburettor was slightly loose (on this type of engine the carburettor is secured to the inlet manifold by means of a short length of rubber hose) and the pilot concluded that this had allowed air to enter the manifold, weakening the mixture and causing the speed to vary. Inspection of the rear cylinder bore revealed evidence of metallic 'pick-up' and seizure of the piston due to weak mixture running effects on cylinder temperature.