

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198700717**

Glasflugel Hornet

30 January 1987

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NOTE: All air safety occurrences reported to the ATSB are categorised and recorded. For a detailed explanation on Category definitions please refer to the ATSB website at www.atsb.gov.au.

Occurrence Number: 198700717 **Occurrence Type:** Accident

Location: 4km North-west of Saddleworth SA

Date: 30 January 1987

Time: 1300

Highest Injury Level: Minor

Injuries:

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	0	0
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	1	0

Aircraft Details: Glasflugel Hornet

Registration: VH-GMU

Serial Number:

Operation Type: Private-Gliding

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: Gawler SA

Departure Time: 1300

Destination: Gawler SA

Approved for Release: May 14th 1987

Circumstances:

The pilot was attempting a 300km cross country flight. After release from the aerotow the glider only achieved 3000 feet above mean sea level. As the flight continued no further height gain was achieved and on descending to below 2000 feet the pilot decided to carry out an outlanding. While the glider was being manoeuvred in the circuit, at about 50 feet above ground level, the right wing dropped and struck the ground. The pilot had selected a landing field when flying with 2000 feet indicated on the altimeter. He was unaware that the terrain over which he was flying was 1000 feet above mean sea level and thus only 1000 feet below the aircraft. During the approach the aircraft became low and the airspeed decreased until the aircraft stalled at too low an altitude to allow recovery.