

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Reims Cessna F152, G-BTFC	
No & type of Engines:	1 Lycoming O-235-L2C piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1979	
Date & Time (UTC):	27 July 2006 at 1145 hrs	
Location:	Bute Airfield, Kingarth, Isle of Bute	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - 1
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - 1 (Minor)
Nature of Damage:	Damage to nose gear and propeller	
Commander's Licence:	National Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	61 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	232 hours (of which 18 were on type) Last 90 days - 4 hours Last 28 days - 2 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

Synopsis

The aircraft bounced on its main wheels on landing and in the subsequent ground roll the nosegear leg folded back under the fuselage and the propeller was damaged. There were no serious injuries to the two occupants.

History of the flight

The pilot had flown 18 hours on type and had landed at Bute on eight previous occasions. There was a light south-westerly breeze, 15 km visibility and no significant weather conditions. The pilot elected to land on Runway 27 and made an approach. He initiated a go-around when he realised that he was likely to land long.

After making a second approach, the aircraft bounced on its main wheels on landing, but not so much that the

pilot thought a go-around was necessary. The aircraft bounced again, and the nose gear struck the grass runway in an area with a significant upslope. The nose gear then folded back under the fuselage and the aircraft slid to a halt on the runway.

The pilot switched off the fuel, master switches and magnetos, and both he and his passenger exited through the left and right doors respectively. The passenger sustained a bruise to his left knee; the pilot was uninjured.

The pilot considered that, with hindsight, he should have commenced a go-around after the first bounce on the mainwheels. He considered the steep approach, the

short runway length, the lack of significant headwind and the downhill slope at the start of the runway to be contributory factors.

Airfield information

The grass strip at Bute Airfield is 480 metres in length and is aligned 09/27. Aircraft landing on Runway 27 make an approach through a gap cut in the woods, made

approximately 10 years ago, that is approximately 100 m wide. Trees mask much of the road that runs along the easterly edge of the airfield, hence the need to consider the possibility of high-sided vehicles presenting an obstacle. Typically a fairly steep approach to Runway 27 is therefore made. Runway 27 initially slopes downhill, and then rises, before sloping down again.