Aircraft type and registration: Cessna 172B G-ARLW
No & Type of engines: 1 Continental 0300D piston engine
Year of Manufacture: 1961
Date and time (UTC): 24 January 1988 at 1505 hrs
Location: Manchester (Barton) Airfield
Type of flight: Private (pleasure)
Persons on board: Crew — 1  Passengers — 1
Injuries: Crew — None  Passengers — None
Nature of damage: Minor — to nose-wheel, propeller and nose cowlings
Commander’s Licence: Private Pilot’s Licence with IMC and Night Ratings
Commander’s Age: 47 years
Commander’s Total Flying Experience: 878 hours (of which 25 were on type)
Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and AAIB telephone enquiry.

The grass airfield was wet with soft patches in places. After an inspection it was decided that the left hand side of runway 24 offered the firmest take-off and landing run.

The aircraft took off on the left hand side of runway 24, but upon its return landed to the right of the runway. During the landing roll the aircraft encountered a boggy patch and the nose-wheel dug in causing minor damage to the nose area.

Diagonal upper torso restraint was being worn by both occupants, who were uninjured. There was no fire.