

**No:** 2/91                      **Ref:** EW/G90/10/18                      **Category:** 1c

**Aircraft Type and Registration:**                      Beagle A.109, G-ARNP

**No & Type of Engines:**                      1 Lycoming O-360-A1A piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:**                      1961

**Date and Time (UTC):**                      20 October 1990 at 1505 hrs

**Location:**                      Panshanger Airfield, Hertfordshire

**Type of Flight:**                      Private

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

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

**Nature of Damage:**                      Broken landing gear strut, damage to tailplane and fuselage panel

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

**Commander's Age:**                      39 years

**Commander's Total Flying Experience:**                      183 hours (of which 85 were on type)

**Information Source:**                      Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and examination of strut by AAIB

Whilst taxiing to the hold prior to take-off the left landing gear strut failed. The aircraft slowly turned to the left and gently came to a halt.

Each main wheel axle is supported by a tubular structure, on the left side three tubes had failed and their fracture surfaces showed signs of corrosion, indicating that crack propagation had occurred over a period of time. The aircraft had a total flying time of 1643 hours.

The SDAU database contains one similar incident in 1984 in which the weld between the cross member and the stub axle failed. No definitive cause of failure was found.