

No: 1/92

Ref: EW/G91/11/13

Category: 1c

Aircraft Type and Registration: DHC-1 Chipmunk 22, G-BCIW

No & Type of Engines: 1 De Havilland Gipsy Major 10 piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1953

Date & Time (UTC): 26 November 1991 at 1515 hrs

Location: Hulcote Farm, Bedfordshire

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 1

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Extensive to both wings and fuselage,
right landing gear collapsed

Commander's Licence: Airline Transport Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 51 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 13,850 hours (of which 1,000 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft was carrying out a series of take-offs and landings from runway 25 on the private grass airstrip at Hulcote Farm. The pilot had operated regularly from this location for the past 18 months. The approach and touchdown were reported to be normal, but on brake application the aircraft veered to the left. The pilot reported that despite use of rudder and differential brake, the aircraft continued in a straight line, approximately 20° to the left of the runway centreline. The left wing then struck a fence post on the boundary of the field at approximately 20 kt, swinging the aircraft through 180° into the fence, and causing extensive damage to the aircraft. The pilot assessed the cause of the loss of directional control as possible uneven braking coupled with a wet grass surface.