

Thorp T211, G-BXPF

AAIB Bulletin No: 2/99 Ref: EW/G98/12/15 Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Thorp T211, G-BXPF

No & Type of Engines: 1 Continental O-200-A piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1997

Date & Time (UTC): 31 December 1998 at 1450 hrs

Location: Kirkbride Airfield, Cumbria

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - 1

Injuries: Crew - Minor - Passengers - Minor

Nature of Damage: Substantial

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 43 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 79 hours (of which 10 were on type)

 Last 90 days - 15 hours

 Last 28 days - 12 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot was on a local pleasure flight from Carlisle to Kirkbride, some 15 nms to the west. On arrival at Kirkbride, the pilot estimated the surface wind to be southerly at 8 to 12 kt and elected to land on Runway 10 as there was no North/South runway. The pilot used the crab technique on approach and landed successfully. However, during the landing run, the aircraft drifted to the left. The pilot was unable to maintain directional control and the aircraft yawed and rolled to the left before departing from the hard runway and running into soft ground where it tipped onto its back. The occupants were unable to evacuate the aircraft, despite having only sustained minor injuries, until help arrived to right the aircraft.

At about the time of the accident, the surface wind at Carlisle was 170°/16 kt but aircraft flying in the local area reported that the surface wind closer to the coast in the vicinity of Kirkbride was stronger.