

DH82A Tiger Moth, G-ASKP

AAIB Bulletin No: 1/97 Ref: EW/G96/10/05 Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration:	DH82A Tiger Moth, G-ASKP
No & Type of Engines:	1 De Havilland Gipsy Major 1C piston engine
Year of Manufacture:	1935
Date & Time (UTC):	12 September 1996 at 15.30 hrs
Location:	Westbury-Sub-Mendip Airfield, Nr Wells, Somerset
Type of Flight:	Private
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1 - Passengers - 1
Injuries:	Crew - None - Passengers - None
Nature of Damage:	Substantial to rudder, left upper wing and engine mounts
Commander's Licence:	Commercial Pilot's Licence
Commander's Age:	57 years
Commander's Flying Experience:	1,300 hours (of which 300 were on type) Last 90 days - 45 hours Last 28 days - 9 hours
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft landed on grass Runway 11 which is located on the site of a disused railway line and is positioned along the length of a raised embankment. The runway is 540 metres long x 20 metres wide with a 'sharp down gradient extending for 30 metres at 120 metres from runway 11 threshold'. The wind sock indicated at the time a surface wind of 065°/05 kt.

As the aircraft slowed at the end of its landing ground roll it turned to the right and rolled down the embankment, pitching inverted at the bottom of the slope. The pilot had already stopped the propeller thus minimising damage to the engine. Both the pilot and passenger, who were wearing full harnesses, vacated the aircraft without injury.

The pilot reported that with a cross wind from the left he would have expected the aircraft to weathercock to the left but he was unable to control a turn in the opposite direction. He believes that a puncture in the right-hand tyre may have contributed to the cause.