

No: 6/85

Ref: EW/G85/05/01

Aircraft type and registration: Piper PA 38-112 Tomahawk G-BJNN (light single engined fixed wing aircraft)

Year of Manufacture: 1980

Date and time (GMT): 5 May 1985 at 1120 hrs

Location: Edinburgh Airport

Type of flight: Club and Group

Persons on board: Crew — 1 Passengers — 1

Injuries: Crew — None Passengers — None

Nature of damage: Minor damage to starboard undercarriage leg

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence with IMC rating

Commander's Age: 40 years

Commander's total flying experience: 370 hours (of which 164 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot.

After a normal approach and landing, the aircraft was braked heavily to a full stop. A short-field take-off was then carried out followed by a circuit.

During this circuit the occupants of another aircraft saw and reported a small object on the runway. As it seemed possible that this had fallen from G-BJNN the detail was discontinued, a standard landing was performed and the aircraft was taxied clear of the runway. On examination it was found that the starboard undercarriage leg was displaced rearwards as a result of failure of one of the three attachment bolts and bending of the two remaining bolts. This had in turn caused separation of part of a plastic fairing, which was the object found on the runway.

It is understood that when examined the broken bolt showed the characteristics of a simple overload failure.

It is also understood that the aircraft had been modified in accordance with Piper Service Bulletin SB 673A and Federal Aviation Agency Airworthiness Directive AD 83-05-04, which required replacement of the original undercarriage attachment bolts with a new type of bolt of a different material.