

Aircraft Type and Registration: Jodel D112, G-BDJD

No & Type of Engines: 1 Continental A65 piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1977

Date & Time (UTC): 15 April 1995 at 1300 hrs

Location: Charterhall Airfield, Berwickshire

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 1

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Damage to right main landing gear and main wing spar

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 35 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 552 hours (of which 9 were on type)
Last 90 days - 52 hours
Last 28 days - 10 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The main runway at Charterhall is oriented 07/25. The pilot reported that on returning to the airfield after a one hour local flight, the wind direction had changed to become 360°/15 kt. He therefore elected to land on a more into wind runway (02). Whilst slowing to around 10 to 15 kt, the right main landing gear contacted stones which were piled about 12 inches high. The stones were the same colour and texture as the runway surface and were not seen prior to the impact. The aircraft was shut down, and the occupants vacated by the normal means. Subsequent inspection revealed that the landing gear leg was bent back around 10°, and there was some damage to the main wing spar.

The pilot noted that he had not checked the condition of Runway 02 for some months. The entry in Pooley's Flight Guide indicates that Runway 02 is disused, but the operator indicated that it is in fact used on occasions of strong crosswinds across the main runway. The airfield is ex-military, and was decommissioned in 1946. The general surface condition of the runways is noted as being rough.

An aftercast from the Meteorological Office indicated that at the time of the accident, there was an unstable northwesterly airstream established over the area, with visibility 30 km or more, scattered cloudbase 2,500 feet, with the surface wind 330°T/10 to 15 kt, and the wind at 2,000 feet 350°T/25 kt.