

No: 9/84

Ref: EW/G84/05/10

Aircraft type and registration: Fairey Topsy Nipper T66 SRS.2, G-ARBG (Light, single engined fixed-wing aircraft).

Year of manufacture: 1961

Date and time (GMT): 16 May 1984 at 1640 hrs

Location: Field adjoining Felthorpe Airfield, Norfolk

Type of flight: Private

Persons on board: Crew — 1 Passengers — Nil

Injuries: Crew — 1 (minor) Passengers — N/A

Nature of damage: Nose wheel fork bent, wingtips damaged, engine, propeller fuselage and rudder damaged.

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 45 years

Commander's total flying experience: 530 hours (of which 92 were on type)

Information Source: Accident Report Pro forma completed by pilot

The aircraft was taking off from Felthorpe having flown for about 25 minutes immediately prior to the accident. At a height of approximately 300-350 feet the engine failed without warning and an emergency landing was made into a field of sugarbeet, whereupon the nose undercarriage collapsed and the aircraft nosed over, coming to rest inverted.

The reason for the engine failure has been attributed to a failure of the engine driven fuel pump to a dislocated return spring in the drive mechanism.