

No: 10/90

Ref: EW/G90/08/11

Category: 1c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Cessna 152, G-BHEN

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-235-L2C piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1980

Date and Time (UTC): 2 August 1990 at 1455 hrs

Location: Leicester Airport

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Propeller bent, nose wheel collapsed, fuselage skin distorted and main landing gear attachment broken

Commander's Licence: Student Pilot

Commander's Age: 17 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 13 hours (all on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft had already flown for 3 hours and 15 minutes since refuelling when the instructor and student flew a 1 hour and 15 minute dual flight. The instructor then sent the student on his second solo.

The student completed one touch and go landing but, between 50 and 100 feet, the engine began to run roughly. When he lowered the aircraft's nose, the engine recovered but, on raising it again, the engine failed completely and so he picked a field ahead in which to make a forced landing. There was insufficient height remaining to reach the selected field and the aircraft passed through the airfield boundary hedge, crossed a road and came to rest on its nose in a ditch on the other side. There was no fire and the aerobatic safety harness fitted to the aircraft withstood the impact forces.

No traces of fuel were found at the accident site and subsequent examination of the fuel system revealed a total of just over 1 gall imp remaining in the fuel tanks. The unusable fuel is quoted as 1.25 gall imp (1.5 US).