

Colibri MB2, G-BUDW

AAIB Bulletin No: 10/2000 **Ref:** EW/G2000/08/11 **Category:** 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Colibri MB2, G-BUDW

No & Type of Engines: 1 Volkswagen 1600 piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1992

Date & Time (UTC): 12 August 2000 at 1600 hrs

Location: Taunton Race Course

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Minor damage to left wing, landing gear and propeller

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 49 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 854 hours (of which 280 were on type)

Last 90 days - 38 hours

Last 28 days - 18 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot was returning from Brighton in the Vale of York to Watchford Farm, near Taunton Somerset. The weather was fine with good visibility, light southerly winds and scattered cloud at 3,000 feet. He had planned to refuel at Oaksey Park, near Cirencester, but was unable to contact the airfield. He therefore decided that with 3.5 hour endurance he could safely make the 3 hour flight direct.

As he passed to the south of Taunton race course, 4 nm short of his destination and 3 hours and 5 minutes into the flight, the engine stopped. He turned towards the race course to carryout a forced landing but on the approach he saw several people engaged in kite flying which obstructed his chosen landing area. Because of this he attempted to land downwind, side-slipping the aircraft to loose speed and height, but it stalled from a height of 6 feet. The aircraft landed heavily in a left wing down attitude. The pilot, who was wearing a 4-point harness, escaped without injury.

The pilot reported that subsequent examination of the fuel system revealed a slight leak around the strainer on the gascolator that would have accounted for an endurance less than expected.