

Pulsar Series I, G-BTRF

AAIB Bulletin No: 2/98 Ref: EW/G97/10/02 Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Pulsar Series I, G-BTRF
No & Type of Engines:	1 Rotax 582 piston engine
Year of Manufacture:	1997
Date & Time (UTC):	5 October 1997 at 1417 hrs
Location:	Goodwood Airfield
Type of Flight:	Private
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1 - Passengers - 1
Injuries:	Crew - None - Passengers - None
Nature of Damage:	Left main landing gear wheel partially detached
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence
Commander's Age:	52 years
Commander's Flying Experience:	112 hours (of which 4 are on type) Last 90 days - 12 hours Last 28 days - 4 hours
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft was taking off from Goodwood on Runway 32. At about 100 feet agl the engine stopped and the pilot decided to execute a forced-landing straight-ahead into a ploughed field. Although the touchdown was normal, the rough nature of the field caused the left main wheel to partially detach from the axle but this was the only apparent damage.

Examination showed that the section of exhaust pipe outboard of the silencer box had detached and was found lying on the runway. Hot gases from the exhaust had thus impinged on the adjacent gascolator causing a vapour lock in the fuel system. The pilot informed the UK agent for the Pulsar aircraft who advised that he had not heard of any similar occurrences. However, the agent has promulgated this incident in a Newsletter which is circulated to all registered owners of the type and also the Popular Flying Association. The agent also advised that his personal aircraft had been fitted with a heat shield around the exhaust system which would probably have prevented an engine failure of this nature.

