

INCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Beech C23 Sundowner, G-BASN	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming O-360-A4J piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1973	
Date & Time (UTC):	26 December 2005 at 1415 hrs	
Location:	Aldergrove Airport, Northern Ireland	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	None	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	38 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	315 hours (all on type) Last 90 days - 0 hours Last 28 days - 0 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

As the aircraft took off from Runway 25, the tower Air Traffic Control Officer observed an object dangling from the tail. The object was subsequently identified as a car tyre filled with concrete, which had been used to tie down the aircraft on the ground. The pilot was informed and he landed the aircraft safely after completing a normal circuit. After landing the aircraft was taxied clear of the

runway and shut down before the tie-down weight was removed. A runway inspection was carried out before further use. The pilot reported that during the aircraft's pre-flight inspection he had removed the tie down weights attached to the wings but had failed to notice the tie down weight attached to the tail.