

No: 7/89

Ref: EW/G89/02/10

Category: 1c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Cessna F172H, G-AVIE

No & Type of Engines: 1 Rolls-Royce Continental O-300-D piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1966

Date and Time (UTC): 11 February 1989 at 1330 hrs

Location: Coventry Airport

Type of Flight: Private (pleasure)

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 1

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Substantial to rear fuselage

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 44 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 94 hours (of which 14 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

Prior to undertaking a circuit detail at Coventry airport, the pilot obtained a weather forecast which gave a wind of 210°/15 kt gusting to 30 kt. The runway in use at Coventry was 23. While on his final circuit, the pilot became aware of an inbound PA31 with landing gear problems. After landing, the pilot vacated the runway at the first available exit to leave the runway clear for the PA31. Unfortunately this exit was blocked by an aircraft at the holding point and fire vehicles on local standby for the PA31. In order to clear a path for the fire vehicles, the pilot turned his aircraft to the right which placed it downwind. The tail of the aircraft then rose and it settled onto its nose and right wing tip. The pilot and his passenger vacated without difficulty having sustained no injuries. Some moments later the aircraft was blown onto its back sustaining substantial damage. A special meteorological observation taken at the time of the accident gave a surface wind of 220°/20 kt gusting to 30 kt.