

No: 6/84

Ref: EW/G84/04/06

Aircraft type and registration: Taylor JT1 G-BDNG (light single-engined fixed-wing aircraft)

Year of manufacture: 1977

Date and time (GMT): 25 April 1984 at 1628 hrs

Location: 2 nm east of Coventry Airport

Type of flight: Private (pleasure)

Persons on board: Crew – 1 Passengers – Nil

Injuries: Crew – Nil Passengers – N/A

Nature of damage: Failure of undercarriage drag link and axle. Damage to the starboard wing ribs

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 49 years

Commander's total flying experience: 3121 hours (of which 257 were on type)

Following a local area flight, the aircraft joined the downwind leg of the approach to runway 05 at Coventry Airport. Shortly before turning onto base leg, the pilot noticed a smell of petrol and saw that the port carburettor was leaking. A few moments later the leak became severe, the engine failed and so the pilot turned off the fuel and switches whilst turning onto the base leg.

At approximately 300 feet, the pilot decided that the aircraft would undershoot the airfield and so placed the aircraft "firmly" onto the ground in a small field in the undershoot area. In order to avoid impact with a fence at the end of the field, he ground looped to the right.

Subsequent examination of the engine showed that the 'banjo belt', connecting the fuel line to the port carburettor, had fallen out.