

No: 4/87

Ref: 1c

Aircraft type and registration: Cessna F172M G-BCYR

No & Type of engines: 1 Lycoming O-320-E2D piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1975

Date and time (UTC): 15 November 1986 at 1115 hrs

Location: Tower Farm, Braid Hills Rd, Edinburgh

Type of flight: Private (pleasure)

Persons on board: Crew — 1 Passengers — 3

Injuries: Crew — None Passengers — None

Nature of damage: General airframe damage

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 23 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 57 hours (of which 4 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot.

Five minutes after take-off for a local flight the pilot noticed an abnormal vibration from the engine. Carburettor icing was suspected but the application of carburettor heat had no effect on the vibration. The pilot abandoned his planned flight, informed air traffic control and selected a field for a forced landing. The field selected was a furrowed field of turnips. The landing was made into wind, uphill and at 90° to the line of the furrows. As the aircraft was about to come to a halt the nose landing gear appeared to dig into a furrow and the aircraft tipped over onto its back.

Examination of the engine showed that there was no compression on one of the four cylinders due to part of an exhaust valve having broken off.