

No: 3/86

Ref: EW/G86/01/05

**Aircraft type and registration:** DH82 Tiger Moth G-ALNA (light single engined fixed wing aircraft)

**Year of Manufacture:** 1941

**Date and time (GMT):** 26 January 1986 at 1400 hrs

**Location:** Clacton Airfield, Essex

**Type of flight:** Private (pleasure)

**Persons on board:** Crew — 1                      Passengers — 1

**Injuries:** Crew — Serious                      Passengers — Minor

**Nature of damage:** Lower wing destroyed, forward fuselage damaged, landing gear and propeller broken and lower half of aircraft submerged in water overnight

**Commander's Licence:** Commercial Pilot's Licence

**Commander's Age:** 39 years

**Commander's Total Flying Experience:** 3500 hours (of which 60 were on type)

**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot, telephone conversation with the insurance assessor and local aircraft engineering organisation.

The pilot was carrying out a touch and go landing on runway 30. During the ground roll the aircraft began veering to the right and upon leaving the ground it started to roll to the right. The pilot reported that the rudder pedals were not free and that full pressure on the left rudder pedal would not stop a continuous right yaw. The roll to the right increased and was counteracted by application of left aileron. The pilot noted that as full left aileron was reached the ASI was indicating 55 kt. Moments later, at approximately 175 feet the aircraft's nose dropped and a right hand spin commenced. After approximately half a turn to the right the aircraft struck the surface of a small lake with the throttle closed. The wind at the time was 300 degrees at 8 kt.

Preliminary examination of the wreckage showed the rudder system to the rear of the aft cockpit to be intact, serviceable and showing no indication of a control restriction.

Because of the damage caused by the impact to the cockpit floors examination in this area was limited to rudder control cable continuity, which was found to be intact.