

Cessna 172N, G-GYAV

AAIB Bulletin No: 8/99 Ref: EW/G99/05/05 Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Cessna 172N, G-GYAV

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-320-H2AD piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1979

Date & Time (UTC): 3 May 1999 at 1740 hrs

Location: Caernarfon Airport, Gwynedd

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - 2

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Minor to rear fuselage and firewall

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 53 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 146 hours (of which 13 were on type)
Last 90 days - 4 hours
Last 28 days - 3 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft was on a flight from Liverpool to Caernarfon and intended to carry out a right hand circuit to land on Runway 26 (LDA 820 metres). The weather was fine with a surface wind of 050°/05 kt. The initial approach was too high and so the pilot decided to carry out a go around from 100 feet. The pilot reported that on the second approach, flown with flap 30, the aircraft floated and bounced landing heavily as it bounced, a second time. As a result both the propeller and tail made contact with the runway. The pilot applied full power, carried out a precautionary low level circuit, then, with advice from Caernarfon Radio, carried out wide circuit at normal height landing without further incident.

The pilot considered that he should have applied power and carried out a go around earlier, thus avoiding the more severe second bounce.