

AAIB Bulletin No: 6/93

Ref: EW/G93/05/06

Category: 5

Aircraft Type and Registration: Cameron A-105 Hot Air Balloon, G-BRZB

No & Type of Engines: None

Year of Manufacture: 1990

Date & Time (UTC): 3 May 1993 at 0720 hrs

Location: Truro, Cornwall

Type of Flight: Public Transport

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 5

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - 1 Serious

Nature of Damage: None

Commander's Licence: Commercial Pilot's Licence (Balloons)

Commander's Age: 43 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 746 hours (of which 446 were on type)
Last 90 days - 6 hours
Last 28 days - 2 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The balloon was on a flight from St Columb Major near Newquay, Cornwall, in fine weather conditions with a surface wind of 360°/07 kt. The passengers had received numerous safety briefings prior to the flight and a final pre-landing briefing two minutes before touchdown.

The balloon made a near perfect landing, with the basket correctly orientated, on an area of grass which sloped gently upwards in the direction of travel. During the touchdown the basket toppled and was dragged for approximately 24 feet. An elderly passenger, who lost his grip during the manoeuvre, suffered a fracture to his arm when he attempted to steady himself.