

No: 1/89

Ref: EW/G88/11/04

Category: 1c

**Aircraft Type
and Registration:**

Piper Cub, G-AKTJ

No & Type of Engines:

1 Continental C85-8FJ piston engine

Year of Manufacture:

1947

Date and Time (UTC):

27 November 1988 at 1340 hrs

Location:

Abbots Hill Farm Airstrip, Hemel Hempstead, Herts

Type of Flight:

Private (pleasure)

Persons on Board:

Crew - 1

Passengers - 1

Injuries:

Crew - 1 (minor)

Passengers - None

Nature of Damage:

Aircraft damaged beyond economic repair

Commander's Licence:

Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age:

38 years

**Commander's Total
Flying Experience:**

946 hours (of which 47 were on type)

Information Source:

Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

In order to alleviate the annoyance to occupants of a house under the approach path to runway 31, the pilot had been assessing the viability of a curving approach. The grass runway, which had been recently mown, was about 750 feet long and had a marked uphill slope. On the day of the accident, the grass was wet and the surface wind was reported as light and variable.

The pilot stated that, following his second approach, the touch-down was late and the airspeed was higher than normal. He decided to go-around and applied full power, however, he omitted to select the carburettor heat control to COLD. The normal lift-off speed of 40 kt was achieved, but the aircraft failed to accelerate further and impacted the boundary hedge in a tail-down attitude, the pilot having applied full up-elevator in his attempt to get airborne.

There was no fire and, although the aircraft was not fitted with upper torso restraint, the passenger escaped without injury. The pilot received a scalp wound when, following the failure of his right-hand lap strap mounting flange, his head struck the roof.