

No: 10/89

Ref: EW/G89/08/11

Category: 1c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Piper PA34-200, G-BARB

No & Type of Engines: 2 Lycoming IO-360-C1E6 piston engines

Year of Manufacture: 1973

Date and Time (UTC): 12 August 1989 at 1230 hrs

Location: Newtownards Airport, Northern Ireland

Type of Flight: Private (pleasure)

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 4

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Damage to both propellers and nose cone

Commander's Licence: Commercial Pilot's Licence with Instrument and Full Instructor Ratings

Commander's Age: 40 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 6,305 hours (of which 370 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

After a normal approach and touchdown on runway 22, with the 3 landing gear green lights illuminated, the pilot reported that during the ground run the nose landing gear light went out, the warning horn sounded and the nose landing gear collapsed.

Examination by the maintenance organisation which repaired the aircraft has revealed the possibility that the nose gear drag link may not have been over-centre, and therefore not locked-down. Examination of another aircraft of the same type by the same organisation revealed a similar situation, where the nose landing gear drag link was not over-centre.

G-BARB had undergone an annual inspection some 10 days before the accident.