

No: 5/83

Ref: EW/G83/04/03

Aircraft: Piper PA 38 Tomahawk G-BJYN (light single engine fixed wing aircraft)

Year of manufacture: 1979

Date and time (GMT) 16 April 1983 at 1055 hrs

Location: Panshanger Aerodrome

Type of flight: Private

Persons on board: Crew - One Passengers - Nil

Injuries: Crew - Nil Passengers - N/A

Nature of damage: Propeller bent, damage to starboard landing gear and starboard wing tip

Commander's Licence: Student pilot

Commander's age: 28 years

Commander's total flying experience: 20 hours 40 minutes (of which all were on type, and of which 1 hour 15 minutes were solo)

After a period of dual instruction, which included a briefing on cross-winds, the pilot was sent solo, using grass runway 30, with an estimated surface wind of 270°/10 kts. During the take-off run the aircraft began to swing left and crossed the edge of the runway, so the pilot closed the throttle and abandoned the take-off. As the power was reduced, the aircraft swung further left and then slid sideways, causing damage to the starboard landing gear, the starboard wing tip, and the propeller.