

No: 9/84

Ref: EW/G84/07/30

Aircraft type and registration: Cessna F152 G-BITH (Light single engine fixed wing aircraft)

Year of manufacture: 1981

Date and time (GMT): 28 July 1984 at 1203 hrs

Location: Exeter Airport

Type of flight: Training

Persons on board: Crew — 1 Passengers — Nil

Injuries: Crew — Nil Passengers — N/A

Nature of damage: Nose gear collapsed, damage to propeller and right wing tip.

Commander's Licence: Student Pilot

Commander's Age:

Commander's total flying experience: 110 hours (all on type)

Information Source: Accident Report pro-forma completed by pilot.

The student pilot was making a solo qualifying cross-country flight from Bristol to Exeter, and thence to Compton Abbas and return to Bristol. After arriving overhead Exeter he carried out a circuit for runway 31. On final approach he trimmed the aircraft with 10° of flap extended and was given clearance to land. The wind was down the runway at 12 kt. During the flare for landing the main wheels touched the ground prematurely and the aircraft bounced into a nose-high attitude. The pilot applied nose-down elevator to correct the attitude but the aircraft struck the runway heavily nose wheel first causing the nose gear to collapse.