

No: 7/89

Ref: EW/G89/04/16

Category: 1c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Piper PA-28-140 Cherokee, G-BASL

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-320-E3D piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1972

Date and Time (UTC): 25 April 1989 at 1500 hrs

Location: Caernarfon Airport, Gwynedd, North Wales

Type of Flight: Private (Training)

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Damage to the nose landing gear and right wing

Commander's Licence: Student Pilot

Commander's Age: 34 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 50 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

Prior to departure from Blackpool Airport, the pilot noted that the surface wind at his destination, Caernarfon Airport, was 6 kt. The flight took about 45 minutes. The pilot reported that he had had difficulty hearing the joining instructions because of poor radio reception and had asked for a repeat of the runway, circuit direction and QNH. Although he did not copy the surface wind he assumed it would still be less than 10 kt so did not ask for it to be repeated. Shortly after touchdown, on runway 08, the aircraft veered sharply to the left coming to rest, off the runway, in a nose down attitude. The pilot, who was wearing diagonal upper torso restraint vacated the aircraft uninjured.

The surface wind, recorded at the time of the accident was 330° to 010°/17 kt gusting 24 kt. The maximum demonstrated crosswind limit for the aircraft is 17 kt.