

No: 1/86

Ref: EW/G85/09/11

Aircraft type and registration: Piper PA28 G-AVNO (light single engined fixed wing aircraft)

Year of Manufacture: 1967

Date and time (GMT): 15 September 1985 at 1540 hrs

Location: Southend Airport

Type of flight: Private (pleasure)

Persons on board: Crew — 1 Passengers — 3

Injuries: Crew — None Passengers — None

Nature of damage: Damage to propeller and nose undercarriage; engine shock loaded: left undercarriage tyre burst

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 30 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 61 hours (of which 7 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by pilot.

On returning from an uneventful flight to Le Touquet, the aircraft was making a full flap approach to runway 24. As the pilot was preparing to round out, the aircraft dropped suddenly and made a heavy contact with the runway, causing the left tyre to burst. The aircraft bounced into the air again, and subsequently landed nose wheel first, the propeller striking the ground in the process. The pilot then regained control, and taxied the aircraft clear of the runway. The wind at the time was reported as 290°, 10 to 15 kt, with gusts of 25 kt. The pilot attributes the event to a gust of wind.