

Europa, G-RBBB

AAIB Bulletin No: 5/97 Ref: EW/G97/03/11 Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Europa, G-RBBB
No & Type of Engines:	1 Rotax 912 piston engine
Year of Manufacture:	1997
Date & Time (UTC):	12 March 1997 at 1240 hrs
Location:	Portmoak Airfield, Kinross, Scotland
Type of Flight:	Private
Persons on Board:	Crew - 2 - Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None - Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Propeller destroyed, minor damage to engine cowling
Commander's Licence:	Basic Commercial Pilot's Licence with IMC and Night Rating
Commander's Age:	69 years
Commander's Flying Experience:	11,981 hours (of which 14 were on type) Last 90 days -79 hours Last 28 days -30 hours
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft was positioned for a visual approach to Runway 28 at Portmoak Airfield; this is a grass runway 900 metres long. The weather was good with a surface wind of 250 /10 kt, a visibility of 5 km and no cloud below 1,000 feet. The pre-landing checks were completed on the downwind leg and all appeared normal until the aircraft touched down firmly and pitched nose down destroying the propeller. Following the accident the undercarriage was found to be retracted and the undercarriage lever was in the UP position although not in the detent. The co-owner of the aircraft, who had witnessed the landing, thought that the undercarriage and outriggers were not in the down position during the approach.