

No: 3/89

Ref: EW/G89/01/11

Category: 1c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Piper PA-34-220T, Seneca 111, G-BOCT

No & Type of Engines: Two Teledyne Continental TS10-360KB piston engines

Year of Manufacture: 1988

Date and Time (UTC): 25 January 1989 at 1016 hrs

Location: Newcastle Airport

Type of Flight: Training (Commercial)

Persons on Board: Crew - 2 Passengers - 1

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Substantial damage to the left propeller, engine, wing, stabilator and the underside of the nose cone.

Commander's Licence: Commercial Pilot's Licence with Instructor Rating

Commander's Age: 47 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 8130 hours (of which 46 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot.

During a training flight, shortly after touchdown, at about 1/3 of the way down the runway, the aircraft started to veer to the left. The student appeared to have corrected the initial swing, but the aircraft then continued to veer towards the edge of the runway. The instructor took control, but was unable to prevent an excursion onto the grass to the left of the paved surface. After travelling about 50 yards across the grass, the left landing gear leg separated and the aircraft fell onto its left side, bending the propeller blades and stopping the engine. All the occupants were wearing diagonal upper torso restraint harnesses, which withstood the impact forces and there was no fire. The Instructor completed the crash drills and the three occupants evacuated the aircraft.

The instructor has since stated that the swing was caused by the student inadvertently applying the left wheel brake.