

No: 6/84

Ref: EW/G84/03/07

Aircraft type and registration: Beechcraft 9S-BSS (Baron) G-BBCD (light twin-engined fixed-wing aircraft)

Year of manufacture: 1973

Date and time (GMT): 4 March 1984 at 1631 hrs

Location: Biggin Hill Aerodrome

Type of flight: Private

Persons on board: Crew – 1 Passengers – 1

Injuries: Crew – Nil Passengers – Nil

Nature of damage: Damage to nose gear and doors, nose cone and both propellers

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 40 years

Commander's total flying experience: 731 hours (of which 155 were on type)

The aircraft made an apparently normal approach and touch-down on runway 21 at Biggin Hill Aerodrome. However, during the landing roll, the nose gear and right-hand main gear collapsed and the aircraft slid to a halt. The occupants evacuated the aircraft without injury.

The landing gear extension/retraction mechanism on this type of aircraft comprises a single actuator, driving rods which accomplish the raising and lowering of all three legs simultaneously. The right-hand main and nose gear actuating rods were distorted consistent with these legs being extended but not locked such that the landing loads were reacted by the rods and not the locking mechanism. Following replacement of the damaged parts, the landing gear was function-tested and no fault was found with the mechanism.