

Mooney M20J, G-DESS, 1 October 1997

AAIB Bulletin No: 12/1997

Ref: EW/G97/10/01 Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Mooney M20J, G-DESS
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming IO-360-A3B6D piston engine
Year of Manufacture:	1982
Date & Time (UTC):	1 October 1997 at 1024 hrs
Location:	Birmingham International Airport, W Midlands
Type of Flight:	Private
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1 - Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None - Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Damage to propeller and nose landing gear
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence with IMC Rating
Commander's Age:	69 years
Commander's Flying Experience:	834 hours (of which 400 were on type) Last 90 days - 8 hours Last 28 days - 6 hours
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

At the end of a flight from the Isle of Man, the pilot asked ATC if he could do some visual circuits on Runway 24; the surface wind was 240°/16 kt. When the aircraft was downwind for the second circuit, the pilot was advised that there was commercial instrument traffic at 9 nm on final approach to Runway 33. He continued the circuit and was cleared to land. It was as he started the landing flare that the pilot realised that he had not selected the landing gear down. The ensuing landing was soft and the aircraft slid for about 30 metres. The pilot carried out the shutdown check and vacated the aircraft without injury.