

No: 6/88

Ref: EW/G88/04/03

Category:1c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Piper PA-32-300, G-AVFS

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming IO-540-K1A5 piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1966

Date and Time (UTC): 1 April 1988 at 1140 hrs

Location: Tilstock Airfield, Salop, Shropshire

Type of Flight: Private (Pleasure)

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 1

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Substantial to underside of right wing

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 32 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 161 hours (of which 30 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the Pilot and telephone enquiries by the AAIB

The pilot was making a normal approach to Runway 15 using full flap and in an estimated wind of 160°/10-15 kts. Approaching the runway threshold at 70-75 kts, power was reduced and the aircraft began to sink. Power was increased to reduce the rate of descent but as the aircraft crossed the threshold, a loud bang was heard. The pilot initiated a go-around and requested a visual inspection of the aircraft by ground observers. No damage was seen and the subsequent landing was uneventful. After shut-down examination revealed damage to the underside of the right wing consistent with it having struck a 5 ft high fence post at the runway threshold. The fence post has now been removed.