

Grumman AA-5A, G-BXHH, 28 September 1997

AAIB Bulletin No: 12/1997

Ref: EW/G97/09/30 Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Grumman AA-5A, G-BXHH
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming O-320-E2G piston engine
Year of Manufacture:	1976
Date & Time (UTC):	28 September 1997 at 1025 hrs
Location:	Biggin Hill Airport, Kent
Type of Flight:	Private (Training)
Persons on Board:	Crew - 2 - Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None - Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Failure of axle bolt, scraping of tyre
Commander's Licence:	Basic Commercial Pilot's Licence with FI Rating
Commander's Age:	24 years
Commander's Flying Experience:	916 hours (of which 535 were on type) Last 90 days - 175 hours Last 28 days - 33 hours
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and telephone conversation with maintenance personnel

The instructor reported that during a normal landing when the nose wheel settled on the runway a shimmying action was felt, followed by a scraping noise and a sensation of braking action. The instructor attempted to keep the weight off the nose wheel for as long as possible and the aircraft finally came to a halt in a slightly nose down attitude.

An R/T call was made and assistance was immediately dispatched, the aircraft being removed from the runway by the fire crew. Upon inspection the nose wheel was found to have detached but was stuck inside the wheel spat.

The maintenance company determined that the axle bolt had failed in the region of the base of the threads at one end. Unfortunately the failed component was inadvertently discarded before being subjected to a detailed examination.