

## **Auster 3, G-AREI, 12 May 1996**

**AAIB Bulletin No: 7/96 Ref: EW/G96/05/10 Category: 1.3**

**Aircraft Type and Registration:**Auster 3, G-AREI

**No & Type of Engines:**1 Gipsy Major 1 piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:**1943

**Date & Time (UTC):**12 May 1996 at 1500 hrs

**Location:**Popham Airfield, Nr Winchester, Hants

**Type of Flight:**Private

**Persons on Board:**Crew - 1 Passengers - 1

**Injuries:**Crew - None Passengers - None

**Nature of Damage:**Broken propeller and damage to cowling and exhaust system

**Commander's Licence:**Private Pilot's Licence

**Commander's Age:**48 years

**Commander's Flying Experience:**445 hours (of which 395 were on type)

Last 90 days - 15 hours

Last 28 days - 8 hours

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

The grass Runway 26 was in use at Popham and the pilot, in his report, described the surface condition as "very bumpy". While making a rolling take-off, the pilot was setting take-off engine power when he observed that the flaps had moved from the selected position "2" to a lower setting. He repositioned the flap lever to position "2" but, despite application of full up elevator and closed throttle, he was unable to prevent the aircraft nosing into the ground.