

**No: 10/89**

**Ref: EW/G89/08/10**

**Category: 1c**

**Aircraft Type  
and Registration:**

Piper PA-20, G-BHMO

**No & Type of Engines:**

1 Lycoming O-290-D piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:**

1950

**Date and Time (UTC):**

20 August 1989 at 0900 hrs

**Location:**

Gransden Airfield, Bedfordshire

**Type of Flight:**

Private (pleasure)

**Persons on Board:**

Crew - 1                      Passengers - None

**Injuries:**

Crew - None                  Passengers - N/A

**Nature of Damage:**

Damage to propeller and left-hand wing

**Commander's Licence:**

Private Pilot's Licence

**Commander's Age:**

78 years

**Commander's Total  
Flying Experience:**

2,606 hours (of which 14 were on type)

**Information Source:**

Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot was making a normal approach, at 65 mph, to the grass runway with a crosswind of some 5 knots from the left when, to clear a slight hump close to the approach end of the runway, he applied a little power. The speed and position of the subsequent touch-down were such as to require what the pilot reports as fairly heavy braking. He states that the landing run was normal until, with about 50 yards to run and at an estimated speed of 10 knots, the right-hand brake "failed completely". The aircraft turned sharply to the left, into a ditch that runs along the left-hand edge of the runway. There was no fire and the pilot considers that the "brake fading" was due to overheating of the drum unit.