

Piper PA-28-161, G-BFMG

AAIB Bulletin No: 5/2001 **Ref:** EW/G2001/03/11 **Category:** 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Piper PA-28-161, G-BFMG

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-320-D3G piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1977

Date & Time (UTC): 19 March 2001 at 1021 hrs

Location: Firoaks Airport, Surrey

Type of Flight: Training

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Propeller and port wing

Commander's Licence: Student Pilot

Commander's Age: 41 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 17 hours (all on type)
Last 90 days - 11 hours
Last 28 days - 4 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the Flight Instructor

The student pilot had recently completed his solo flight. On the morning of the accident he carried out a number of circuits for consolidation with a flight instructor. He was then authorised to do two or three further solo circuits.

The student reported that his first landing was normal but to the left of the centreline, which he corrected with right rudder. He then applied the power and left rudder to maintain the centreline for a 'touch and go' but the aircraft began to weave from side to side, along the runway. He closed the throttle and abandoned the attempted take off but was unable to control the direction and the aircraft left the runway on the left hand side. After travelling a short distance over the grass the nose landing gear sank into the soft ground tipping the aircraft forwards. The outer part of the port wing and the wing spar near the fuselage attachment were damaged as a result.