

No: 9/88

Ref: EW/G88/07/01

Category: 1c

**Aircraft Type  
and Registration:**

Piper PA-28-140, G-BGTR

**No & Type of Engines:** 1 Lycoming O-320-E3D piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:** 1973

**Date and Time (UTC):** 2 July 1988 at 1715 hrs

**Location:** Liverpool Airport

**Type of Flight:** Training

**Persons on Board:** Crew - 1                      Passengers - None

**Injuries:** Crew - None                      Passengers - N/A

**Nature of Damage:** Collapse of nose landing gear with damage to nose cowlings and right wing tip. Propeller damage and engine shock loaded

**Commander's Licence:** Student Pilot's Licence

**Commander's Age:** 37 years

**Commander's Total  
Flying Experience:** 13 hours (of which all were on type)

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

Following a 45 minute flight with his instructor, the student pilot was cleared for his third solo flight. A 10 kt wind was blowing from 30° left of the runway direction. On completion of one circuit the pilot made a heavy landing which resulted in the collapse of the nose landing gear. Whilst attempting to prevent the aircraft from veering to the right the pilot applied left rudder and the right wing tip contacted the runway as the aircraft swung to the left. Rubber tyre marks on the runway indicated that the left brake had been applied and the pilot considers that he may have done this inadvertently as he applied left rudder. The aircraft came to rest on its nose on the soft ground south of the runway.