

AAIB Bulletin No: 10/95

Ref: EW/G95/08/20

Category: 1.3

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** Piper PA-38-112 Tomahawk, G-BVHM

**No & Type of Engines:** 1 Lycoming O-235-L2C piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:** 1978

**Date & Time (UTC):** 19 August 1995 at 1722 hrs

**Location:** Shoreham Airport, West Sussex

**Type of Flight:** Private (Training)

**Persons on Board:** Crew - 2                      Passengers - None

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

**Nature of Damage:** Nosewheel leg broken, propeller bent, engine shock loaded, exhaust system bent and one wingtip scraped

**Commander's Licence:** Commercial Pilot's Licence

**Commander's Age:** 42 years

**Commander's Flying Experience:** 1,286 hours (of which 24 were on type)  
Last 90 days - 201 hours  
Last 28 days - 81 hours

**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and telephone enquiries by the AAIB

The handling pilot was a PPL holder under training for an IMC rating and he was making a visual approach to the tarmac Runway 21 having completed an ADF tracking to the airfield beacon. Having flared the aircraft for landing, the student pilot allowed the aircraft to sink heavily onto the runway. The instructor took control at a late stage in the landing but was unable to prevent a firm touchdown, as a result of which the aircraft bounced and the nosewheel leg, which had been broken by the impact, detached itself. The instructor landed the aircraft on the grass from the bounce and the nose struck the ground as the speed decreased. Both pilots were uninjured and vacated the aircraft without further incident.