

Grumman AA-5, G-BLFW

AAIB Bulletin No: 5/2000 Ref: EW/G2000/03/09 Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Grumman AA-5, G-BLFW

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-320-E2G piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1975

Date & Time (UTC): 11 March 2000 at 1420 hrs

Location: Compton Abbas Airfield, Wiltshire

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Nosewheel collapsed, propeller damaged,
engine shock loaded

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 48 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 213 hours (of which 108 were on type)
Last 90 days - 2 hours
Last 28 days - 0 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot had planned to fly from a private strip near Swindon to Compton Abbas. The reported meteorological conditions at Compton Abbas were CAVOK with a surface wind of 360/12 kt and a temperature of +10°C. Runway 26, which has a landing distance available of 803 metres, was in use. The grass surface was wet but firm. The pilot established the aircraft on the approach at 80 to 85 kt and he considered that the approach was normal. On touchdown the aircraft bounced. The pilot closed the throttle and lowered the nose. The airspeed decayed and the aircraft struck the ground heavily and bounced again. The pilot then applied power but could not prevent the aircraft striking the ground again at which point the nosewheel collapsed. When the aircraft came to a halt the pilot switched off the fuel and the electrics, and vacated the aircraft. The airfield emergency services arrived at the scene promptly.

