

No: 7/90

Ref: EW/G90/05/19

Category: 1c

**Aircraft Type
and Registration:**

Piper PA-28R-180, G-AWBC

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming IO-360-B1E piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1968

Date and Time (UTC): 20 May 1990 at 1652 hrs

Location: Bournemouth Airport, Dorset

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 1

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Damage to nose landing gear, propeller and underside nose cowling

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 52 years

**Commander's Total
Flying Experience:** 135 hours (of which 16 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

Runway 08 was in use at Bournemouth and the aircraft joined the circuit downwind for that runway. The pilot has stated that, although the circuit and approach to land which he flew were seemingly normal, his speed on the final approach may have been a little high. Although he was unable to remember exactly at what point he selected landing gear down, he believed that it was probably in the downwind position. The aircraft touched down on the main wheels but, as the nose was lowered, the nose gear collapsed and the aircraft slid to a stop along the runway centreline. There was no fire and the two occupants climbed out of the aircraft unhurt.

A witness, who is knowledgeable about aircraft systems, was situated at the threshold end of the runway on the adjacent road. He states that he saw the aircraft fly down the final approach with the landing gear retracted and then cross the threshold with the landing gear in the process of extending. As the aircraft touched down, it was apparent to him that, whereas the main landing gear had locked into the down position, the nose gear had not had time to do so.

Subsequent examination of the aircraft revealed no anomalies in the landing gear operating system or defects within the landing gear itself which were not attributable to accident damage.