

**AAIB Bulletin No:** 5/95

**Ref:** EW/G95/02/12

**Category:** 1.3

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** Piper PA-28-180 Cherokee, G-BUUX

**No & Type of Engines:** 1 Lycoming O-360-A4A piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:** 1968

**Date & Time (UTC):** 26 February 1995 at 1530 hrs

**Location:** Netherthorpe Airfield, Sheffield

**Type of Flight:** Private

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

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

**Nature of Damage:** Both wings and tail fin damaged; main and nose landing gear collapsed and propeller bent

**Commander's Licence:** Private Pilot's Licence with IMC and Night Rating

**Commander's Age:** 37 years

**Commander's Flying Experience:** 222 hours (of which 14 were on type)  
Last 90 days - 1 hour  
Last 28 days - 0 hours

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

The aircraft was returning to Netherthorpe from a local flight and was making a final approach to Runway 36. The wind was 360° to 030°/5 to 10 kt and, in this sector, the final approach was downwind of a large hangar and the flying club buildings.

The pilot states that at a height slightly below 200 feet agl, at which point he had checked the wind and selected carburettor heat to cold, the aircraft suddenly dropped. Despite the application of full throttle and up elevator, the mainwheels struck the airfield boundary fence and the aircraft skidded for 20 to 30 metres before coming to rest at the runway threshold. The pilot informed the ground radio station of what had happened and, having carried out the shutdown drills, left the aircraft through the passenger door.

There was no fire and the scene was attended by the airfield fire vehicle and many club members offering assistance.