

No: 3/86

Ref: EW/G86/02/03

**Aircraft type and registration:** Rheims Cessna F152 G-BGHA (light single engined fixed wing aircraft)

**Year of Manufacture:** 1979

**Date and time (GMT):** 24 February 1986 at 1320 hrs

**Location:** Shoreham aerodrome, Sussex

**Type of flight:** Training

**Persons on board:** Crew — 1                      Passengers — None

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

**Nature of damage:** Nose landing gear collapsed — resultant damage to propeller, underside engine cowlings, firewall bulkhead and wrinkling of right wing

**Commander's Licence:** Student pilot

**Commander's Age:** 21 years

**Commander's Total Flying Experience:** 22 hours (all on type and of which 5 hours were as pilot in command)

**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and Shoreham aerodrome ATC.

The aircraft, flown by a student pilot, was on a training flight in the local Shoreham aerodrome area. The pilot reports that he made a normal approach for a landing on runway 03, but that during the flare, at a height of about 5 feet above the ground, the left wing dropped and, after the left main landing gear contacted the ground, the aircraft bounced. Thereafter it continued to bounce until the nose landing gear collapsed, the aircraft slewed to the left, and finally came to rest off the left hand side of the grass runway. The pilot vacated the aircraft without injury.

The weather conditions at the time were fine, with a surface wind from 050 degrees at 15 kt with gusts to 20 kt. The pilot reports encountering moderate turbulence on the final approach and considers that his lack of experience in flying in such conditions may have contributed to the cause of the accident.