

AAIB Bulletin No: 5/94

Ref: EW/G94/03/05

Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Piper PA-28-161 Cherokee Warrior II, G-BSLT

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-320-D3G piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1980

Date & Time (UTC): 14 March 1994 at 0910

Location: Langham Airfield, Norfolk

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 2

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Broken nosewheel, bent propeller, cowling, left flap and minor to wing leading edge

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 23 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 227 hrs (of which 44 hrs were on type)
Last 90 days - 17 hours
Last 28 days - 7 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft flew from White Waltham to Langham where the surface wind was 240°/25 kt and the weather was fine. The pilot reported that the approach to concrete Runway 25 was smooth until just before the threshold when the aircraft sank sharply with the left wing low. Power was applied to arrest the sink rate but the aircraft struck a small tree with its left wing. The aircraft then yawed to the left and, at almost the same time, touched down in the undershoot. The pilot closed the throttle but was unable to prevent the aircraft entering a duck pond which was just short of the runway threshold and bordering the left side of the paved undershoot. Nobody was hurt and all the occupants left the aircraft through the normal door.