

No: 8/91

Ref: EW/G91/07/04

Category: 1c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Evans VP-1 Series 2, G-BAPP

No & Type of Engines: 1 Volkswagen 1834 (Peacock conversion) piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1974

Date & Time (UTC): 3 July 1991 at 1900 hrs

Location: Sandtoft Airfield, Humberside

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Undercarriage collapsed, damage to propeller, engine mounting and tailplane

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence with IMC rating

Commander's Age: 27 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 107 hours (of which less than one was on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and telephone inquiries by AAIB

The owner-pilot was on his first flight in the single seat aircraft, having obtained a briefing on the aircraft characteristics and operating procedures from the previous owner. A series of takeoffs and landings had been made on Runway 05 at Sandtoft aerodrome, with a surface wind of 050°/5 kt. During the final glide approach, at an altitude of approximately 20 feet, and an IAS of 40-42 kt, the aircraft stalled and hit the ground short of the runway threshold. The undercarriage collapsed, allowing the propeller to strike the ground removing both tips. The stabilator was damaged and became detached. The pilot, who was wearing a full harness, was uninjured and vacated the aircraft by the normal means. There was no fire. The aircraft cockpit placard quoted a stalling speed of 32 kt. The pilot's guide for this type of aircraft recommends that the final approach be flown in the speed range 60 to 75 mph (52 to 65 kt), and that the average power off stalling speed is 50 mph (43 kt).