

Piper PA-38-112, G-SUKI

AAIB Bulletin No: 10/2000 **Ref:** EW/G2000/07/19 **Category:** 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Piper PA-38-112, G-SUKI

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-235-L2C piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1978

Date & Time (UTC): 18 July 2000 at 1139 hrs

Location: Thruxton Airfield, Hampshire

Type of Flight: Training

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Nose landing gear collapsed, damage to propeller

Commander's Licence: Student pilot

Commander's Age: 61 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 33 hours (of which 21 were on type)
Last 90 days - 11 hours
Last 28 days - 4 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the Flying Club

The student had successfully flown three circuits with an instructor. He was then detailed to carry out solo circuits using the asphalt Runway 25 at Thruxton, with a surface wind from 270° at 6 kt. The first two solo circuits and landings were observed to have been good. During the third circuit and landing the aircraft was observed to bounce several times before touching down heavily on the nosewheel. The nose landing gear collapsed and the propeller struck the ground.

After the first bounce, the student did not apply power to initiate a go-around.