

## Avid Speedwing Mk 4, G-BVAA

<b>AAIB Bulletin No: 3/2004</b>	<b>Ref: EW/G2003/08/28</b>	<b>Category: 1.3</b>
<b>Aircraft Type and Registration:</b>	Avid Speedwing Mk 4, G-BVAA	
<b>No &amp; Type of Engines:</b>	1 Rotax 582 piston engine	
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>	1995	
<b>Date &amp; Time (UTC):</b>	16 August 2003 at 1130 hrs	
<b>Location:</b>	Siege Cross Farm Strip, Thatcham, Berkshire	
<b>Type of Flight:</b>	Private	
<b>Persons on Board:</b>	Crew - 1	Passengers - 1
<b>Injuries:</b>	Crew - None	Passengers - None
<b>Nature of Damage:</b>	One propeller blade bent and split, nose landing gear and flaperon mounting points damaged	
<b>Commander's Licence:</b>	Private Pilot's Licence	
<b>Commander's Age:</b>	53 years	
<b>Commander's Flying Experience:</b>	406 hours (of which 55 were on type)	
	Last 90 days - 2 hours	
	Last 28 days - 1 hour	
<b>Information Source:</b>	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and meteorological aftercast	

At a height of about 400 feet whilst on final approach to a northerly grass landing area 460 metres long, the aircraft encountered an area of sink. The pilot applied power and was able to stabilise the aircraft's approach for the landing. Just prior to crossing the landing area's boundary hedge, the aircraft encountered an area of heavy sink. The pilot was unable to arrest the aircraft's sink rate and it clipped the top of the hedge and touched down heavily in a reasonably level attitude in the landing area, coming to rest after a ground run of about 60 feet. The nose landing gear collapsed rearwards and the aircraft came to rest in a nose down attitude.

The pilot attributed the cause of the accident to sink rate that exceeded the aircraft's ability to counter. A meteorological aftercast indicated that the weather at the time of the accident was fine with no low cloud or cumulo-nimbus cloud, the QNH was 1020 HPa and the surface air temperature was about 20°C. The pilot thought the surface wind was south-westerly but the METARs for four local airfields suggest that the surface wind was east-north-easterly at not more than 12 kt.