

Piper PA-28R-200, G-BMJG

AAIB Bulletin No: 12/98 **Ref:** EW/G98/10/09 **Category:** 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Piper PA-28R-200, G-BMJG

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming IO-360-C1C piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1969

Date & Time (UTC): 11 October 1998 at 0905 hrs

Location: Thruxton Airport, Hampshire

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - 3

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Substantial

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence with IMC and Night Rating

Commander's Age: 42 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 636 hours (of which 30 were on type)
Last 90 days - 26 hours
Last 28 days - 9 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft was taking off from the grass Runway 31 with a reported surface wind of 300°/310° at 15 to 18 kt. It was close to maximum take-off weight and the runway surface was reported as being soft and damp. Initial acceleration was slow but improved at the mid point of the runway and the aircraft lifted off into ground effect. At this point, it became apparent to the pilot that the aircraft would not clear a bank at the end of the runway and he decided to abandon the take off. However, he was unable to stop the aircraft in the remaining runway distance and it collided with a crash barrier associated with the race track that is co-located with the airfield. The aircraft sustained substantial damage but the four occupants were uninjured.

The pilot attributed the cause of the accident to his late decision to abandon the take off following the initial slow acceleration.

