

Piper PA-28-140 Cherokee, G-ATPN

AAIB Bulletin No: 2/98 Ref: EW/G98/01/01 Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Piper PA-28-140 Cherokee, G-ATPN
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming O-320-E2A piston engine
Year of Manufacture:	1966
Date & Time (UTC):	1 January 1998 at 1030 hrs
Location:	Southend Airport, Essex
Type of Flight:	Private (Training)
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1 - Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None - Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Damage to propeller; engine shock loaded; collision damage to PAPI
Commander's Licence:	Student Pilot
Commander's Age:	41 years
Commander's Flying Experience:	75 hours (of which 24 were on type) Last 90 days - 7 hours Last 28 days - 2 hours
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The student pilot was taking off for his first solo navigation exercise. Runway 24 was in use and the wind was 210°/8 kt. The pilot had earlier completed two check circuits to the satisfaction of his instructor. In the early stage of the take-off run the aircraft swung to the left and the pilot continued the take off although not in the runway direction. The aircraft struck the PAPI located to the left of the runway whereupon the pilot closed the throttle and stopped the aircraft. The pilot reports that, having looked over his left shoulder to make sure the circuit was clear just before moving off, he was dazzled by particularly bright sunshine.