

AAIB Bulletin No: 10/94

Ref: EW/G94/08/17

Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: DH87B Hornet Moth, G-AELO

No & Type of Engines: 1 Gipsy Major 1F piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1936

Date & Time (UTC): 25 August 1994 at 1315 hrs

Location: Little Gransden Airfield, Cambridgeshire

Type of Flight: Private (Training)

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 1

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Undercarriage collapsed

Commander's Licence: Basic Commercial Pilot's Licence with IMC and Instructor Ratings

Commander's Age: 49 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 1,377 hours (of which 20 were on type)
Last 90 days - 44 hours
Last 28 days - 20 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

During an instructional flight and following a normal touchdown, the student allowed the aircraft to swing to the left. When he applied corrective rudder, a swing to the right began and immediate application of left rudder by both the student and the instructor failed to contain it. The instructor then applied full throttle but, approaching some rough ground on the edge of the runway, closed it again and shut down the engine. The ground loop continued through a total of about 180° and the aircraft, which then ran along the rough ground as the undercarriage collapsed, came to rest leaning on the left wing.

The airfield emergency vehicle attended the accident, but there was no fire and the instructor and student were able to vacate the aircraft through the cabin door.