

No: 9/84

Ref: EW/G84/08/05

Aircraft type and registration: Piper PA28—180 Cherokee G-ATVS (Light single engined fixed wing aircraft)

Year of manufacture: 1966

Date and time (GMT): 18 August 1984 at 1155 hrs

Location: Market Rasen, Lincolnshire

Type of flight: Private (pleasure)

Persons on board: Crew — 1 Passengers — 3

Injuries: Crew — Nil Passengers — Nil

Nature of damage: Substantial — nosewheel detached, with damage to propeller and nose cowling.

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 50 years

Commander's total flying experience: 713 hours (of which 330 hours were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report pro-forma submitted by the pilot.

The aircraft was on a flight from Bristol (Lulsgate) to Market Rasen. The grass strip, which runs from east to west, is located on Market Rasen racecourse and Pooley's Flight Guide warns of woodland 30 feet high and 50 metres from the eastern threshold of the runway.

The wind velocity obtained from RAF Waddington was 270° at 08 kt, and after an aerial inspection of the landing strip had been made, an approach and landing was carried out on the westerly runway. Two thirds of the way through the landing roll the aircraft encountered an apparent irregularity in the grass surface, causing the nose of the aircraft to pitch up. As the nose gear subsequently made contact with the surface, it collapsed, and the aircraft came to rest. The occupants were uninjured, and the aircraft additionally suffered damage to the propeller, and nose cowling.