

Aircraft Type and Registration: Piper PA-28-161 Cherokee Warrior II, G-BSXC

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-320-D3G piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1984

Date & Time (UTC): 29 November 1994 at 1620 hrs

Location: Clutton Hill Airstrip near Bristol

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 2

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Damage to right main landing gear, right wing skin and rear fuselage

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 25 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 91 hours (of which 76 were on type)
Last 90 days - 16 hours
Last 28 days - 3 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The airstrip surface was short grass which was wet; the landing runway was 08 and the surface wind was 140°/12 kt. The approach was normal with slight turbulence being experienced on short final. When the power was reduced in the flare the aircraft sank and the right mainwheel struck a raised portion of the surface and the leg bent backwards shearing the torque link. The aircraft continued in a straight line and came to rest within about 250 metres. The front seat occupants were wearing lap and diagonal upper torso restraint, the rear seat occupant lap restraint only, and all escaped without injury.

The pilot attributed the accident to turbulence experienced at a late stage of the approach; it was aggravated by the fact that the ground was particularly wet and soft in the area of the unintentional touchdown.