

Mooney M20J, G-BPKL, 5 May 2001 at 1028 hrs

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Aircraft Type and Registration: Mooney M20J, G-BPKL
No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming IO-360-A3B6D
Year of Manufacture: 1981
Date & Time (UTC): 5 May 2001 at 1028 hrs
Location: Manston Airport, Kent
Type of Flight: Private
Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - 1
Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - None
Nature of Damage: Damage to right wing and undercarriage
Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence
Commander's Age: 36 years
Commander's Flying Experience: 273 hours (of which 85 were on type)
Last 90 days - 5 hours
Last 28 days - 3 hours
Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft commander had planned to fly from Stapleford to Manston airfield. Prior to take off he had obtained the 0750 hrs meteorological report for Manston. This was recorded as: surface wind 020°/17 kt, visibility greater than 10 km with no significant weather and scattered cloud at 1,800 feet. The pilot departed from Stapleford at 1005 hrs and the flight proceeded uneventfully. When he was in contact with Manston the pilot was cleared for a straight in approach for Runway 10. This runway was 2,752 metres in length and 61 metres wide, the runway surface was asphalt/concrete and in addition to the normal approach lighting was equipped with PAPIs set to a 3° glideslope. The meteorological report passed to the pilot when the aircraft was on the final approach was recorded as: surface wind 030°/18 kt, visibility 25 km with no significant weather and scattered cloud at 3,000 feet.

The pilot reported that, whilst in the landing flare, the left wing lifted. He applied power and then right rudder in order to maintain the runway heading. Since this appeared to have little effect he closed the throttle. As the aircraft touched down, to the right of the runway centre-line, it was still heading to the right but it then turned into the wind. The aircraft travelled sideways down the runway at a slow speed until the right landing gear leg collapsed and the aircraft came to a halt

having damaged two of the right runway edge lights. The pilot shut down the aircraft and he and his passenger evacuated the aircraft. The airfield fire and rescue services arrived promptly.