

No: 9/90

Ref: EW/G90/07/04

Category: 1c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Gardan GY80-160, G-AZAW

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-320-B2B piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1965

Date and Time (UTC): 17 July 1990 at 1335 hrs

Location: Denham Aerodrome, Middlesex

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Propeller and lower fuselage

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 44 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 106 hours (of which 11 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and communication with ATC and repair organisation

The pilot was conducting circuit practice and had successfully completed five "touch-and-go" landings. Having carried out the downwind and approach checks, the pilot made his sixth landing. An independent witness saw the landing gear in the extended position. The touchdown and initial landing roll were normal, but the landing gear then folded back and the aircraft sank onto the runway. The aircraft came to rest to the right and clear of the runway.

An initial engineering inspection did not reveal any failure within the landing gear system. The overcentre down-lock system was not damaged. However, it was noted that the last turn of the landing gear manual lowering system, which engaged the overcentre down-lock, was "stiff" to operate.