

## Europa, G-OMIK

<b>AAIB Bulletin No: 9/2003</b>	<b>Ref: EW/G2003/07/17</b>	<b>Category: 1.3</b>
<b>Aircraft Type and Registration:</b>	Europa, G-OMIK	
<b>No &amp; Type of Engines:</b>	1 Rotax 914-UL piston engine	
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>	2001	
<b>Date &amp; Time (UTC):</b>	14 July 2003 at 1940 hrs	
<b>Location:</b>	Shotteswell, Warwickshire	
<b>Type of Flight:</b>	Private	
<b>Persons on Board:</b>	Crew - 1	Passengers - 1
<b>Injuries:</b>	Crew - None	Passengers - None
<b>Nature of Damage:</b>	Twisted main wheel, damage to tail wheel and compression crease under fuselage	
<b>Commander's Licence:</b>	Private Pilot's Licence	
<b>Commander's Age:</b>	28 years	
<b>Commander's Flying Experience:</b>	283 hours (of which 59 were on type)	
	Last 90 days - 41 hours	
	Last 28 days - 23 hours	
<b>Information Source:</b>	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The pilot arrived at Shotteswell on his sixth flight of the day having already flown for nine hours. The surface wind which was 110°/05 kt favoured Runway 09, but this runway has a downhill slope and at the time cars were parked at the far end. The pilot therefore chose the dry grass of Runway 15 (853 metres long and 18 metres wide) for his landing. Crops, 30 inches high, were growing alongside this runway.

The pilot reported that he made a heavy landing, tail wheel first, close to the runway threshold. The aircraft, bouncing several times before settling onto the runway surface, then drifted to the left and despite the application of full right rudder the pilot was unable to prevent the left wing tip running into the crops. The aircraft yawed rapidly to the left and then gently came to rest with the nose of the aircraft in the crops and the tail on the runway.

Damage to both the main wheel and the tail wheel, which probably occurred during the heavy landing, may have affected the directional control of the aircraft. The pilot believes that fatigue was a major factor in this accident affecting both the accuracy of his landing and his decision making.