

No: 6/90

Ref: EW/G90/04/06

Category: 1c

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** Piper PA-28-160, G-ARVU

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

**Year of Manufacture:** 1962

**Date and Time (UTC):** 15 April 1990 at 0910 hrs

**Location:** Rochester Aerodrome, Kent

**Type of Flight:** Private

**Persons on Board:** Crew - 1                      Passengers - None

**Injuries:** Crew - None                      Passengers - N/A

**Nature of Damage:** Substantial to propeller, engine mount and nose landing gear

**Commander's Licence:** Private Pilot's Licence

**Commander's Age:** 34 years

**Commander's Total Flying Experience:** 79 hours (of which 10 were on type)

**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The relatively inexperienced pilot who had completed 40 minutes flying during the 28 days prior to the accident and 3 hours during the previous 90 days made a satisfactory touch down on the dry grass runway. The aircraft ran straight for 130 metres before commencing a gentle turn to the left which the pilot was unable to correct by use of full right rudder. The turn continued until the aircraft left the runway and entered an area of long grass where it came to an abrupt halt. The pilot was uninjured and evacuated the aircraft without difficulty. At the time of the accident, the prevailing crosswind component from the left was close to that demonstrated for safe operation of the aircraft.