

Piper PA-38-112, G-BNHG

AAIB Bulletin No: 12/2000 Ref: EW/G2000/10/07 Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Piper PA-38-112, G-BNHG

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-235-L2C piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1980

Date & Time (UTC): 15 October 2000 at 1215 hrs

Location: RAF Coltishall, Norfolk

Type of Flight: Training

Persons on Board: Crew - 2 - Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Nose landing gear collapsed. Damage to nose area and propeller

Commander's Licence: Commercial Pilot's Licence with Instrument and Instructor Ratings

Commander's Age: 60 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 13,032 hours (of which 58 were on type)
Last 90 days - 60 hours
Last 28 days - 15 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft was flown by a student pilot with a total experience of 16 hours, under the supervision of the flying instructor. They had completed a training detail in the local area and were in the process of landing on Runway 04; the wind was calm. The instructor considered that the approach was well flown, with good speed control, until the aircraft was about 4 feet above the runway. The student pilot then closed the throttle abruptly. The aircraft settled rapidly onto the runway and bounced. The instructor was unable to intervene in time to prevent a subsequent heavy landing during which the nose landing gear collapsed and the aircraft left the paved surface to the left. The instructor made the aircraft safe and both occupants, who were wearing lap and diagonal upper torso restraint, escaped without injury. The AFS arrived at the scene very shortly afterwards.