ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration: Auster J1N Alpha, G-AHSS

No & Type of Engines:

1 De Havilland Gipsy Major I piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1946 (Serial no: 2136)

Date & Time (UTC): 27 June 2015 at 1615 hrs

Location: Great Massingham Airfield, Norfolk

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Propeller, cowlings, exhaust, tail and spring

connecting the wheel mount

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 72 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 399 hours (of which 375 were on type)

Last 90 days - 8 hours Last 28 days - 5 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the

pilot

After an approach that was described by the pilot as normal, the aircraft landed into wind on Runway 28 at Great Massingham Airfield, Norfolk. The aircraft then started to drift left and the pilot was unable to prevent it leaving the paved surface and entering long grass by the edge of the runway. The left landing gear came into contact with some large stones, which were not visible to the pilot, and the aircraft abruptly tipped forward with the propeller coming into contact with the ground. When the aircraft fell back onto its landing gear, further damage was caused to the tail and fuselage. The engine had stopped so the pilot made the aircraft safe and vacated it normally.

The pilot thought the initial drift was probably caused by a gust of wind, and that, having relaxed after landing, he felt he was too slow to respond. He considered he should have applied power and gone around as soon as the aircraft began to drift.

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