

ACCIDENT

| | | |
|--|---|-------------------|
| Aircraft Type and Registration: | Smith DSA-1 Miniplane, G-BTGJ | |
| No & Type of Engines: | 1 Continental Motors Corp C90-8FJ piston engine | |
| Year of Manufacture: | 1962 (Serial no: NMII) | |
| Date & Time (UTC): | 23 April 2017 at 1040 hrs | |
| Location: | Henstridge Airfield, Somerset | |
| Type of Flight: | Private | |
| Persons on Board: | Crew - 1 | Passengers - None |
| Injuries: | Crew - None | Passengers - N/A |
| Nature of Damage: | Main landing gear legs collapsed, propeller destroyed and damage to underside of fuselage and lower wings | |
| Commander's Licence: | Private Pilot's Licence | |
| Commander's Age: | 64 years | |
| Commander's Flying Experience: | 613 hours (of which 304 were on type) Last 90 days - 12 hours Last 28 days - 7 hours | |
| Information Source: | Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot | |

During the landing flare on the asphalt Runway 25 at Henstridge the pilot lost sight of an aircraft landing ahead. He pushed forward on the control column to check the runway in front was clear, and then pulled the column back to continue the flare. He believes that because he did not apply any power during this manoeuvre, the airspeed reduced too much and the aircraft stalled and descended quickly towards the runway. Both main landing gear legs collapsed on impact and the wooden propeller shattered. The aircraft then slid a short distance along the runway until the tip of the lower right wing contacted the surface and the aircraft span right through 180°. It came to rest on grass area beside the runway (Figure 1) and the uninjured pilot climbed out without assistance.

**Figure 1**

G-BTGJ after it came to a halt with collapsed main landing gear legs and shattered propeller.
Photo reproduced courtesy of Mr Martin Rendall