

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Vans RV-7A, G-ELVN	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming YIO-360-M1B piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	2015 (Serial no: LAA 323-14930)	
Date & Time (UTC):	21 May 2019 at 1315 hrs	
Location:	Drayton St Leonard Airfield, Oxfordshire	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Nose gear collapsed, engine shock-loaded and damage to propeller	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	59 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	1,965 hours (of which 44 were on type) Last 90 days - 40 hours Last 28 days - 21 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The pilot reported that as he was about to land on grass Runway 24, the aircraft struck a medium sized bird at a height of approximately 20 ft agl. This surprised the pilot who momentarily pitched the aircraft up and to the left, before adjusting the aircraft's flightpath back towards the runway centreline to land with about 300 m of runway remaining. When the aircraft touched down it bounced and became airborne. The pilot decided to land rather than go around, due to the possibility that the aircraft may have sustained damage from the bird strike. The aircraft subsequently touched down heavily on the nose gear which collapsed. The aircraft came to a stop and the pilot vacated the aircraft unaided.



Figure 1
G-ELVN nose gear collapsed