

No: 5/89

Ref: EW/G89/02/04

Category:1c

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** Piper PA 18-150, G-BGWH

**No & Type of Engines:** 1 Lycoming O-320-A2B piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:** 1961

**Date and Time (UTC):** 4 February 1989 at 1620 hrs

**Location:** Clacton Airfield

**Type of Flight:** Pleasure

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

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

**Nature of Damage:** Damage to spinner, forward fuselage, right wing struts, right wing and right elevator

**Commander's Licence:** Private Pilot's Licence with IMC and Night Rating

**Commander's Age:** 34 years

**Commander's Total Flying Experience:** 1520 hours (of which 70 were on type)

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

Following a 35 minute local flight from Clacton airfield, the pilot rejoined the circuit downwind for runway 30 lefthand.

During the turn on to final approach, power was added briefly and the engine responded normally. The throttle was then closed for approximately 5 seconds. Power was then applied again, to correct a slight under-shoot but on this occasion the engine rpm did not increase at all and, despite the application of carburettor heat, the engine eventually stopped when the aircraft was at approximately 150 feet agl.

The pilot attempted to reach the runway, but the aircraft hit the boundary fence just short of the threshold, coming to rest on its nose on the runway threshold. There was no fire and the pilot was not injured.

Although the temperature and humidity at the time of the accident are not known, the pilot is of the opinion that the engine malfunction was probably caused by severe carburettor icing.