

Piper PA-28-161 Cherokee Warrior 11, G-BFNJ

AAIB Bulletin No: 8/2004	Ref: EW/G2004/05/12	Category: 1.3
Aircraft Type and Registration:	Piper PA-28-161 Cherokee Warrior 11, G-BFNJ	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming O-320-D3G piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1977	
Date & Time (UTC):	18 May 2004 at 1845 hrs	
Location:	Lee-on-Solent Airfield, Hampshire	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Damage to engine frame	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	53 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	144 hours (of which 37 were on type)	
	Last 90 days - 3 hours	
	Last 28 days - 0 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The aircraft had made two touch-and-go approaches on Runway 23 before making a final approach for a full-stop landing. After touchdown the aircraft initially tracked straight down the runway, but then swung violently to the right, the pilot being unable to prevent it from leaving the paved surface. The aircraft came to rest approximately 90 degrees from the runway heading.

The runway surface was dry and the wind at the time was estimated to be from 260° at 6 to 7 kt, with no significant weather. The pilot had not experienced directional control problems on either of the touch-and-go approaches and was not aware of any factor affecting the final approach and landing which could have contributed to the swing to the right.

On inspection, the aircraft was found to have suffered damage that was limited to the engine frame, probably caused when the aircraft crossed a shallow gully as it left the runway. The engine frame was replaced and a 50-hour check was then carried out on the aircraft. This identified no faults that could have affected the braking system and the aircraft was subsequently returned to service with no further reoccurrence to date.