No: 9/91 Ref: EW/G91/06/08 Category: 1c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Piper PA-28-151, G-BOSP

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-320-E3D piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1975

Date & Time (UTC): 10 June 1991 at 1120 hrs

Location: Andrewsfield (Saling) Aerodrome, Essex

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 2 Passengers - 1

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Nose leg and left wing

Commander's Licence: Commercial Pilot's Licence with Instrument

and Instructor ratings

Commander's Age: 30 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 2,050 hours (of which approximately 300 were on type)

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

further investigations carried out by AAIB

Before embarking on the first flight of the day, a trial lesson, the Instructor carried out a pre-flight check from the aircraft check list. Having satisfactorily completed this, the pilot, student and passenger entered the aircraft and the pre-flight checks were completed. The engine was started and the aircraft taxied to the hold of runway 27. The power checks and pre-take-off checks were completed and then the aircraft was lined up for departure. After applying full throttle the temperatures and pressures were in the green and the rpm was normal. The aircraft accelerated to take-off speed and was established in a normal climb, very soon after the engine lost power and a forced landing was executed on the remaining runway.

Maximum braking was not achieved due to the wet grass and a sharp left turn was attempted to avoid an earth bank; the aircraft struck the bank and the pilot, student and passenger were able to vacate the aircraft without injury.

The engineering organisation reported that no water was found in the fuel and that the engine was ground run satisfactorily. A subsequent engine strip failed to reveal a problem. However, the fuel

selector baulk spring was found to be missing, allowing the baulk lever to remain in the open position permitting the fuel to be selected off without a separate action to clear the baulk..

Power checks carried out with the fuel cock switched off showed that the engine cut after about half a minute at 1500 rpm.