

Grob G115, G-BOPU

AAIB Bulletin No: 12/99 **Ref:** EW/G99/08/29 **Category:** 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Grob G115, G-BOPU

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-235-H2C piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1988

Date & Time (UTC): 28 August 1999 at 1920 hrs

Location: Manchester (Barton) Airfield

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Broken propeller, engine shock loaded,
minor structural damage

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 71 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 130 hours (all on type)
Last 90 days - 7 hours
Last 28 days - 2 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot was returning to Manchester (Barton) Airfield after a local flight. The runway in use was Runway 27S which has a landing distance of 626 metres and is 33 metres wide. The grass surface was dry and firm. The meteorological conditions were CAVOK with a light wind from the north west; the surface temperature was +15°C. Once the pilot was established on the final approach he was aware of strong sunlight in the windscreen which caused him some considerable distraction since he was not wearing sunglasses. At approximately 300 feet he realised that he was to the left of the runway centreline and adjusted his flight path, but he over corrected and eventually touched down on the right edge of the runway.

The pilot reported that the initial touchdown was normal and that he then ran over one of the concrete slabs used to mark the runway edge. The slab was standing proud of the runway surface and he believes that this caused the aircraft to bounce back into the air. After a second bounce the nosewheel collapsed and the propeller shattered. Other witnesses describe the aircraft bouncing

immediately after the initial touchdown and then striking the ground with the nosewheel first which then collapsed.

The aircraft came to a halt on the runway. The airfield fire and rescue crew arrived promptly and assisted the pilot to vacate the aircraft. The pilot, who had been wearing a four-point harness, was uninjured.