

AAIB Bulletin No: 11/95

Ref: EW/G95/09/16

Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Piaggio FW P149D, G-BPWW

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming GO-480-B1A6 piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1959

Date & Time (UTC): 23 September 1995 at 1500 hrs

Location: Meppershall Airfield, Bedfordshire

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Propeller destroyed and engine shock loaded; minor damage to underside of fuselage

Commander's Licence: Commercial Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 56 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 2,975 hours (of which 130 were on type)
Last 90 days - 22 hours
Last 28 days - 4 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot had been airborne for 30 minutes and was practising glide approaches to a grass runway followed by a go-around. The weather was good with a crosswind of 10 kt to the landing direction of 200°. As he retarded the throttle for another glide approach, the gear warning horn was activated. However, the pilot was concentrating on achieving his target landing area and then, with the approach going particularly well, decided to land. In a very honest report the pilot acknowledged that he had become accustomed to the sound of the gear warning horn and, unfortunately, landed without lowering the landing gear.