**ACCIDENT** 

Aircraft Type and Registration: Cessna FRA150L Aerobat, G-BCFR

No & Type of Engines: 1 Continental Motors Corp O-240-A piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1974

**Date & Time (UTC):** 21 April 2010 at 1200 hrs

**Location:** Old Buckenham Airfield, Norfolk

**Type of Flight:** Private

**Persons on Board:** Crew - 1 Passengers - 1

**Injuries:** Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Nosewheel, propeller, engine frame and bulkhead

Commander's Licence: National Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 71 years

**Commander's Flying Experience:** 389 hours (of which 356 were on type)

Last 90 days - 8 hours Last 28 days - 7 hours

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

The aircraft took off from Earls Colne Airfield in Essex with the intention of flying to Old Buckenham. On the day of the accident, Old Buckenham was unlicensed and as such, no air-ground radio service was available. Despite this, during the approach, the pilot made attempts to contact the airfield to retrieve the airfield information. As no reply was received, two circuits were flown with a view to ascertain the wind direction which was judged to be variable.

The aircraft landed on Runway 25, a down-sloping runway with a dry asphalt surface and a landing distance available of 640 m. The pilot considered that the landing

was normal and stated that the aircraft touched down approximately one quarter length along the runway. After touchdown, braking was applied and the aircraft began to decelerate. However, the aircraft continued beyond the end of the runway, ran through an area of rough grass and came to rest in a field. Both the pilot and passenger were wearing full harnesses and were uninjured.

The pilot considered that a gusting tailwind increased the landing distance, leading to the aircraft departing the end of the runway.

© Crown copyright 2010 85