

Aircraft type and registration:	Jodel D 140 G-BHCI (light single engined fixed wing aircraft)	
Year of manufacture:	1960	
Date and time (GMT):	14 May 1983 at 1650 hrs	
Location:	Challock Aerodrome, Kent	
Type of flight:	Glider towing	
Persons on board:	Crew — 1	Passengers — Nil
Injuries:	Crew — Minor	Passengers — N/A
Nature of damage:	Substantial damage to starboard wing, fin, tailplane, undercarriage and engine mounting structure	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	50 years	
Commander's total flying experience:	480 hours powered flying (of which 75 hours were on type) 20 hours gliding	

The aircraft had taken off with a K8 glider in tow when, at a height of approximately 150 feet, the engine failed. The tug pilot released the glider and elected to turn right to avoid trees ahead and land downwind. There was some power recovery during the descent and turn but the right wing hit the ground during the manoeuvre and the aircraft landed heavily.

At impact the shoulder straps of the pilot's restraint harness became detached at their anchor points and the pilot received facial injuries.

The take off had been performed with the rear tank selected and an indication of more than one quarter full for that tank. The recorded outside air temperature was 8°C and the carburettor hot air control was set to "cold". The fuel being used was "Mogas" to BS 4040. This aircraft type, powered, as here, by a Lycoming O-360-A2A engine, has not been approved by the CAA for use with "Mogas".

Examination of the aircraft has failed to establish the cause of the loss of power.