

Cessna 182C, G-ARAW, 31 May 2000 at 1334 hrs

AAIB Bulletin No: 8/2000 **Ref: EW/G2000/05/22** **Category: 1.3**

Aircraft Type and Registration: Cessna 182C, G-ARAW

No & Type of Engines: 1 Continental Motors O-470-RCL piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1960

Date & Time (UTC): 31 May 2000 at 1334 hrs

Location: Prior Farm Strip, Partridge Green, West Sussex

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - 1

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Shock loading to engine and substantial damage to propeller, left wing leading edge and upper surface, right flap, left aileron and cabin floor

Commander's Licence: Commercial Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 70 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 12,300 hours (of which 450 were on type)

 Last 90 days - 6 hours

 Last 28 days - 6 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot was making an approach to Runway 26 at Priors Byne Farm, Partridge Green, West Sussex. The runway has a grass surface and is 640 metres in length. Crossing the runway approximately 70 metres from the 26 threshold are 2 (11kV) power cables 8 metres and 10 metres high respectively. The weather at the time was fine with good visibility and a surface wind of 180° to 190°/10 to 15 kt.

The pilot reported that, although he had allowed sufficient height on his approach to clear the obstructions, a sudden and unexpected wind shear caused the aircraft to sink and strike the cables. As it did so the propeller stopped and the aircraft rolled rapidly to the left. The pilot corrected for the roll but, due to the drag effect of the cables and the sudden loss of power, he was unable to prevent the aircraft impacting heavily on the nose and right main landing gear. The aircraft came to a halt some 200 metres from the cables where the pilot and passenger were able to vacate the aircraft uninjured via the normal exit.