

**ACCIDENT**

<b>Aircraft Type and Registration:</b>	Piper PA-18-150 (Modified) Super Cub, G-AWMF	
<b>No &amp; Type of Engines:</b>	1 Lycoming O-360-A3A piston engine	
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>	1968 (Serial no: 18-8674)	
<b>Date &amp; Time (UTC):</b>	18 May 2013 at 1450 hrs	
<b>Location:</b>	Wycombe Air Park, Buckinghamshire	
<b>Type of Flight:</b>	Private	
<b>Persons on Board:</b>	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
<b>Injuries:</b>	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
<b>Nature of Damage:</b>	Extensive airframe damage, local soil contaminated with fuel	
<b>Commander's Licence:</b>	National Private Pilot's Licence	
<b>Commander's Age:</b>	19 years	
<b>Commander's Flying Experience:</b>	257 hours (of which 109 were on type) Last 90 days - 14 hours Last 28 days - 8 hours	
<b>Information Source:</b>	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The aircraft was engaged on glider towing operations on the day of the accident. The weather was fine, with a light to moderate surface wind and good visibility. The aircraft had previously carried out ten consecutive glider tows before refuelling. The accident occurred on the third takeoff after refuelling.

Pre-takeoff checks were normal, including engine full-power checks. Shortly after takeoff, at a height of about 50 ft, there was a sudden vibration, which

was severe enough to prevent the pilot reading his instruments. The vibration then stopped, combined with a complete loss of engine power. The pilot jettisoned his glider and manoeuvred the aircraft for a forced landing in fields beyond the airfield boundary. The aircraft ran into a hedge and pitched nose-down, flipping over onto its back and coming to rest inverted. The pilot, who was wearing a full harness, was uninjured and was able to vacate through the aircraft's door. At the time of the report, the reason for the engine failure was awaited.