

# Robinson R44, G-WISP

**AAIB Bulletin No:** 10/99      **Ref:** EW/G99/08/12      **Category:** 2.3

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** Robinson R44, G-WISP

**No & Type of Engines:** 1 Lycoming O-540-F1B5 piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:** 1999

**Date & Time (UTC):** 12 August 1999 at 1115 hrs

**Location:** Ashe Ingen Court, Bridstow, Ross-on-Wye

**Type of Flight:** Private

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

**Injuries:** Crew - None - Passengers - 1 minor

**Nature of Damage:** Damage to main rotor blades and fuselage

**Commander's Licence:** Private Pilot's Licence (Helicopters)

**Commander's Age:** 52 years

**Commander's Flying Experience:** 342 hours (of which 75 were on type)  
Last 90 days - 41 hours  
Last 28 days - 12 hours

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

The helicopter was on a flight from Gloucestershire Airport to a private landing site at Ashe Ingen Court. The pilot had previously obtained prior permission and had obtained details about the landing site. Upon arrival, after orbiting the site, the pilot noted that there was a marked landing spot, which he approached and brought the helicopter to a low hover.

On closer inspection, the pilot judged that the marked spot was not appropriate and elected to hover taxi forwards to the north of the marked location towards what looked like an acceptable area. On touching down, the helicopter rocked back due to the sloping ground. The pilot applied corrective cyclic and collective controls. However, the helicopter lifted off and drifted forwards towards some bushes.

The main rotor struck the bushes, the helicopter descended and hit the ground. It then rolled over onto its right side. The pilot immediately switched off the electrics but could not immediately locate the fuel valve. There was no fire. The passenger evacuated the helicopter through the broken front left windscreen, followed by the pilot.

The pilot assessed that the accident was caused by an over correction on the flight controls which produced unplanned forward movement of the helicopter.

