

Robinson R44, G-CBXX

AAIB Bulletin No: 8/2004	Ref: EW/G2004/05/04	Category: 2.3
Aircraft Type and Registration:	Robinson R44, G-CBXX	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming O-540-F1B5 piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	2002	
Date & Time (UTC):	8 May 2004 at 1530 hrs	
Location:	Near Conlig, Bangor, Northern Ireland	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Severe damage	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	56 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	280 hours (all on type)	
	Last 90 days - 4 hours	
	Last 28 days - 3 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

Following an uneventful flight of about 10 minutes with one passenger, the pilot landed in a northerly direction on a level field on his farm to allow the passenger to disembark. The weather was good with a northerly surface wind of approximately 5 kt. The pilot in the front right seat maintained a constant cyclic position while the passenger got out of the front left seat and cleared the helicopter to the front. Once he was clear, the pilot applied collective and lifted into the hover. Almost immediately, he was aware that the cyclic control was almost fully forward and seemed very "light". The aircraft began to oscillate in pitch. Unable to control this movement, the pilot's priority was to land and this resulted in a hard landing, following which the helicopter rolled onto its side. No defect with the control system could subsequently be identified, although the disruption to the controls from the impact was severe.