

Cessna T303 Crusader, G-PUSI

AAIB Bulletin No: 11/2004	Ref: EW/G2004/08/11	Category: 1.2
Aircraft Type and Registration:	Cessna T303 Crusader, G-PUSI	
No & Type of Engines:	2 Continental TSIO-520-AE piston engines	
Year of Manufacture:	1983	
Date & Time (UTC):	21 August 2004 at 0950 hrs	
Location:	Newmarket Racecourse, Suffolk	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - 1
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - None
Nature of Damage:	Propellers bent and flaps damaged	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	65 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	4,030 hours (of which 1,800 were on type)	
	Last 90 days - 38 hours	
	Last 28 days - 33 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The pilot was intending to make a normal takeoff from grass Runway 32 at Newmarket. Immediately after lift-off the pilot felt what he believed to be engine vibration and possible desynchronisation of the engines. The aircraft at this point had not reached minimum single engine manoeuvring (blue line) speed. There was however, sufficient runway length remaining ahead of the aircraft and with rising ground at the far end of the airfield the pilot decided to land straight ahead. On touchdown he realised that he had retracted the landing gear during the initial take-off phase and not lowered it again. The aircraft slid on its belly for approximately 100 metres before coming to rest. Both the pilot and passenger were able to vacate the aircraft without injury.