

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Tri-R Kis Cruiser, G-BYZD	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming IO-360-A1B6 piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	2001	
Date & Time (UTC):	4 July 2008 at 1035 hrs	
Location:	Near Upfield Farm, Whitson, Gwent	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - 1
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - None
Nature of Damage:	Aircraft destroyed	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	55 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	340 hours (of which 18 were on type) Last 90 days - 16 hours Last 28 days - 2 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

Synopsis

After a precautionary touchdown at his departure airstrip, due to suspicions about engine performance, the pilot decided to continue into a rolling takeoff. During initial climbout the engine suffered a loss of power and, in the subsequent forced landing, the aircraft hit a tree before impacting the ground. The pilot and passenger were uninjured but the aircraft was destroyed by fire.

History of the flight

The pilot intended to fly to Filton airfield, Bristol. On the morning of the flight he conducted a comprehensive check of the aircraft, including fuel drains and physically checking fuel contents. The gauge readings of 65 litres (right tank) and 55 litres (left tank) agreed

with the visual check. The internal checks were all normal, the engine temperatures and pressures were within the normal operating range and the propeller was cycled. An uneventful takeoff with one stage of flap was executed.

However, on the climbout, the pilot sensed that the aircraft was climbing somewhat slower than usual and, since he would be crossing the Bristol Channel, he decided it would be prudent to return to the airstrip for further investigation even though all engine parameters were normal. A normal approach and line-up on Runway 23 was carried out, followed by a successful touchdown. During the extended ground roll the pilot decided to do a go-around with one stage

of flap selected. The pilot reports that during the climbout there was a significant loss of power and the aircraft descended. In order to avoid the hangars and other buildings, the pilot took avoiding action which resulted in the left wing hitting a tree, spinning the aircraft through 180° as it fell to the ground tail-first.

Despite the fact that the aircraft burst into flames immediately, the pilot and passenger were able to evacuate without injury but the aircraft was consumed by fire. Because of the severity of the fire, no attempt has been made to diagnose the reason for the loss of power.