

**No: 5/91**                      **Ref: EW/G91/03/06**                      **Category: 1c**

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** Cessna 140A, G-BOCI  
**No & Type of Engines:** 1 Continental C90-12F piston engine  
**Year of Manufacture:** 1950  
**Date and Time (UTC):** 13 March 1991 at 1420 hrs  
**Location:** North Morton, Oxfordshire  
**Type of Flight:** Private  
**Persons on Board:** Crew - 1                      Passengers - None  
**Injuries:** Crew - None                      Passengers - N/A  
**Nature of Damage:** Damage to right wing, empennage, and engine mounting  
**Commander's Licence:** Private Pilot's Licence with Instructor rating  
**Commander's Age:** 36 years  
**Commander's Total Flying Experience:** 2,652 hours (of which 12 were on type)  
**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and telephone enquires by the AAIB

Prior to embarking on this flight, the intention of which was to position the aircraft to Wycombe Air Park so that work for the issue of a C of A could be carried out, the pilot reported that he carried out a full pre-flight inspection, including a drain check of the fuel tanks, and a full ground run of the engine. However shortly after take-off the engine suffered a partial loss of power, with the RPM reducing to 1800/2000. The pilot reported that he was then just able to maintain level flight by reducing airspeed to just above the stall and lowering the first stage of flap. The ground directly in front of the aircraft was unsuitable for a forced landing and so a gentle right turn was carried out with the intention of possibly landing back on the airfield. After turning through approximately 190°, and at a height of 150-200 feet, the engine stopped completely. The aircraft was landed successfully in a field in a three point attitude, but after a short ground roll, it ran into an area of mud and 'nosed over' onto its back. The pilot, who was wearing a lap and diagonal restraint, was uninjured and was able to make his escape unaided.

The aircraft was examined after the accident by the owner and maintenance personnel who reportedly discovered no basic faults with the engine or fuel system. It is intended to carry out an engine run at some time in the near future.

The weather at the time was reported as nil wind, +14°C, CAVOK and with 1 okta of cumulus at 4/5000 feet and thus the possibility of carburettor icing would have been unlikely.

The aircraft owner pointed out that one of the faults that was to be investigated during the C of A renewal was that, very occasionally, the engine would stop. This had occurred on two occasions previously on the ground and once in the air, whilst at low power. It had been considered at the time that an 'over-rich' mixture was the most likely cause of these occurrences.

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Injuries:	Crew None Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Damage to right wing, empennage, and engine mounting
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence with instructor rating
Commander's Age:	36 years
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