

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Piper PA-28R-180 Cherokee Arrow, G-CSWH	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming IO-360-B1E piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1968	
Date & Time (UTC):	19 February 2010 at 1442 hrs	
Location:	Abbots Bromley, Staffordshire	
Type of Flight:	Training	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - 1
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - None
Nature of Damage:	Damage to undercarriage and right wing detached	
Commander's Licence:	Airline Transport Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	45 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	10,500 hours (of which 22 were on type) Last 90 days - 81 hours Last 28 days - 40 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The pilot intended to take off from Runway 22 at Abbots Bromley. The grass runway is 680 m long and is upsloping either side of the centre. The runway surface was reportedly firm and covered with 1 to 2 cm of snow from a recent shower; the aircraft itself was free of snow. The initial acceleration appeared normal and the aircraft lifted off approximately halfway along the runway. It immediately drifted to the left, which the pilot corrected. It then touched down twice on the now upsloping runway. It failed to climb and passed through two hedges before coming to rest in a field with its right wing detached. Neither occupant was injured and both vacated the aircraft through the main door.

The pilot reported that the airfield's black windsock was difficult to see and that after the accident the wind direction appeared to have changed, perhaps as a result of the recent shower. He also considered that the additional drag of the snow on the runway may have reduced the aircraft's acceleration. His decision to continue with the takeoff was partly influenced by the fact that the aircraft did not have brake pedals fitted to the right hand seat position from which he was flying.