

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Cessna 152, G-BONW
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming O-235-L2C piston engine
Year of Manufacture:	1978 (Serial no: 152-80401)
Date & Time (UTC):	13 April 2014 at 1503 hrs
Location:	Sturgate Aerodrome, Lincolnshire
Type of Flight:	Private
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1 Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Damage to nosewheel and bearing
Commander's Licence:	National Private Pilot's Licence
Commander's Age:	86 years
Commander's Flying Experience:	605 hours (of which 228 were on type) Last 90 days - 4 hours Last 28 days - 1 hour
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

Prior to the flight, the pilot was briefed by the aero club duty pilot that the wind at the airfield had been recorded gusting up to 20 kt, but appeared to have subsided. During the subsequent flight, the pilot experienced blustery and unstable flying conditions. In the later stages of his approach to land back at the airfield, the pilot reported experiencing significant turbulence and at approximately four feet above the runway, the aircraft "dropped to the ground without warning" resulting in a heavy landing. As the pilot taxied back to the parking area, the aircraft appeared to operate normally. However, closer inspection of the nosewheel after shutdown identified damage to the wheel and bearing.