

Robinson R22 Beta, G-HVRS

AAIB Bulletin No: 10/98 **Ref: EW/98/07/24 Category: 2.3**

Aircraft Type and Registration: Robinson R22 Beta, G-HVRS

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-320-B2C piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1989

Date & Time (UTC): 19 July 1998 at 1050 hrs

Location: RAF Church Fenton, North Yorks

Type of Flight: Private (Training)

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - Minor - Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Aircraft damaged beyond economic repair

Commander's Licence: Student

Commander's Age: 50 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 34 hours (of which 1 was on type)
Last 90 days - 0 hours
Last 28 days - 0 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The student pilot was undergoing training for the award of a Private Pilot's Licence (Helicopters). On the morning of the accident he had successfully completed his first solo in ideal weather conditions. His instructor then briefed him for a further three circuits. On the second of these the pilot was approaching the hover when he inadvertently deselected the rotor RPM governor. The illumination of the governor warning light distracted the pilot as he entered the hover and the right skid dug into the ground causing the helicopter to roll over.

The pilot's flying instructor stated that the student had previously undertaken two sessions of 'governor-out flying' but that the apparent failure of the governor at a critical stage of flight was sufficient distraction to cause the student pilot to lose precise control of his helicopter.