

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Cvjetkovic CA-65 Skyfly, G-CFVJ	
No & Type of Engines:	1 NSI Propulsion Systems EA81 piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	2013 (Serial no: PFA 233-14129)	
Date & Time (UTC):	31 August 2014 at 1120 hrs	
Location:	Chavenage Airfield, Gloucestershire	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Propeller, pitot head, right aileron mass balance arm, belly flap and small area of ply skin on left wingtip damaged	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	74 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	2,167 hours (of which 27 were on type) Last 90 days - 23 hours Last 28 days - 7 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

After takeoff the pilot raised the landing gear. Doing so in this aircraft involved selecting the undercarriage lever to the UP position then manually operating a ratchet handle. A short while later the pilot noticed that the selector lever on the undercarriage ratchet handle had become disconnected and had fallen beneath the floor of the aircraft where it was no longer accessible in flight. He was now unable to lower the landing gear. The pilot flew for a while to reduce fuel and then carried out a 'wheels up' landing on the grass strip. He was unhurt and vacated the aircraft normally. There was no fire.