SERIOUS INCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	XA42, G-XTME	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming AEIO-580-B1A piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	2011 (Serial no: 110)	
Date & Time (UTC):	10 June 2015 at 0915 hrs	
Location:	White Waltham Airfield, Berkshire	
Type of Flight:	Aerial work	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - 1
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - None
Nature of Damage:	Canopy destroyed and minor damage to stabilisers	
Commander's Licence:	Commercial Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	66 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	7,264 hours (of which 82 were on type) Last 90 days - 65 hours Last 28 days - 24 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

Shortly after takeoff from Runway 03 at White Waltham Airfield, passing 400 ft agl, the one piece bubble canopy opened and was torn off by the slipstream. The pilot flew a modified circuit and landed on Runway 07 without further incident. Neither occupant was injured. The canopy was recovered from the airfield, but had been destroyed.

Both occupants of the aircraft believed, before takeoff, that the canopy was closed. However, the pilot considered that the canopy opened in flight because it was not properly secured, despite appearances. He reported that he would be conducting more robust canopy security checks in the future.

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