ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Tipsy Nipper T.66 Series 2, G-NIPS
No & Type of Engines:	1 Revmaster 2100D piston engine
Year of Manufacture:	1960 (Serial no: 36)
Date & Time (UTC):	14 July 2015 at 1336 hrs
Location:	West Tisted, Hampshire
Type of Flight:	Private
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1 Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - 1 (Serious) Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Damage to landing gear and fuselage
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence
Commander's Age:	69 years
Commander's Flying Experience:	2,500 hours (of which 20 were on type) Last 90 days - 27 hours Last 28 days - 14 hours
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot was flying at 1,000 ft when he noticed an unusual rattling noise from the engine. He began a diversion to West Tisted Airstrip but, when he was approximately one mile away, there was a loud bang and the engine stopped.

The pilot found the area did not contain a good choice of fields for a forced landing and he selected what appeared to be a ploughed field as the least-worst option. Having recognised that the aircraft might invert on landing, he arranged his approach so that the aircraft passed close to a farm tractor, in the hope of alerting the driver to his presence. The field contained a brown coloured standing crop and, as the aircraft touched down, it inverted immediately. The pilot sustained spinal injuries and was trapped in the aircraft. However, he was rescued by farm staff righting the aircraft before the emergency services arrived. There was no fire.

The pilot reported that the engine was significantly damaged internally, making it difficult to determine which component initiated the failure. However, it appeared to have been caused by a broken valve fouling a piston, which then failed.

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