

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Pioneer 300 Pioneer, G-RABS	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Rotax 912 ULS piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	2006 (Serial no: PFA 330-14563)	
Date & Time (UTC):	11 November 2018 at 1105 hrs	
Location:	Strathaven Airfield, South Lanarkshire	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Propeller and nose landing gear damage plus minor damage to lower cowlings and firewall	
Commander's Licence:	Light Aircraft Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	75 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	1,011 hours (of which 462 were on type) Last 90 days - 7 hours Last 28 days - 2 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The pilot had taken off from Strathaven Airfield for a local flight. Shortly after getting airborne the weather started to deteriorate, and the pilot decided to return to the airfield to land on grass Runway 09. The outside air temperature was about 8°C and light rain.

During the final stages of the approach the pilot selected the cabin heat ON. Shortly after, the inside of the windshield rapidly misted up, obscuring the pilots forward view. The pilot subsequently misjudged the flare and the aircraft landed heavily, causing the nose gear to collapse and the propeller to strike the runway. The aircraft came to a stop shortly after on the runway. The pilot was uninjured.

The pilot considered that the late application of cabin heat had most likely caused warm moist air within the cockpit to condense on the windscreen.