

## ACCIDENT

<b>Aircraft Type and Registration:</b>	Robinson R22 Beta, G-MACA
<b>No &amp; Type of Engines:</b>	1 Lycoming O-360-J2A piston engine
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>	2005 (Serial no: 3836)
<b>Date &amp; Time (UTC):</b>	13 September 2018 at 13:40 hrs
<b>Location:</b>	Gregston House, Haighton, Lancashire
<b>Type of Flight:</b>	Private
<b>Persons on Board:</b>	Crew - 1                      Passengers - 1
<b>Injuries:</b>	Crew - Minor                Passengers - Minor
<b>Nature of Damage:</b>	Main rotors and fuselage severely damaged
<b>Commander's Licence:</b>	Private Pilot's Licence
<b>Commander's Age:</b>	56 years
<b>Commander's Flying Experience:</b>	135 hours (of which 135 were on type) Last 90 days - 2 hours Last 28 days - 1 hour
<b>Information Source:</b>	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

## Synopsis

While in a hover at about 9 ft, the pilot reports that the helicopter was struck by a gust of wind and he was unable to correct the resulting roll before the left landing skid struck the ground.

## History of the flight

The pilot had flown the helicopter to a friend's house with the intention of landing in its grounds, which he had done on several previous occasions. The helicopter was brought to a low hover in a field adjacent to the house, the pilot then hover taxied it over a low fence into the grounds and landed.

The pilot had then intended to shut down the helicopter but the owner of the property, who had come onto the patio of the house, gave the pilot a 'thumbs up' signal followed by a signal to take off. The pilot applied collective and the helicopter rose into a ground effect hover where he confirmed that the engine was performing normally. The helicopter then rose to a height of about 9 ft and the pilot initiated a pedal turn to the left in preparation for departure. The pilot reports that as the helicopter turned it was struck by a large gust of wind from the right, which caused the helicopter to roll rapidly to the left. The pilot was unable to correct the roll, despite his control inputs, before the left landing skid struck the ground, followed by the main rotor blades. The helicopter came to rest on its side. Both occupants suffered minor injuries and were assisted from the helicopter by the owner of the house.