

Serious Incident

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Piper PA-28-140, G-AWBG	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming O-320-E2A piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1968 (Serial no: 28-24286)	
Date & Time (UTC):	22 April 2024 at 1150 hrs	
Location:	Perth Airport, Perthshire	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Propeller strike	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	62 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	328 hours (of which 206 were on type) Last 90 days - 2 hours Last 28 days - 0 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

During preparation for a flight, the pilot removed the aircraft from the hangar with the assistance of another individual which required attaching a towbar to the nosewheel. Once the aircraft was out of the hangar, the pilot engaged in discussion with the individual and forgot to remove the towbar.

He then taxied to the runway and took off with the towbar still attached. The tower informed the pilot on the radio and then recovered the towbar which had detached during the takeoff. The aircraft landed without incident and subsequent inspection showed a propeller strike.

The pilot considered he became distracted during the preparation of the aircraft for takeoff and stated that he normally placed the towbar on the wing by the door after use. He stated that he planned to add a note on his checklist to remove the towbar to help prevent future recurrence.