

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** Robinson R22 Beta, G-ZIGG

**No & Type of Engines:** 1 Lycoming O-320-B2C piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:** 1990

**Date & Time (UTC):** 29 October 1994 at 1600 hrs

**Location:** Beamsley near Leeds, Bradford

**Type of Flight:** Private

**Persons on Board:** Crew - 1 Passengers - None

**Injuries:** Crew - None Passengers - N/A

**Nature of Damage:** Minor to rear skid support cross tube

**Commander's Licence:** Private Pilot's Licence

**Commander's Age:** 54 years

**Commander's Flying Experience:** 61 hours (of which 59 were on type)  
Last 90 days - 56 hours  
Last 28 days - 48 hours

**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The helicopter was on a private flight from Coney Park to a private landing site at Beamsley near Ilkley, West Yorkshire where the pilot was to meet a colleague. The weather conditions were calm with a visibility of 6 km and a cloudbase above 1,000 feet.

The pilot made a constant angle approach into the field and brought the helicopter to the hover at approximately 4 to 6 feet above the ground. As he did so he realised that he had forgotten to select the carburettor heat to 'OFF'. As he removed his hand from the collective lever in order to make the selection the helicopter descended and landed heavily with the rear of the left skid making first contact with the ground. The pilot shut down the engine to await the colleague's arrival. The colleague, however, did not arrive as planned so the pilot started-up and returned to base unaware of the damage caused. The subsequent landing was made without incident.

The pilot assessed the cause of the accident as being due to the fact that he should not have removed his hand from the collective lever, to select the carburettor heat to 'OFF', during such a critical phase of flight.