

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	X'air 133(1), G-CWAL	
No & Type of Engines:	1	Verner 133M piston engine
Year of Manufacture:	2004 (Serial no: BMAA/HB/339)	
Date & Time (UTC):	27 August 2013 at 0940 hrs	
Location:	Farmer's field approx 2 miles north of Kilkeel, County Down	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - 1
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - None
Nature of Damage:	Damaged beyond economic repair	
Commander's Licence:	National Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	58 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	153 hours (of which 94 were on type) Last 90 days - 11 hours Last 28 days - 1 hour	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

Approximately 15 minutes into an uneventful flight, the engine started to make a loud, unusual noise and lost power. The pilot managed to use the limited power available to position the aircraft for a landing in the only suitable field in the immediate vicinity. The field was approximately 200 m long and 100 m wide, and bounded by a 2 m high dry stone wall. Electrical overhead cables ran diagonally across the field in which a herd of cows was grazing. During the landing, both mainwheels broke off the stub axles.

Following the accident the owner found a large number of small fragments of metal in the oil drained from the engine sump and assessed that the loss of power was probably due to an internal mechanical failure. At the time of the accident the aircraft and engine had flown approximately 137 hours. The damage to the landing gear and bends in the main fuselage tube wing spars were consistent with the aircraft having landed heavy. The damage to the aircraft was assessed as beyond economic repair.