

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Jabiru J430, G-HJZN	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Jabiru Aircraft PTY 3300A piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	2012 (Serial no: LAA 336-15049)	
Date & Time (UTC):	30 June 2012 at 1551 hrs	
Location:	Kenyon Hall Airstrip, Cheshire	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - 1
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - None
Nature of Damage:	Damage to wings, engine mounts and nose landing gear	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	72 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	2,566 hours (of which 50 were on type) Last 90 days - 30 hours Last 28 days - 12 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

Summary

The aircraft drifted to its left after takeoff and the left wing struck trees adjacent to the airstrip. The aircraft yawed rapidly left into the tree line. Neither occupant was injured.

History of the flight

The pilot had flown to the airstrip at Kenyon Hall from Barton airfield (City Airport Manchester) on the morning of the accident with two passengers on board. Over the next few hours he flew G-HJZN three times from the strip with various other members of his flying club as passengers. The grass airstrip is 580 m long by 30 m wide and orientated 05/23. The weather on the day was showery, with a light surface wind, generally from the south-west.

The wind was calm for his final departure and the pilot opted for takeoff in the north-easterly direction. The pilot and one passenger were on board. The aircraft became airborne before the halfway point but, soon after liftoff, drifted to the left towards a line of trees. The pilot banked to the right to correct, but the left wing struck the trees, causing the aircraft to yaw rapidly left into the tree line. The aircraft came to rest approximately 45° nose-down in a ditch, resting on crushed tree branches. The cockpit area sustained damage when a tree branch broke the windscreen, but the two occupants, who were uninjured, were able to vacate the aircraft through their respective doors. The emergency services subsequently attended, and each occupant was examined by ambulance staff.

The pilot thought the aircraft may have been subject to an unexpected wind variation which had led to the flight path deviation soon after liftoff.