

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Mainair Blade 912, G-MZGI
No & Type of Engines:	1 Rotax 912-UL piston engine
Year of Manufacture:	1997 (Serial no: 1117-0397-7-W920)
Date & Time (UTC):	20 August 2013 at 1945 hrs
Location:	Private airstrip, Rhoshirwaen, Gwynedd
Type of Flight:	Private
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1 Passengers - 1
Injuries:	Crew - 1 (Serious) Passengers - None
Nature of Damage:	Substantial damage to all parts of the airframe
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence
Commander's Age:	58 years
Commander's Flying Experience:	122 hours (of which 98 were on type) Last 90 days - 9 hours Last 28 days - 2 hours
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft was landing back at the private strip after a pleasure flight of two hours. The pilot states that, when he had taken off, the wind was south-south-westerly at about 10 mph. However, when he returned the wind was gusting to approximately 25 mph and was variable in direction to the extent that he saw the windsock swing through 180° at one point. There were two runways available to him – one oriented NE/SW and 360 ft long and one oriented NW/SE and 555 ft long. He considered that the wind conditions rendered the short runway unsuitable so he made an approach to the longer, south-easterly runway. He aborted this approach and tried again in the opposite direction but this time he states that a sudden change in the wind strength caused the aircraft to sink and strike a barbed wire fence with the nosewheel.

The fence brought the aircraft to a very rapid halt and it struck the ground in a nose-down attitude. The pilot was taken to hospital with a broken arm but the passenger was uninjured.