

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Samba XLA, EI-JIM	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Jabiru 330 piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	2006	
Date & Time (UTC):	18 August 2012 at 1330 hrs	
Location:	Chatteris Airfield, Cambridgeshire	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - 1
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - None
Nature of Damage:	Damage to landing gear, wings and tailplane	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	55 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	1,172 hours (of which 498 were on type) Last 90 days - 23 hours Last 28 days - 18 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The aircraft, which was visiting from Ireland, flew from Duxford to Chatteris with the pilot and a passenger on board. The weather was fine, with a surface wind at Chatteris estimated at 230° at 4 kt. When the pilot contacted the airfield by telephone beforehand, he was informed that it was a busy parachuting airfield, given a frequency to call on arrival, and advised to consult a flight guide for airfield information.

On arrival at Chatteris, the pilot made radio contact with a parachute jump aircraft and delayed his join until being informed that all parachutists had landed. The pilot positioned for landing on the grass Runway 23,

which was listed in a commercial flight guide as being 11 m wide. Just before touchdown, the aircraft's right wing contacted vegetation to the right of the runway, causing it to yaw through 180° and depart the runway about 200 m from the threshold. In his report, the pilot stated that the wing had struck vegetation over 1 m high, and that the runway strip was in fact only mowed to a width of about 6 m. The aircraft has a low-wing configuration of 10 m span.