

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Jodel D117, G-AWWI	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Continental Motors C90-14F piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1957 (Serial no: 728)	
Date & Time (UTC):	14 October 2012 at 1615 hrs	
Location:	Rhigos Airfield, 7 nm west of Merthyr Tydfil, South Wales	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Damage to propeller, forward fuselage, cockpit and frame, and crack to fuselage aft of cockpit	
Commander's Licence:	National Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	71 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	757 hours (of which 73 were on type) Last 90 days - 14 hours Last 28 days - 8 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The aircraft was landing at Rhigos Airfield, a site used primarily for gliding activities with a single gravel runway about 730 m long and 6 m wide. The runway was orientated 08/26. Weather conditions were good, with an estimated surface wind from 300° at 4 kt.

The pilot flew a normal approach and touchdown in the easterly direction but, after a short ground roll, the left main wheel contacted the grass verge, causing the aircraft to deviate to the left and to leave the runway.

The ground was soft after recent heavy rain and the main wheels sank in, creating furrows. Although the aircraft was by this time heading back towards the runway and slowing down, the main wheels encountered softer ground and dug in, causing the aircraft to pitch forward and come to rest inverted. The canopy frame was crushed, but the pilot was able to release himself from his harness and vacate the aircraft through the passenger door after making switches safe.