

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Mainair Scorchers, G-MVBE	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Rotax 503 piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1988	
Date & Time (UTC):	2 July 2011 at 1730 hrs	
Location:	Seaville, Cumbria	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - 1 (Serious)	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Aircraft destroyed	
Commander's Licence:	National Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	58 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	65 hours (of which 65 were on type) Last 90 days - 2 hours Last 28 days - 1 hour	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The pilot was returning from a local flight to land at a private grass airstrip near Seaville. The airstrip has a single 180 m runway on a heading of approximately 260°/080° and bounded by a hedge. The pilot had landed at the airstrip before, but had previously joined overhead before flying a circuit to position for landing. On this occasion he positioned the aircraft onto a long final approach for Runway 26 from an altitude of about 3,000 ft and about 6 nm from the runway. As he passed the position where he would normally turn from base leg onto the final approach, he realised that he was

lower than normal, but considered that the approach path was still acceptable. As the aircraft overflew the airstrip boundary the undercarriage struck the hedge and the aircraft impacted the ground heavily. The pilot suffered serious injuries and was airlifted to hospital. The aircraft was damaged beyond economic repair.

The pilot stated that, when realising that he was below his normal descent path, he should have carried out a go-around.