## ACCIDENT

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** Mainair Blade 912, G-CBGY

No & type of Engines: 1 Rotax 912-UL piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 2002

**Date & Time (UTC):** 23 April 2006 at 1741 hrs

**Location:** New Mixon Hay Farm, Onecote, Leek, Staffordshire

**Type of Flight:** Private

**Persons on Board:** Crew - 1 Passengers - 1

**Injuries:** Crew - 1 (Serious) Passengers - 1 (Serious)

Nature of Damage: Trike and wing severely damaged

Commander's Licence: National Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 47 years

**Commander's Flying Experience:** 127 hours (of which 127 were on type)

Last 90 days - 4 hours Last 28 days - 4 hours

**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

## **Synopsis**

Whilst attempting an unplanned landing at a farm strip, the pilot lost control in a strong gusting crosswind and struck a stone wall.

## History of the flight

The aircraft was on a local flight from Calton Moor airstrip with a planned duration of one and a half hours, remaining within about 20 miles of the departure airfield. On the return leg, the pilot decided to land at New Mixon Hay Farm strip, partly for a toilet break and also because he had spotted an interesting aircraft on the ground there. The pilot knew the owner of the strip, had performed several touch-and-go landings there in the past and remembered that the strip, marked 34, was

often cross-wind and had a steep rise in the first section. Accordingly, he intended to land just past this point.

The approach was normal and stable until, at a height of about 50 feet, the left wing dipped violently. The pilot recalls trying to level the wings and applying power, but this was his last clear recollection before regaining consciousness to find that the aircraft had struck a dry stone wall and that he had a broken leg. His passenger had suffered two broken ankles and a broken arm. There were no witnesses to the accident and his passenger remembered even less than he, but the pilot believes they had struck the ground and bounced into the wall. The emergency services, including an

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air ambulance, attended and the two occupants were evacuated to hospital.

In the pilot's opinion, the accident was caused by a strong gusting cross-wind and disturbed air, coupled with his relative inexperience in these conditions. By his own admission, his decision to continue was unwise, bearing in mind that he did not have to land at that strip.

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