No: 7/90  Ref: EW/G90/04/14  Category: 1c

Aircraft Type and Registration:  Pazmany PL-4A, G-PAZY
No & Type of Engines:  1 Continental A65 piston engine
Year of Manufacture:  1986
Date and Time (UTC):  23 April 1990 at 1616 hrs
Location:  Stowford, North Devon
Type of Flight:  Private
Persons on Board:  Crew - 1  Passengers - None
Injuries:  Crew - None  Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:  Major damage to nose, wings, landing gear and right hand horizontal stabiliser
Commander's Licence:  Private Pilot's Licence
Commander's Age:  55 years
Commander's Total Flying Experience:  138 hours (of which 4 were on type)
Information Source:  Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot was operating from a field adjacent to his property. Although the wind was light from the northeast, he was landing in a southwesterly direction where the upward slope of the field would reduce his landing roll. Having completed two take-offs and landings he found that his third approach to the field was slightly high and fast. He therefore decided to go around following touch-down. He applied full power, checked his instruments and upon looking up found that he was blinded by the sun. He flew under a low set of wires some 15 metres from the end of the field. He attempted to establish his position by reference to a point where he had parked his car under an electricity pole and, unable to see his car, he turned right and struck the pole with the nose of the aircraft. The pole snapped in two and the aircraft came to rest upright in the next field.

The pilot's full harness had restrained him and there was no fire. The pilot, who was not wearing sunglasses, attributes his inability to see and avoid the electricity pole to the blinding glare of the sun.