

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Vans RV-12, G-CMKL	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Rotax 912 ULS piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	2015 (Serial no: LAA 363-15252)	
Date & Time (UTC):	28 October 2018 at 1600 hrs	
Location:	Midlem Airfield, near Selkirk	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Propeller strike and bent nose landing gear leg	
Commander's Licence:	Light Aircraft Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	66 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	734 hours (of which 2 were on type) Last 90 days - 20 hours Last 28 days - 15 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The aircraft was landing on Runway 06 at Midlem Airfield in good weather conditions after its maiden flight. During the landing roll, the aircraft drifted to the left due to the downslope across the runway. It departed the runway and came to rest in a shallow ditch. The propeller struck the ground, shock loading the engine and the nose landing gear leg was bent. The pilot was uninjured and able to vacate the aircraft unaided through the normal exit.

The pilot candidly made the following assessment to highlight what he considers are the safety lessons which could help prevent a similar accident:

- “1/ I should have made myself aware of the dangers of running off the main runway, i.e. ditches;
- 2/ Despite extensive taxi trials, I underestimated the effect of the sloping runway on landing;
- 3/ On reflection I should have been more aggressive on the brakes at touchdown;
- 4/ Knowing I was a touch fast, should have gone around.”