

AAIB Bulletin No: 12/93

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Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Jodel D112, G-BHFF

No & Type of Engines: 1 Continental A65-8 piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1955

Date & Time (UTC): 3 October 1993 at 1315 hrs

Location: RAF Mona, Gwynedd, Wales

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - None Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Left and right wings torn off, propeller broken and right undercarriage damaged

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 58 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 412 hours (of which 298 were on type)
Last 90 days - 23 hours
Last 28 days - 4 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

During a VFR flight from Knockin, the pilot decided to land at Mona; the weather was good with the surface wind westerly at 5 kt. After lunch the pilot was advised that a weather front was approaching and he prepared his aircraft for the return flight. It was his normal practice to bring his own wheel chocks with him but on this occasion he had not done so since he had not originally planned to land away. However, his aircraft was parked on the grass and he chocked it with 2 large pieces of brick which were nearby. He then primed the engine and tried to start it by swinging the propeller; the engine fired but then stopped. Thinking that he had possibly overprimed the engine the pilot decided to carry out the 'blowing out' procedure. This involved switching off the magnetos, opening the throttle and rotating the engine by hand. During this procedure he was distracted by 2 bystanders who offered assistance and asked questions about the aircraft. The pilot stated that this distraction caused him to lose concentration and, when he subsequently switched the magnetos on he omitted to close the throttle. On the first swing of the propeller the engine fired and the RPM rapidly increased; the left wheel began to move and the pilot immediately ran to and took hold of the right wingtip. This caused the aircraft to rotate around him with increasing speed. Onlookers came to assist but unfortunately one was hit by the left wing and knocked to the ground; fortunately he was only wounded. Eventually the

pilot lost his grip and the aircraft set off across the grass; both wings were torn off when the aircraft went through a gap between a building and a large metal container, and the fuselage came to rest tail high against a building.

The pilot stated that in future, when he reads articles in GASIL he will never assume that it won't happen to him.