Rans S6-ES, G-CCDC

AAIB Bulletin No: 3/2004	Ref: EW/G2004/01/02	Category: 1.4
INCIDENT		
Aircraft Type and Registration:	Rans S6-ES, G-CCDC	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Rotax 582 piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	2003	
Date & Time (UTC):	3 January 2004 at 1230 hrs	
Location:	Inglenook Farm, Kent	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - 1
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - None
Nature of Damage:	Both wing tips and cowling damaged, nose leg broken off and propeller shattered	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	45 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	400 hours (of which 41 were on type)	
	Last 90 days - 18 hours	
	Last 28 days - 13 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The pilot's intention was to fly the aircraft from a private airstrip at Inglenook Farm, Kent to Stapleford, Essex. Following re-fuelling and a satisfactory daily inspection, the aircraft was prepared for a takeoff from Runway 09, as obstacles prevented the use of Runway 27 for takeoff. The pilot estimated the wind to be from 270° at 0-5 kt, which resulted in a tail wind. The initial stages of the take-off run were normal but, at rotation, the aircraft suddenly yawed to the right. This took the pilot by surprise and, suspecting a failure of the landing gear, he attempted to takeoff. As the aircraft had not quite reached the air speed needed to become airborne, the right wing tip then struck the ground and this caused the aircraft to spin round through 180°, resulting in damage to the nose landing gear, the left wing tip and propeller. After it came to a halt, the pilot and passenger exited the aircraft normally. They were both wearing lap strap and diagonal harnesses and were uninjured in the accident.

Subsequent inspection of the aircraft revealed a large split in the right main landing gear tubeless tyre. The pilot stated that flints, which are prevalent on the airstrip at Inglenook farm, might have caused this damage during the take-off run and caused the tyre to deflate.