

Rans S6-ESD XL, G-MZFL, 17 February 2001

AAIB Bulletin No: 4/2001 Ref: EW/G2001/02/25 Category: 1.4

Aircraft Type and Registration: Rans S6-ESD XL, G-MZFL

No & Type of Engines: 1 Rotax 503-2V piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1997

Date & Time (UTC): 17 February 2001 at 1230 hrs

Location: Eshott Airfield, Northumberland

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Damage to propeller tips, nose gear and starboard wingtip

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence (Microlights)

Commander's Age: 53 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 116 hours of which 90 hours were on type
Last 90 days - 4 hours
Last 28 days - 3 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot departed from Runway 26 at Eshott Airfield for a local flight. The weather was good with a light southwesterly wind. On recovery to the airfield some 45 minutes later, Runway 19 was in use. This is an asphalt runway, 610 metres long and 45 metres wide. Normally, pilots use either side of the centreline as there is grass growing through the uneven surface of the centreline. After a normal approach, the pilot landed on the centreline and almost immediately felt that the aircraft had run over a bump; the nose lifted and, before the pilot could react, the nosewheel contacted the runway again and collapsed. The pilot subsequently stated that she had expected the slight drift to take her aircraft off the centreline during the flare but that this did not occur.