

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Europa XS, G-XSDJ
No & Type of Engines:	1 Rotax 914-UL piston engine
Year of Manufacture:	2002 (Serial no: PFA 247-13378)
Date & Time (UTC):	31 July 2016 at 1300 hrs
Location:	Lundy Island Airfield, Devon
Type of Flight:	Private
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1 Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Propeller and lower fuselage structure
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence
Commander's Age:	77 years
Commander's Flying Experience:	1,647 hours (of which 1,149 were on type) Last 90 days - 33 hours Last 28 days - 17 hours
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and subsequent AAIB enquiries

During a takeoff attempt from the somewhat stony and uneven strip, the mainwheel struck a ridge in the surface of the strip, projecting the aircraft into the air before it had reached flying speed. It then descended and struck another bump. The second impact resulted in a propeller strike, detaching two of the propeller blades and the impact forces caused significant structural damage to the lower fuselage immediately in front of the wing leading edge.