

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	CEA DR221B Dauphin, G-RRCU	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming O-235-C2A piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1968 (Serial no: 129)	
Date & Time (UTC):	3 June 2018 at 1145 hrs	
Location:	Tatenhill Airfield, Staffordshire	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Left landing gear collapsed, propeller grazed the ground	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	59 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	507 hours (of which 10 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 was flying solo circuits from Runway 26 at Tatenhill Airfield. It was a warm day with a temperature of 24°C and sunny conditions.

Having completed a circuit and landing, the pilot prepared for the subsequent takeoff by raising the flaps. He then applied full power and began the takeoff roll. Just as the pilot lifted the tail off the runway, he experienced a cramp spasm in his right leg which caused him to straighten his leg to try and stop what he described as "excruciating pain". This resulted in him increasing pressure on the right rudder pedal and the right brake. Despite quickly closing the throttle, the aircraft turned rapidly through 90°. Although it remained on the runway, the left landing gear collapsed as the aircraft slowed, causing it to rotate further and the propeller to contact the ground.

The pilot reported that there was little airflow in the cabin which, combined with the hot weather and a lack of fluid intake, might have contributed to the onset of cramp.