

**No: 3/87**

**Ref: 1c**

**Aircraft type and registration:** Piper PA 28R G-BMKK

**No & Type of engines:** 1 Lycoming 10-360-C1C piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:** 1975

**Date and time (UTC):** 22 December 1986 at 1234 hrs

**Location:** Coventry Airport

**Type of flight:** Private

**Persons on board:** Crew — 2                      Passengers — None

**Injuries:** Crew — None                      Passengers — N/A

**Nature of damage:** Left main landing gear forced rearwards from its mounting structure — minor wrinkling of upper surface of left wing.

**Commander's Licence:** Private Pilot's Licence

**Commander's Age:** 36 years

**Commander's Total Flying Experience:** 770 hours (of which 130 were on type)

**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot.

The aircraft was on a local flight from Coventry Airport. The purpose of the flight was to familiarise a pilot who wished to convert to type, and a second pilot, who was experienced on type, acted in a supervisory capacity in the right hand seat.

After a normal take-off and 45 minutes general handling in the local area, the aircraft returned to the Airport for circuit and landing practice on runway 05. Two satisfactory 'touch and go' landings were carried out, however on the third landing the handling pilot reports that the aircraft started to sink rapidly and, despite the application of power, he was unable to prevent the left main landing gear from making a firm contact with the runway. On climbing away it was found that the landing gear would not retract, and an unsafe indication to the left main leg was obtained when the landing gear was re-selected 'down'. The supervisory pilot took control and the aircraft was landed without further incident.

The weather at the time was fine, with a surface wind of 340/16 knots.