

No: 6/89

Ref: EW/G89/03/08

Category: 1b

**Aircraft Type
and Registration:**

Piper PA31, G-BGSO

No & Type of Engines:

2 Lycoming T1O-540-A2C piston engines

Year of Manufacture:

1979

Date and Time (UTC):

21 March 1989 at 1818 hrs

Location:

Southampton Airport

Type of Flight:

Private (pleasure)

Persons on Board:

Crew - 1

Passengers - 1

Injuries:

Crew - None

Passengers - None

Nature of Damage:

Nose landing gear shimmy damper attachment sheered and damage to right mainplane leading edge

Commander's Licence:

Private Pilot's Licence with Instrument, IMC and Night Ratings

Commander's Age:

46 years

**Commander's Total
Flying Experience:**

751 hours (of which 69 were on type)

Information Source:

Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and telephone inquiries to the pilot and maintenance organisation

Following a transit from Hawarden to Southampton the aircraft was landing on runway 20. The pilot reported a wind of 270°/18 kts but a meteorological aftercast gave a wind of 280°/12 kts for the time of landing. Both winds give a cross-wind component within the limits for a PA31. The approach was flown using the 'crab' technique at 100 kts but the pilot cannot recall the touchdown speed. In the flare, the pilot applied left rudder to align the aircraft with the runway centre line. On touch-down, the aircraft veered sharply to the left and departed the runway striking the PAPIs before coming to rest. The pilot was uninjured and vacated the aircraft through the normal exit.

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