

No: 7/89 **Ref: EW/G89/04/01** **Category: 1c**

Aircraft Type and Registration: Piper PA-28R-201T, G-RYAN

No & Type of Engines: 1 Continental Motors Corp TSIO-360-F piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1977

Date and Time (UTC): 3 April 1989 at 0715 hrs

Location: Shoreham Airport

Type of Flight: Private (pleasure)

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers -1

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers -None

Nature of Damage: Damage to right wing tip, aileron, flap and pitot head

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence with IMC, Night and Assistant Instructor Ratings

Commander's Age: 50 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 1,482 hours (of which 15 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

Whilst on base leg the landing gear was selected down, but only two green lights showed. Recycling attempts failed with the switch feeling immobile, but the tower confirmed that the leg extension appeared to be normal. There was a right crosswind on finals so a landing was made with the right wing down; as the left wheel was lowered there was a progressive collapse of the left main landing gear and the aircraft came to rest on the left wingtip.

The pilot reported that there had been previous problems with only one or two green lights showing and a contact fault in the indicator lights was suspected, however on this occasion the locking mechanism failed to engage because of stiffness due to corrosion.