

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Europa, G-LEBE	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Rotax 912 ULS piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	2012 (Serial no: PFA 247-12927)	
Date & Time (UTC):	1 August 2017 at 1215 hrs	
Location:	Popham Airfield, Hampshire	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Distortion of landing gear retraction lever and surround	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	71 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	603 hours (of which 290 were on type) Last 90 days - 12 hours Last 28 days - 4 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

G-LEBE is a mono-wheel version of the Europa; the main landing gear, the out-rigger landing gears and flaps are all linked and operated by one lever. After a local flight the pilot lowered the landing gear and flaps and made his approach with the landing gear/flap lever in the DOWN position. After touchdown the pilot heard a "bang" and realised the lever had sprung out of the DOWN position and moved towards the UP position, but it had snagged on its surround, become distorted and was stuck in a mid-position of its track. The mainwheel had retracted into the wheel-well but the aircraft came to a halt without suffering further damage.

The pilot assessed afterwards that he did not positively check that the lug to lock the landing gear/flap lever DOWN had engaged when he lowered the mainwheel.