

No: 7/89 **Ref: EW/G89/04/06** **Category: 1c**

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

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming IO-360-C1C6 piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1978

Date and Time (UTC): 8 April 1989 at 1248 hrs

Location: Bristol Airport

Type of Flight: Private (pleasure)

Persons on Board: Crew - 2 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Damage to right hand aileron, flap and wingtip

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

Commander's Age: 32 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 710 hours (of which 5 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

During a series of visual circuits the pilot reported unsafe landing gear indications, attempts to lower the undercarriage by emergency means failed. After a low flypast the tower, the pilot was advised that the landing gear appeared normally down.

A landing was executed at, or slightly above, stall speed from a height of about 1-2 feet, within 50 metres of the threshold. On touchdown the right landing gear failed, but the right wing was prevented from contacting the runway until the speed had decreased to about 35-40 kt. The aircraft eventually veered to the right and came to rest with the wingtip just on the grass at the edge of the runway.

The normal extension had failed due to a split 'O' ring in the hydraulic valve of the back-up gear extender actuator assembly. The righthand leg had failed to lock down after an emergency selection because a lack of lubrication prevented the leg from falling.