

**AAIB Bulletin No: 9/94**

**Ref: EW/G94/06/36**

**Category: 1.3**

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** Luton LA4A Minor, G-BBCY

**No & Type of Engines:** 1 Volkswagen 1600 (Peacock) piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:** 1977

**Date & Time (UTC):** 26 June 1994 at 1700 hrs

**Location:** Shoreham Airport, Sussex

**Type of Flight:** Private

**Persons on Board:** Crew - 1                      Passengers - None

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

**Nature of Damage:** Main landing gear tubing slightly distorted

**Commander's Licence:** Private Pilot's Licence with Night Rating

**Commander's Age:** 58 years

**Commander's Flying Experience:** 737 hours (of which 12 were on type)  
Last 90 days - 7 hours  
Last 28 days - 4 hours

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

Returning to Shoreham from a 1 hr 40 minute flight, the pilot made an approach to Runway 25 in a wind of 240°/20 kt. Just before touchdown the aircraft veered to the right. The pilot had difficulty in straightening the aircraft so he initiated a go-around and rejoined the circuit downwind.

The second approach was flown at 50 kt and at the point of flare, with the throttle closed, the aircraft suddenly pitched nose up and veered to the right. The pilot applied full left rudder and full throttle, but was unable to arrest the turn or to prevent the right wingtip brushing the ground. The aircraft settled into a three point landing whilst still swinging to the right and came to a stop having turned through a total of about 270°. The pilot then taxied it to the hangar.