

## Man killed in Tiger Moth crash on Queensland's Gold Coast, pilot hospitalised

By Nick Wiggins and Isobel Roe



**A 58-year-old man was killed when a Tiger Moth biplane crashed on Queensland's Gold Coast, while the plane's 21-year-old pilot was freed from the wreckage and taken to hospital with spinal injuries.**

Paramedics were called just before 9:30am (AEST) after the plane crashed on an old airstrip near Pimpama-Jacobs Well Road at Norwell.

The aircraft was found upside down.

An ambulance spokesperson said the 58-year-old man, who was a passenger, had died.

The 21-year-old pilot had to be freed from the wreckage by firefighters.

He has been flown to Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane.

Authorities are yet to release details of the person who died.

Paramedic Natasha Adams said the site had been hard to reach and the helicopter had found a track for four-wheel drives to use.

"There was quite a distance from the nearest accessible point to the actual incident," she said.

"The aircraft had landed in a tall grassy area close to a tree line.

"The patient was entrapped by his legs and was hanging outside of the aircraft, and there was a deceased male in the front seat.

"[The 21-year-old] was quite stable in the condition he was in, but he does have critical injuries."

Senior Sergeant Greg Brakes said authorities believed the plane crashed shortly after take-off.

"I know that the plane does some joy flights - I'm not sure if this was a paid-for joy flight or something else," he said.

He said police were called after 9:00am by one of the people in the plane, believed to be the 21-year-old pilot.

"As a result, a short search was conducted before we located the plane," he said.

"Police, fire officers and [Queensland Ambulance Service] attended and located one male person deceased in the plane, and an injured person."

He said the pilot was semi-conscious when authorities arrived.

Senior Sergeant Brakes said the 21-year-old had serious spinal injuries.