



Tropical Cyclone Marcia: Student pilot flies fresh baked goods into storm-ravaged communities

612 ABC Brisbane

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Student pilot Thales Calil is clocking up some flying hours this week delivering Anzac biscuits and fruit cake to cyclone-ravaged communities in central Queensland.

The Griffith University student is one of several pilots taking the non-urgent supplies up north with the charity Carefreight.

Carefreight typically organises local pilots to deliver goods to drought-stricken areas and other Australians in need.

"It's all volunteering - there's no paid work - and we use our own time and plane to fly these missions," Mr Calil told [612 ABC Brisbane](#).

"This is the real world experience, this is putting your knowledge and expertise to good use."

Mr Calil flew out of Archerfield Airport on Tuesday headed to Biloela, with his single-engine plane loaded up with baked goods.

"Initially we will be taking stale goods, things that don't expire quickly - Anzac biscuits, fruit cake, things like that," he said.

"There have been talks of satellite phones - the SES have been receiving the satellite phones from telcos - so [Carefreight is] possibly looking at that over the coming months."

Mr Calil, who is studying a Bachelor of Aviation, said this flight to Biloela was similar to what he expected to be doing in his future career.

"Your first flying job out of a flying school might not be at an airline - you will be flying out west to

these remote communities," he said.

"It's good to have that experience and know that you're doing something for the good of others."

He said whenever he had previously landed in small communities he had been welcomed with open arms.

"Everywhere that I've landed in those communities, they're so appreciative, there's a lot of camaraderie," he said.

"They usually call you in to have a cuppa, offer you cake and have a nice chat."

Extracted from:

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-02-25/student-pilot-flying-baked-goods-into-cyclone-ravaged-towns/6256958>

On 25/02/15 at 10:11:27