

Police swoop on light plane, arrest pilot over drug supply at Deniliquin in southern New South Wales



YouTube: [Police footage of pilot and others arrested in NSW Riverina](#)

Photo: [Police arrested the 67yo pilot of a light plane at Deniliquin airport on Wednesday afternoon. \(Supplied: NSW Police\)](#)

Police have arrested the pilot of a light plane on the tarmac of an airport in southern New South Wales, and allegedly seized cannabis and precursor drugs from the aircraft's hold.

The arrest came at the end of an eight-month investigation involving authorities from New South Wales, South Australia and Queensland.

Detectives allege members of the Descendants and Hells Angels bikie gangs in South Australia had been supplying drugs and firearms to affiliates in NSW

Officers intercepted the plane as it landed at Deniliquin on Wednesday afternoon and arrested a 67-year-old Queensland man.



Photo: [Police allegedly seized 45kg of cannabis from the light plane. \(Supplied: NSW Police\)](#)

He has been charged with large commercial drug supply after 45kg of cannabis and 4kg of ice precursor drugs were allegedly found in the plane. He is due in court today.

The plane has been seized for forensic examination.

Police also searched a number of properties in the town of Hay, charging four men aged between 29 and 46 with gun supply.

They were all refused bail to appear in court in Deniliquin today.

Meanwhile in Adelaide, six men were arrested and charged with serious drug offences.

They were a 52-year-old man from Salisbury North, a 50-year-old man from Allenby Gardens, a 31-year-old man from Salisbury North, a 29-year-old man from Klemzig, a 31-year-old man from Salisbury North, and a 26-year-old man from Elizabeth.

Police arrested a further four people, after searching 10 Adelaide properties.



Photo: Police also arrested four men during raids on three properties at Hay, in the NSW Riverina. (Supplied: NSW Police)

A number of search warrants were also executed in Brisbane and the Gold Coast by Queensland Police.

Police said 38 firearms, 100 ecstasy pills and a small amount of ice has also been seized during the eight-month operation, known as Strike Force Charker.

Detective Inspector Gavin Wood from the Gangs Squad said the operation's success was a result of cooperation between police in three states.

"Today's a great result for all the police forces involved," he said.

"It has demonstrated how three major state police forces, working collectively together, can produce great results.

"A large seizure of drugs has just taken place, both here in NSW in Deniliquin and also in South Australia."

Extracted from:

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-09-03/police-arrest-light-plane-pilot-over-drug-supply-deniliquin/6745414>

On 03/09/15 at 12:29:23