

## BREAKING: Missing pilot was familiar with flight path



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### UPDATE 1.15PM:

**IT'S been almost 24-hours since a 78-year-old pilot went missing on a journey that was only meant to take two hours.**

With no confirmed sightings of the aircraft since it left the Bundaberg airstrip at 1.45pm yesterday rescue crews are working tirelessly.

Six rescue helicopters from across the state are still searching for the missing pilot and gyrocopter.

The Australian Maritime Safety Authority revealed the pilot took off from Booyan Airstrip, 22 kilometres north of Bundaberg, at 1.45pm yesterday on a trip to Farnborough just north of Yeppoon - a regular route for the 78-year-old.

AMSA was contacted by Queensland Police about 11.50pm last night after they received a report that the gyrocopter had not arrived at its destination on time.



RACQ Capricorn Helicopter Rescue has searched along the Central Queensland coast overnight for a missing gyrocopter. RACQ Capricorn Helicopter Rescue

**The journey was expected to take two hours.**

According to NMSA, the gyrocopter would have likely been flying low and could have travelled over the towns of 1770, Agnes Waters, Tannum Sands, Gladstone, Emu Park and Yeppoon.

AMSA tasked two rescue helicopters to conduct a night vision search along the route last night. AMSA's Challenger Search and Rescue jet from Cairns joined the search at first light this morning.

AMSA is requesting that anyone who thinks they may have seen or heard a gyrocopter in the area between Bundaberg and Yeppoon between the hours of 1pm and 6pm yesterday to call the Joint Rescue Coordination Centre on 1800 815 257 with any information.

Extracted from:

<https://www.gladstoneobserver.com.au/news/breaking-desperate-search-missing-pilot-and-choppe/3391249/>

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