



# Escape for pair in light aircraft

### **KIERAN BANKS**

TWO people in an ultralight aircraft walked away without serious injury when it crashed in rural Katherine.

The pair were on a joy flight that took off from the Edith River Farms district at 5.30pm on Saturday, but never returned.

Family of the missing duo became concerned, called police and began to scour bushland in a desperate bid to find them.

After a search of the scrub near where the plane was last spotted, the pair were seen emerging from bushland.

They were found at 9.30pm, four hours after their flight started.

Duty Superintendent Brendan Muldoon said the escape

# "They walked outofthe scrub and were found by their family"

**DUTY SUPT BRENDAN** MULDOON

The trio triggered their emergency response beacon and the Canberra-based Australian Maritime Safety Authority deployed Darwin's CareFlight TIO Rescue Helicopter.

The helicopter crew found the 4.5m tinny on rocks at Glyde Point and landed so the flight nurse could walk 300m to reach the occupants.

Drag king Rusty O'Toole will take to the stage in Drag Territory later this week

# Life's no drag when the festival is in town

## JUDITH AISTHORPE

THE Darwin Festival has proven as popular as ever this year, with almost every show over the weekend selling out.

Head of programming Felix Preval said it was a fantastic few days for the festival.

"There was a really great audience for The Birds and our music program," he said. Festival Park has been full

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each night with, on average, 3000 people heading down nightly to soak up the atmosphere, grab dinner and listen to the free nightly concerts.

This is the final week of the Darwin Festival and events include cabaret. contemporary and classical music, and comedy.

"Get in there early if you want to see it, Darwin," Mr

Preval said. He said while nothing had sold out yet, it was getting close for a number of shows

One of the interesting events on this week is Gobyerno — an interactive theatre experience which sees the audience design its own ideal government.

Finishing off the 2016 Darwin Festival will be The Wrap Party.

Drag king Rusty O'Toole will be taking to the stage with his favourite drag queens in the Drag Territory mini popup concert as part of The Wrap.

It's a rest day today, but the Festival will be back in full swing tomorrow.

**N** Tickets are available for all events this week. Visit darwinfestival.org.au or the box office

was remarkable, given the small size of the aircraft.

"They walked out of the scrub and were found by their family," he said.

The recreational aircraft

An ATSB spokesman said the bureau would not be investigating the crash.

Later on Saturday night two men and a child were flown from a stricken vessel at Glvde Point, 40km north east of Darwin.

One of the men had suffered a wrist injury while on the tinny in waters off the Top End coast.

One man suffered wrist injuries and all were flown to Royal Darwin Hospital where they remained in a stable condition following their arrival shortly after 8pm.

The quick rescue in fading light showed the lifesaving value of having a readily accessible EPIRB on a boat when heading out into Top End waters.

CareFlight operates the Top End Medical Retrieval Service, which provides medical rescue and retrieval services across the Top End. on behalf of the NT Government.

Picture: ELISE DERWIN

was not registered with the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB).