



**ROYAL
AERONAUTICAL
SOCIETY**
AUSTRALIAN DIVISION
SYDNEY BRANCH

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NEWSLETTER

Peter Foley - Program Director MH370 Search and Alex Talberg - Senior Transport Safety Investigator



The missing aircraft (9M-MRO) seen in 2011

**from the Australian Transport
Safety Bureau (ATSB)**

discussing

‘The Science Behind the Search for MH370’

Date: **Wednesday 28th June, 2017**

Time: **18:00 for 18:30 hours**

Venue: **Ainsworth Building J17, Ground floor
University of New South Wales**

Light refreshments will be available prior to the commencement of the meeting Attendance will attract 1.5 CPD hour

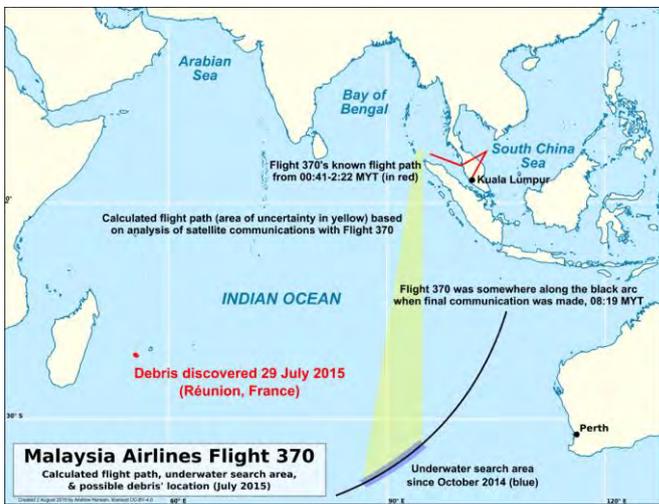


Profile: Peter Foley is responsible for all of ATSB's search activities for Malaysia Airlines flight MH370. He joined the ATSB in 1999 after a career at sea as a marine engineer. Since then he has held a number of roles most recently as General Manager Surface Safety Investigations; responsible for marine and rail safety investigations, ATSB's work on the reforms to the National Transport Regulatory framework, and ATSB's international programs. Mr Foley holds professional qualifications in marine engineering and transport safety investigation, degrees in both marine and mechanical engineering and a Graduate Diploma in Business

Management.

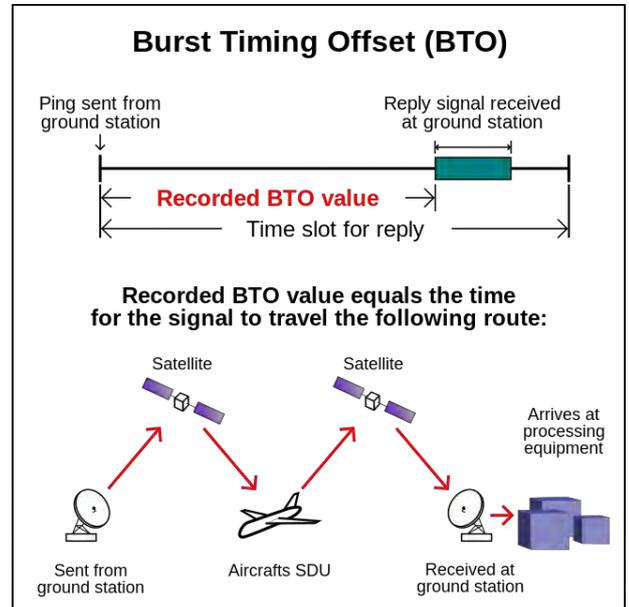
Alex Talberg was a member of the Search Strategy Working Group that examined all the available information from the MH370 flight to determine the most likely location of the aircraft. Alex joined the ATSB in 2006 as an engineering graduate. He has worked as a technical investigator at the ATSB since then, specialising in the recovery and analysis of electronic data from damaged electronic devices.



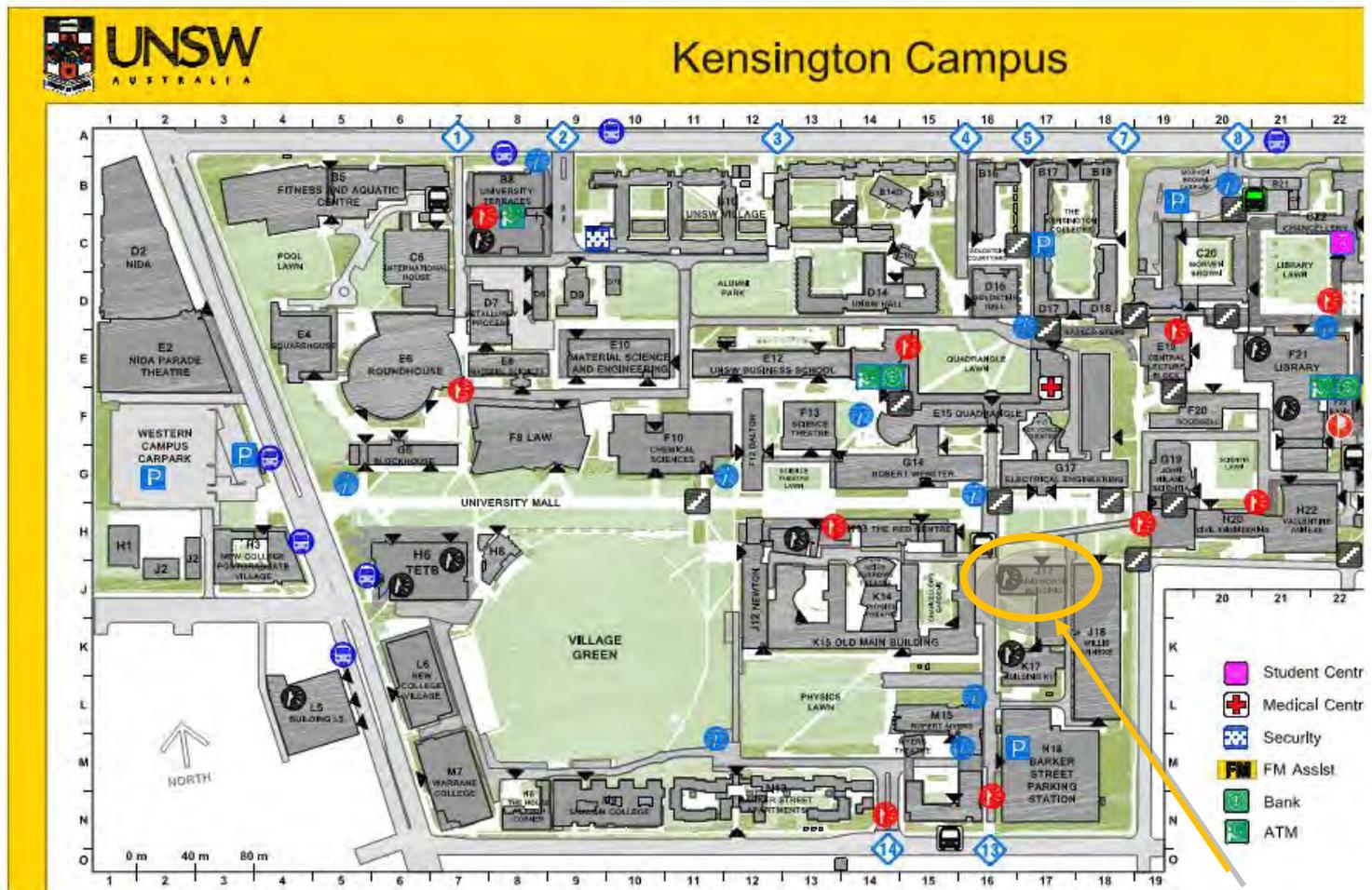


Synopsis: "On 8 March 2014 a Boeing 777 operating Malaysia Airlines flight MH370 disappeared en-route from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing. Radar showed that the aircraft turned around, flew back over Malaysia and then south beyond radar range. After that the main clues to MH370's route were "handshake" signals every hour between a satellite ground station and aircraft systems. A final "handshake" is consistent with fuel exhaustion and an initial air and sea search found nothing. The ATSB was given charge of a sea-bed search using high-tech equipment with the search area

covering more than 120,000 sq. km., in difficult conditions and thousands of kilometres from port. Despite intensive efforts, no trace of MH370 was found and the search was suspended on 17 January 2017. Hear the details of the ground breaking science that was involved and was progressively evolved during the search and the ongoing analysis with refinements to drift modelling and signals analysis."



Parking: Limited parking is available in surrounding streets with paid parking within the Uni of NSW car park tower, entry from Barker Street. Please observe parking restrictions and allow time to drive to the University of NSW, park and walk to the venue. (Refer to map and also www.facilities.unsw.edu.au/sites/all/files/KENC%20Campus%20Map_5.pdf - ref J17)



RSVP: Whilst attendance is free - registration for the evening **is required**. Please register by clicking on/copying and pasting into your URL this link: <https://raesjune17.eventbrite.com.au> Your registration will be confirmed by email with an attached ticket. **Please print the ticket and present the ticket at the door. Please note:** Non members should enter the code **NM** if requested to enter a RAeS membership number. Any member who does not have access to the internet can send a letter to Mr Jeff Lock, 4 Hillcrest Place, North Manly NSW 2100 with your name (plus names of accompanying persons), membership number or state 'Friend' if you are a Friend of the Branch, and phone number.

DINNER: After the presentation Peter and Alex will join us for dinner as a guest of the committee. **Members and visitors are invited to attend the dinner to be held at Giovanna Italian Restaurant, 285 Anzac Parade, Kingsford. (approx \$45 pp including soft drink & wine.)**

Public Transport: Regular buses (391, 392, 393, 394, 396, 397, 399, M10) leave from outside Museum train station in Liverpool Street, and the 395 and M50 in Elizabeth St, opposite Central Station. Please allow time to travel by public transport, including waiting time, and time to walk to the venue from the UNSW bus stops. There are a number of other buses such as the 400 and 370 that travel to and from suburbs on the outskirts of the CBD and stop at the UNSW. Please refer for further details: www.sydneybuses.info/routes/timetables-route-maps

ROYAL AERONAUTICAL SOCIETY AUSTRALIAN DIVISION: invites you to lunch with Kerrie Mather, Sydney Airport Managing Director and CEO, who will speak on 'Driving growth in a global economy' – **Wednesday 16th August, 2017- 12:00 – 14:00 hours – James Cook Ballroom, InterContinental, Bridge Street, Sydney.** Refer Invitation attached. Bookings: <https://sydairportlunch17.eventbrite.com.au>



Membership Information: Annual memberships commence at only \$145 or \$28 for Students (but free for the first year). Being a member helps us sustain a vibrant activities programme and opens the way to access restricted 'member-only' events.

Inside the Boeing Renton Factory: The Renton factory in Washington produces the 737 at an astonishing pace. It is a modern industrial phenomenon and now you can come along for a behind-the-scenes tour that includes interactive 360-degree views of the factory and flight line. Navigate through "hot spots" and learn about the people behind the innovation that made the Renton Site the most productive commercial airplane factory in history. [Check out the new interactive experience for the Boeing Renton site.](#)

2017 Luigi G. Napolitano Award – Call for Applications: The International Astronautical Federation has announced the opening of the Call for Applications for the 2017 Luigi G. Napolitano Award. This award is assigned every year to a young scientist (below 30 years of age) who has significantly contributed to the advancement of the Aerospace Science. The Award consists of the Luigi G. Napolitano commemorative medal and a certificate of citation. It is given every year at the International Astronautical Congress which this year is being held in Adelaide 25-29th September. Applications close 31 August, 2017. For more information refer: [Luigi G. Napolitano Award](#)

Closed Member Only Group on Facebook: Sydney branch is trialling a live video streaming service of monthly branch lectures. Watch lectures live or at a later time, at the "Royal Aeronautical Society - Sydney Branch - Members Only" group within Facebook. Please note that this service is only available to financial members of the Royal Aeronautical Society.

Wings Awards Nominations are Open: The Wings Awards take a panoramic view of the general aviation (GA) industry by recognising the achievements of aviators, aero clubs, instructors and training organisations that form the backbone of the GA industry. Excellence will be recognised across four categories: "Col Pay Lifetime of Service to General Aviation", "Aero Club of the Year", "Flying Training Organisation of the Year" and "Flying Instructor of the Year". Nominations close on the 1st July. For more information, or to nominate



an outstanding contributor to general aviation, see the website for details at <http://www.australianflying.com.au/wingsawards>. **18 October:** Winners announced in Australian Flying Nov/Dec 17. **Week of 30 October:** Awards to be presented in RAeS branches

Historic Qantas aeroplane 'The Connie' famous for Sydney to London route reaches final destination in the Qantas Founders Museum, Longreach: Holding a special place in Qantas' history, the Connie — as it's fondly being referred to — was first used by the airline in the late 1940s for the longest air service in the world, the so-called kangaroo route between Sydney and London. It was also the first flight to feature flight attendants and the airline's first pressurised aircraft, greatly improving the comfort of passengers.

Qantas Founders Museum CEO Tony Martin said the Constellation joined a fleet of planes, including an



Avro, Catalina and Boeing 747 already at the museum. "To have this here is just another chapter of the Qantas story. It's one of the most historic aircraft internationally as well within our national story," Mr Martin said. "We have been working on getting a Constellation since the 1990s." After an international



search, this aircraft was found at the Manila International Airport where it had been grounded for over 25 years. It was purchased by the museum in 2014. Project manager for the museum Rodney Seccombe said the plane had a fascinating personal story. "It was made for the US Navy, who had it during the war then it was bought by a fellow called Winky Crawford, who used it to carry fish from the Philippines to China and Japan," Mr Seccombe said. "Eventually the maintenance on the plane lapsed and it was seized by the Manila Airport and eventually put up for auction a couple of years ago."

Thousands of aviation enthusiasts already travel to the outback to visit the birthplace of Qantas and CEO of the museum. Mr Martin said the newest exhibit would increase the numbers. "To have it here will also be immense for the economic development of our community; it's going to create another 15 per cent of visitation to our region, up from over 41,000 people last year," he said.

Volunteers of the Qantas Founders Museum will now spend two years reassembling and repainting the plane before visitors are allowed inside. **"The plane will be restored to look like its original, but inside we are going to create seating exactly as the cabin would have looked in the 1950s, but also we will be telling the story of the people who flew and flew in the plane,"** said Mr Martin. (ABC News Amy Phillips)

John Travolta donates his Boeing 707 to HARS in Albion Park: Aviation enthusiast and Hollywood



actor, John Travolta announced on Friday 26th May, 2017 that he will donate his prized Boeing 707 aircraft to the Historical Aircraft Restoration Society. John, a qualified pilot and Qantas ambassador, hopes to be part of the crew to fly the vintage passenger jet from his Florida home to the HARS aircraft hangar at Illawarra Regional Airport in Albion Park. "The aircraft currently requires a lot of work to be restored to a safe flying state and having seen first-hand the dedication and passion of people at HARS, I have no doubt this beautiful and

historical aircraft will be flying again," Travolta said. "I am hoping to be part of the crew to fly the aircraft to Australia, supported by well qualified and experienced pilots and engineers."

John Travolta's full press statement: It gives me great pleasure to make this exciting historical announcement that my beloved Boeing 707 aircraft has been



donated to the Historical Aircraft Restoration society (HARS) based in the town of Albion Park, approximately 90 miles (140 km) south of the city of Sydney in Australia. As many of you will know, flying is a passion of mine and I am just so grateful to be fortunate enough to count many hours flying such a beautiful aircraft. The aircraft was originally delivered to Qantas Airways in 1964 and was converted for private use after it finished its life with "The Flying Kangaroo". I was honoured to have the 707 repainted in the original Qantas colours when I became the ambassador for the airline, and it's so fitting that many of the volunteers at HARS are retired Qantas employees. The aircraft currently requires a lot of work to be restored to a safe flying state and having seen first-hand the dedication and passion of people at HARS, I have no doubt this beautiful and historical aircraft will be flying again. HARS have an impressive track record of restoring historical aircraft and I have personally flown in a Super Constellation that they restored to flying condition from almost nothing. I am hoping to be part of the crew to fly the aircraft to Australia, supported by well qualified and experienced pilots and engineers. In making this announcement, I would like to mention the significant support given by the Bendigo Bank Oak Flats and Shellharbour Community Bank Branches who as a local organization, have been very supportive of HARS' efforts in aircraft restoration. Thanks must also go to QBE Insurance (Australia) Limited Services for their significant support as well.

MY AFFAIR WITH "CONNIE" – by Captain Reg Darwell. (Part 2) - Refer the Vintage Car Club magazine No 390 dated May 2017 - <https://www.shannons.com.au/club/carclubs/vintage-car-club-of-queensland-vccq/>

(Continued) The only time the pilots touch the throttles is crossing the runway threshold on landing and then only to close them slowly. During the 1961-62 period the B707 was taking over from the Connie with twice its speed and greater reliability so the Connies were traded in to Lockheed for Electra to be used on the minor routes. This took a bit of time so the remaining Connies did the South Africa route and odd jobs like Migrant charters. How good was this for a young bloke? Five days in Madrid or Malta waiting to fill it up with New Australian hopefuls - mostly a lot of young girls looking towards the guys working on the Snowy Mountains Project. They would wash their knickers on the last leg to Sydney and hang them up to dry on clotheslines they rigged up in the cabin. Quite a sight! Gold charters to Zurich from Djakarta. These were the freighter Connies that looked empty except for all these black boxes strapped to the floor and the aircraft at its max take-off weight. Someone had to sign for it and as the most junior form of animal life on the crew it had to be me. Two million quid's worth!

Monkey charters from New Delhi to Melbourne. In those days, the Salk anti-polio vaccine was made from the fat around the kidneys of the Rhesus monkey. Hundreds of these poor little fellas were loaded in cages in the freighter in Delhi. In those days, the Salk anti-polio vaccine was made from the fat around the kidneys of the Rhesus monkey. Hundreds of these poor little fellas were loaded in cages in the freighter in Delhi. If there was a problem with the aircraft (quite usual) we had to get the aircraft in to a hangar, otherwise they could catch cold and die. On one such occasion in Calcutta some of them escaped and made themselves at home in the roof structure of the hangar. The descendants of those monkeys are swinging their way through the roof to this day. The smell was something else, but after about 20 hours exposure one got used to it. I had the top deck of the East Lindfield bus to myself on the way home for some reason!

By the very nature of the Connie operation at that time, long periods of time were spent in slip ports. Karachi was one such place where B.O.A.C (now British Airways) had a hotel called Speedbird House for crew accommodation. A volatile mixture of BOAC and Qantas crews ensured that a good time was had by all! - Better get off this subject! My Connie affair ended when I was put on to the new B707s. Over the next 38 years I struggled my way up the promotion and seniority ladder to fly all the Qantas types of the time and retire at the compulsory age of 60 in Oct. 2000 which I was not very happy about. However, I have rekindled my affair with Connie. I have been a member of HARS for some 20 years and due to the hard work by the members and the tenacity of the President, Bob De La Hunty I now have the privilege of flying one of only two airworthy Connies in the world. The other is in Switzerland. I recommend a visit to the HARS Museum at Albion Park, just South of Wollongong. Connie is not the only aircraft on display. Check the HARS website for details. All the work done on the HARS aircraft is by



Captain Reg at the controls of "Connie" on approach to the old Kai Tak runway at Hong Kong with Flight Engineer Edge Adams Retired, in the second seat.

volunteers, many of whom bring a vast amount of industry and military experience. It would not happen without them. Funding is generally by donation, museum admission and sponsorships. Nobody gets paid. Due to the cost involved mostly for fuel and oil, we can't afford to fly it whenever we want so we are limited to air shows and special events. It gets pretty competitive to get your hands on it as you can imagine. What's it like to fly? Compared to a modern aircraft like a B747. The controls are very heavy even though they are hydraulically boosted. The performance is pretty "glacial" by comparison. Control wise, we liken it to "wrestling a crocodile!" I suppose that one day sadly, this affair will have to end. But it has been: "An affair to remember." Captain Reg Darwell

2017 Diary: **June 20:** Physics in the Pub, 3 Wise Monkeys, 555 George St, Sydney, 18:00 for 18:30 hours start. Refer details: boris@partnerair.com

July 19-21: 2017 Aircraft Airworthiness and Sustainment (Australia) Conference, a non-profit event for the benefit of all those involved in sustaining our fleets, both **Civil and Military**, safely and economically through their lifecycle. The Conference will be held at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre. Call for papers announced with abstracts containing no more than 300 words to be received for review by 14 April 2017.

Delegate and Exhibitor Registration is open now. Refer details: <http://www.ageingaircraft.com.au/aasc>

July 26: Aviation Safety Forum.

Aug 16: RAeS Aust Div 'Luncheon with Kerrie Mather' Sydney Airport Managing Director and CEO, who will speak on '**Driving growth in a global economy**' – 12:00 – 14:00 hours – James Cook Ballroom, InterContinental, Bridge Street, Sydney. Refer Invitation attached. Bookings: <https://sydairportlunch17.eventbrite.com.au>

Aug 14-29: 'Total Solar Eclipse Tour' Including visits to famous USA Astronomical and Aerospace Facilities. For further details please contact The Sutherland Astronomical Society Inc. Email: info@sasi.net.au

Sept 25-29: The 68th International Astronautical Congress – **Unlocking imagination, fostering innovation and strengthening security**– is being held in Adelaide. Thousands of scientists, including some 200 astronauts, will participate in the international space congress. The global economy and security of many nations depends on assured and secure access to satellites that provide communications, timing and navigation services and remote sensing data. Refer details at: iac2017.org/

Oct 18: **59th Sir Charles Kingsford Smith Memorial Lecture to be delivered by Jayne Hrdlicka, Chief Executive Officer, Jetstar. Venue Powerhouse Museum, Ultimo.** Further details to be advised.

Nov 14-16: 5th International Conference on Aerospace Science & Engineering (ICASE). Refer details: www.ist.edu.pk/icase

Sept 9-14, 2018: 31st Congress of the International Council of the Aeronautical Sciences, Belo Horizonte, Brazil. Call for papers (abstracts only) close 15th July, 2017. Refer details: <http://icas.org/media/ICAS2018CallforPapers.pdf>

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