



# ROYAL AERONAUTICAL SOCIETY

AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

SYDNEY BRANCH INC

FEBRUARY  
2015

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## Captain Eric Moody (Retired) Captain of the 1982 British Airways Flight 9 incident Discussing 'Gliding the Boeing 747'

The story of BA flight 009 and the words every passenger dreads ...

Date: **Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> February 2015**

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

Venue: **Rupert Myers Theatre,  
University of New South Wales, Kensington**

Attendance will attract 1 CPD hour

With unbelievable restraint, Captain Eric Moody addressed British Airways flight 009 as his Boeing 747 drifted inexorably down towards the Indian Ocean. Displaying the stiff-upper-lip spirit that built an empire, he uttered the words that are every air passenger's worst nightmare: 'Ladies and gentlemen, this is your captain speaking. We have a small problem. All four engines have stopped. We are doing our damndest to get it under control. I trust you are not in too much distress.' Minutes before, while cruising at ten kilometers above the sea, Captain Moody had instructed his first officer to send a Mayday call to ground control in nearby Indonesia. The date was June 24, 1982, and this extraordinary flight has since gone down in aviation history. Incredibly, passengers and crew reacted to the captain's cataclysmic announcement not with screams and hysteria, but with an extraordinary calm as the realisation that they were almost certainly sinking to their deaths hit home. Looking out of the aircraft windows, they could see that their plane was coated in an eerie white light and that the engines were on fire, with great jets of flame trailing into the sky. The cabin was now filled with a thick, sulphuric smoke, and the mighty jet bucked up and down as if it were a piece of flotsam adrift on stormy seas.



Figure 2 - SFO Roger Greaves,  
Cpt Eric Moody and SEO Barry Townley- Freeman

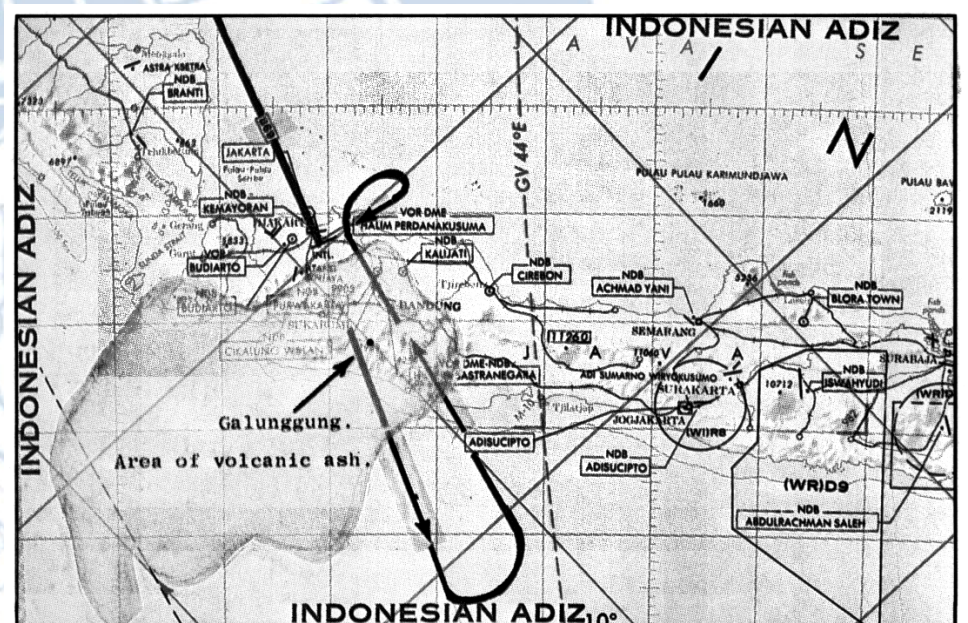


Figure 1 – Route of aircraft

**This is a unique opportunity for all to join Capt Moody as he discusses this event.**

**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://raesfeb15.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.

**Dinner:** After the presentation Eric and his wife will join us for dinner as guests of the committee. Members and visitors are invited to attend the dinner to be held at Giovanna Italian Restaurant, 285 Anzac Parade, Kingsford. (approx \$35 pp including soft drink wine.)

**Parking:** Limited parking is available in surrounding streets with paid parking within the University 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 map).

**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: <http://www.sydneybuses.info/routes/timetables-route-maps>



**Everyone is welcome to the evening which is free!**