

# BtN: Episode 7 Transcript 18/3/14

Coming up

- Travel back in time to see how Australia became a nation.
- Travel back further to watch dinosaurs roam again.
- And here in 2014, a class of rookie reporters tell us what closing the gap means to them.

Hey, It's Sarah Larsen. Welcome to BtN.

## Plane Crash

Reporter: Matthew Holbrook

*INTRO: First to a story that's being watched closely by people all over the world. It was more than a week ago that a plane and its 239 passengers went missing. Authorities are now saying it might have been deliberately flown off course and 25 countries have been asked to help in the search. But at the moment there are more questions than answers, like how can something as big as a plane just disappear? Here's Matt.*

This is the air traffic over just one part of the world in a single day. As you can see, planes help to connect millions of us. They are fast, efficient, and safe.

It's rare for something to go wrong. So when it does, the whole world takes notice. Recently, a passenger jet carrying two hundred and thirty nine people disappeared.

Malaysia Airlines flight, MH370, was less than two hours into its trip to Beijing, China, when radio controllers on the ground lost contact. Authorities are still trying to find answers, but people are upset. They want to know what happened, and why. And in an age where smart-phones can be tracked anywhere on earth, it seems impossible to lose something as big as an aeroplane!

We do know that the plane, a Boeing 777, is one of the world's safest jets. There are nearly a thousand in use around the world today, and each one is fitted with special technology designed to track what it does and communicate with people on the ground.

For a long time planes have relied on radar. That's where radio signals are sent from the ground to the air. But it's not perfect. There can be issues if planes get too far away from towers on the ground.

So these days, more planes also make use of satellite technology. By talking to satellites, planes can get a really accurate reading of where they are and what's going on.

Apart from their location, it can tell them things like how fast the plane's travelling, and what direction it's going. But air traffic controllers on the ground don't get that info. So when they lost radar contact it seemed like the flight just disappeared.

And when something goes wrong, those systems are supposed to lead authorities to something called the black box. There are normally two of them. One recording flight data, and the other, everything that people say. So after a crash it can tell the story of a plane's last moments. And it's designed to survive when everything else goes wrong.

MATT: You might have worked it out by now, but the black box isn't black, it's orange! That makes it easier to find. But the big thing is, it's really strong. Breaking one of these is nearly impossible. It's also water proof, and can survive in a fire for about an hour.

The problem at the moment is that the only way to get that info is to find the black box. And while it's designed to survive in all kinds of conditions, finding it can take a lot of time. And that's why some people think the black box needs a serious update.

They think it should send information in real time to authorities on the ground, so there's always someone who knows exactly what's going on.

For now, authorities are still trying to uncover more about what happened, but hopefully answers won't be too far away.

Presenter: Right, let's find out what else has been making news. Here's Tash with the Wire.

## The Wire

We've been keeping you updated on what's going on in Ukraine and the latest is that people living in an area called Crimea have voted to become part of Russia. Crimea's a part of the Ukraine but lots of Russian speakers live there. Ukraine's government says the voting was illegal and it won't let Russia take over Crimea.

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South Australia and Tasmania held elections on the weekend. It was very one sided in Tassie with people voting to switch to Liberals after 16 years of Labour government. But in South Australia, there's still no clear result there are more votes to count but at the moment neither the Liberals or Labor have enough seats to form government.

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Some year nine students on a school excursion to Parliament House got a bit of a surprise when Prime Minister, Tony Abbott, showed up. They got to ask him a few questions including on the carbon tax and asylum seekers.

## Federation

Reporter: Sarah Larsen

*INTRO: As you just saw there a couple of states had elections on the weekend. You probably know that Aussie states have their own laws and their own leaders but have you ever wondered why that is? It all goes back to a time when the states were separate colonies. I thought it was a good chance to go back in time and take a look at how Australia came to be Australia. And a warning for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander viewers; this story contains images of people who've died.*

Imagine you're on a train travelling for hours across the vast Australian continent.

And part way through your journey this happens:

KID: Immigration. Papers please.

Back in the late 1800s, making a trip between Australian colonies was like travelling to a different country. You could be stopped at the border by immigration and searched.

REPORTER: In fact if you were travelling between, say, New South Wales and Queensland you would have had to change trains because the rails were different sizes.

Australia wasn't a country; it was just the name of a continent divided into six very separate British colonies.

They had different leaders and different laws. They even had their own armies!

But there were some people pushing to change that.

One was Henry Parkes; five times Premier of New South Wales.

KID: The great question you have to consider is, whether the time has not now arisen for the creation on this Australian continent of an Australian Government.

In 1889 he made this famous speech in the town of Tenterfield about Federation - the push to unite the colonies as a single country.

REPORTER: It wasn't the best speech ever, by all accounts.

KID: Hey!

REPORTER: But it had an impact. Parkes convinced the leaders of the colonies to meet and discuss Federation.

Some came from New Zealand.

It was a British colony too and it could have joined the new country!

After much negotiating, in 1891, the delegates drew up a draft constitution for the Commonwealth of Australia.

But the idea didn't take off.

REPORTER: It wasn't a good time for the colonies. The economy was in a bad way. Plus, there was a feeling that the draft constitution wasn't democratic enough; that ordinary people should have had more of a say.

Time went on and the colonies kept changing.

Many kept fighting for the cause of Federation - like Alfred Deakin. He was part of a new generation - born and bred in Australia - who thought the continent should be a united country.

Eventually, he helped convince the colonies to give it another shot.

This time people got to vote for representatives who'd help to draw up a new constitution.

There was a lot of arguing!

The bigger, richer states were worried that they'd have to share money with the poorer ones and the small states worried they wouldn't have a say in decisions.

South Australia had recently given women the right to vote and it wanted the whole country to have that right.

Then there was the issue of where the nation's capital should be

KID 1: Sydney is the obvious choice for the capital of this nation.

KID 2: Rubbish! Melbourne is far superior!

New Zealand had decided to stay out of it and Western Australia wasn't too keen on Federation either.

But eventually, a new constitution was drawn up and most colonies let their people vote on whether or not they wanted in.

In 1899 all of the colonies except Western Australia said yes.

Australia was about to become a nation.

REPORTER: Western Australia joined in a year later, but the constitution had already been written and approved by the Queen. That's why there's still a line here, saying WA gets to be a part of the Commonwealth if "Her majesty is satisfied that the people of Western Australia have agreed thereto".

In 1901, in Sydney's Centennial Park the Commonwealth of Australia was proclaimed a Federation with six states (the Northern Territory and the ACT would come along a few years later).

The states would keep a lot of their law making and tax collecting powers while the federal government would run things like defence and immigration.

The first Prime Minister was Edmund Barton - who'd helped to write the new constitution.

Not everyone benefited from Federation. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people weren't included and the new government made it harder for people who weren't European to immigrate to Australia.

But it was a major point in Australia's history and the first step towards the country we know today.

## Quiz 1

Right, here's a quiz that might surprise you.

Apart from New Zealand, which other country was invited to join the Australian Federation.

Was it:

Indonesia

Vanuatu

or

Fiji?

Answer: Fiji

It was a British colony too and it was part of early talks about Federation but it decided to go its own way.

## Close the Gap

Reporter: Natasha Thiele

*INTRO: Right, now to a story about a huge issue in Australia. Did you know that Indigenous Australians on average don't live as long as non Indigenous Aussies? Lots of people think something needs to be done about it. March 20th is Close the Gap day and a class at Marrara Christian College in Darwin decided to film a story for BtN about it.*

DECLAN: Hello, my name is Declan, I go to Marrara Christian College and this is my class.

RUBY: This is where we go to school. It's in Darwin. But some of us are a long way from our homes and communities. Lots of us are from places like Maningrida, Gapuwiyak and Timber creek. And today in school we're learning about something that affects people from areas like these. It's called Close the Gap.

We learned that Indigenous people live 10 to 17 years less than other Australians. It seems really unfair. Australia is a rich country. But the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders is more like some of the poorest countries in the world.

BOY : I was surprised. I didn't see that there was a big gap, it didn't seem right, it was wrong.

BOY : I feel a little bit worried when people die back home. It happened to me and Eldred, so we had to go back for funeral and in two months we have to go back for a funeral, me and Eldred.

But there is good news. The Close the Gap campaign is trying to change things. Here are the ways we think we can make things better. Going to school is important. It means we can get good jobs. But it also helps us know how to look after ourselves and we can take what we learned back to our communities. Things like what we eat is really important. A good diet can make you much healthier.

BOYS: To close the gap we're eating a healthy lunch.

DECLAN: We just go on the rocks and do some fishing on it and like yeah we catch like snappers, barramundi, sometimes crabs.

TEACHER: And is that like better than eating takeaway food?

DECLAN AND BOYS: Yeah!

TEACHER: Why?

DECLAN AND BOYS: Healthy!

It's good to keep fit too. We love to play basketball at school and we like to head to the beach to do backflips and dance. It keeps us fit and it's really fun. We're pretty good don't you think?

We learned about health stuff too. Sometimes it can be hard to see a doctor in remote communities and letting everyone know that there is help out there is really good. The main part of Close the Gap is to make things better and if everyone knows about it, we all reckon things will get better soon.

Presenter: Brilliant effort guys. Well done.

## Quiz 2

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Let's have another quiz.

In which year was the Australian Aboriginal flag created?

Was it 1901

1931

Or 1971

The answer is 1971.

It was designed by Aboriginal artist Harold Thomas.

## Dinosaurs

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Reporters: James Bartold

*INTRO: Now. A new show is using puppets to bring ancient dinosaurs to life. The aim is to give people a glimpse of what they might have looked and sounded like. And as James found out doing that takes a lot of science and a bit of imagination.*

JAMES BARTOLD, REPORTER: Meet the gang! There's Dryosaur, Leaellynasaura and Australovenator. Together these guys make up some of Australia's most famous and scary dinosaurs. Ok so these aren't real dinosaurs, but they're the next best thing and I went to meet them in person.

REPORTER: Hi, I'm James.

MICHAEL: Hi James, Michael.

REPORTER: Michael, nice to meet you

REPORTER: Michael I hear you've got some amazing dinosaurs for us to meet.

MICHAEL: Yeah that's right we've got some Australian dinosaurs.

Michael's part of the team at Erth's Dinosaur Zoo who've made it their mission to bring dinosaurs back to life.

MICHAEL: Okay I've got another dinosaur to show you. Her name is Leaellynasaura, now it's a bit of a mouthful but the guy who discovered her Tom Rich, he named him after his daughter and her name was Leaellyna, she's a little bit shy but I'll see if I can get her out here.

A big part of the show is teaching kids about what these massive creatures were like.

MICHAEL: Those eyes are some of the biggest eyes of any dinosaur, compared to the size of the head and the reason is back when she was around they used to have to live in a polar darkness area, so she would've had to see in the dark.

The dinosaurs range from tiny little babies to massive monsters like Australia's answer to the T. rex.

REPORTER: As you can see this guy's pretty huge, he's over four metres long and over two metres tall. I'm pretty scared!

They've even got his roar down pat!

REPORTER: How is the sound made, the scary sounds that we're hearing?

MICHAEL: So Bliz inside the dinosaur has got a little mic that's connected up to him and it runs through an amp and a voice modulator, so basically when he goes rahhh, the dinosaur goes roar, roar.

REPORTER: He sounds a bit like Batman!



To get the dinosaurs as life-like as possible, the Erth team worked with dinosaur experts called paleontologists. But how do they know what dinosaurs actually looked like? I went to meet a guy who studies them to find out.

MIYESS MITRI: In Spinosaurus this structure would just continue just up and up and up, in other dinosaurs it would just go up and stop about there.

Miyees says there's lots of ways we're able to paint a pretty good picture of what dinosaurs would have looked like.

MIYESS: You might find an almost complete skeleton with skin impressions, and that can tell you a lot. It can tell you about the size and shape of the dinosaur, it can tell you the size and shape of the scales, what I can't tell you though is the colour an animal was.

Back at the theatre and the best part of seeing this show in the flesh is getting to meet some of the stars.

MICHAEL: Hold out your hand like this, let them smell the top of your hand and once they've smelled you, that means they like you, that means you can give a little scratch under the chin or say g'day.

So while they're not quite the real thing, they're one of the best sneak peeks we can get of the animals that once ruled the earth!

## Quiz 3

That brings us to a dinosaur quiz!

How many letters are in longest dinosaur name?

16

23

41

The answer is 23

Right the name is Micropachycephalosaurus. Ahh maybe we'll just put it on screen!

The name means tiny thick-headed lizard; bit rude isn't it?

Right, time for some sport. Here's the Score.

## The Score

After scoring second place in the Melbourne Grand Prix Aussie Daniel Ricciardo was disqualified for using too much fuel. He would've been the first Aussie to finish on the podium at home. And he says he'll fight the decision.

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The Winter Paralympics has wrapped up in Sochi.

14-year old snowboarder Ben Tudhope got to hold the Aussie flag at the closing ceremony.

BUN TUDHOPE: I could not believe it, being so young and never thought it would ever happen.

Russia won the games finishing with 80 medals including 30 gold.

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Fremantle has thrashed Collingwood by 70 points in first AFL game of the season.

Also, the Gold Coast and the GWS Giants have won on the same weekend for the first time. The Giants beat the Sydney Swans...99 to 67.

“Cameron pounces, this is his forte, something from nothing, well that was clever!”

And Gold Coast took out Richmond by 18 points.

## Golf Croquet

Reporter: Natasha Thiele

*INTRO: Now to a sport that you might have heard of, or might not. Golf Croquet doesn't get a lot of air time on TV and you probably won't see it at the Olympics. But Tash found a group of school kids who reckon it's actually pretty cool.*

NATASHA THIELE, REPORTER: It's a game you might remember from Alice in Wonderland, a hobby of the crazy Queen of Hearts. Okay, so croquet isn't really about using flamingos as mallets and hedgehogs as balls. It's a real game that's lots of fun!

LAURA: I'd first heard about croquet through Alice in Wonderland myself, but disappointed when it wasn't hedgehogs and flamingos, but kind of relieved there were fewer beheadings so that was good!

These students took up golf croquet a few months ago through school. It's a little different to standard croquet as in the games are about 45 minutes long instead of two-and-a-half hours and you take it in turns.

MADDIE: It's less like sort of physical and it's more like a mind game.

JASMINE: Some of my grandparents play it and so they're really supportive of me trying out the sport that they play as well.

ELAINE: Normally you'd think that it's slow and boring but actually in fact you have heaps of fun with everybody.

REPORTER: So Laura, what are the basics of croquet?

LAURA: In croquet, the aim is to get your ball through the hoop and in doing that, you also have to be able to hit your opposition's ball out of the way. So to do that, you have to use your mallet and holding the mallet either with your left hand, gripping like that and your right hand a bit further down. Then you want to line your feet up with the ball and then line the middle of the mallet, where there's the line with the centre of the ball, swing back and just hit forward.

REPORTER: Swing back and hit forward. Ooo just missed it, ah it's not too bad!

These guys have got plenty of tips from the more experienced members at the Hyde Park Croquet Club in Adelaide.

GRAEME, PLAYER: They've mastered most of the basic shots and most of the basic tactics. We'll get them into competition and they'll get the real tactics, the nasty side of the game the blocking, the hitting away rather than putting it through the hoop.

PHILIP, PLAYER: We're looking for a world champion. The current world champion is 20 and he beat a guy about 25, so we need some young blood so that we can hopefully have a club member who can perhaps win the world championship.

And they'd like to see some of the girls stay on and play for the club.

MADDIE: Yeah Laura's already handed in her registration forms, but I've still gotta do mine.

BARRY HAYDON, HYDE PARK CROQUET CLUB PRESIDENT: They'll be playing people of, well I've told them they need to know how to play and beat their grandmothers.

These guys are hoping to start up a schools competition this year and it might just inspire more young people to give the sport a shot. And that's something the croquet experts would like to see happen!

PHILIP: Croquet's okay!

GRAEME: What a line!

## Closer

Right, that about wraps us up for today. But you can get more BtN throughout the week. Just head to our website to have your say and read what other kids are talking about. Or you can talk to us anytime using the hashtag behind the news. Catch ya next time!