



**ROYAL
AERONAUTICAL
SOCIETY**
BEDFORD BRANCH

Bedford Branch Committee 2022/23 (Proposed)

President: Mr. Peter Curtis BSc(Eng) CEng MRAeS

Peter Curtis is the current president of the RAeS Bedford Branch. He graduated in 1984 from Queen Mary College, London in Aeronautical Engineering and joined the Aerodynamics department at British Aerospace, Kingston. There, he specialised in propulsion integration and V/STOL aerodynamics, becoming involved in R&D and a number of projects that eventually culminated in the F-35 Lightning II. He was also involved in the Harrier and Nimrod MRA4 projects. In 2009 he became Chief Technical Officer at ARA, which post was held until 2018; and is currently Chief Aerodynamicist for the Aeralis aircraft project. Peter has been a member of RAeS at various grades since 1982 and achieved Chartered Engineer in 1996. He has been both member and chair of the RAeS/IMechE Propulsion specialist committee. He is an associate editor of The Aeronautical Journal.

Chair: Ms Caroline Betts BSc(Hons) FRAeS

Caroline spent her early career conducting wing aerodynamics research at the RAE Bedford Wind Tunnel site, having completed a degree in Mathematics and Physics at the University of Hull. She moved into project and business management and fulfilled senior business roles in QinetiQ (Bedford and Farnborough) and more recently at Aircraft Research Association Ltd Bedford until summer 2019. As a manager, Caroline actively supported her staff to seek professional accreditation. She was elected a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society in 2006 and has been a volunteer committee member of the Bedford RAeS Branch committee for over 5 years.

Secretary: Vacant

Treasurer: Mr. Neil Stokes BA(Hons) CEng MRAeS

Mr Neil P. Stokes currently holds the position of Branch Treasurer of the RAeS Bedford branch. Neil has a BA(Hons) degree in Applied Photography, Film and Television from Westminster University, specialising in scientific photography. Neil has worked as a commercial photographer and graphic designer and for the last 29 years at ARA, initially as Chief Photographer and currently as Optical Measurement Systems Manager and Technical Specialist for optical methods and has recently completed his Mental Health First Aid training. He is a professional development mentor at ARA, guiding colleagues through the process of professional registration and certification. Neil has been on the RAeS Bedford Branch committee for 8 years. As well as photography and graphic/web design Neil enjoys motorcycling walking his dogs.



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Lectures: Mr. Daniel Dyer MEng CEng MRAeS

Daniel Dyer currently holds the position of Lecture Secretary of the RAeS Bedford Branch. Daniel received an MEng in Aerospace Engineering at UMIST/University of Manchester (UoM) and currently works as a staff Systems Engineer at Lockheed Martin UK (LMUK) where during his career at the company has worked on a number of national and multinational test and development programmes in the UK and abroad. Outside of engineering, Daniel is an LMUK member of the UoM MACE Industrial Advisory Board, LMUK Women in STEM (WiSTEM) advocacy group and is moving to a leadership role in employee Diversity and Inclusion Network, whilst regularly volunteering with the employee STEM outreach group. Daniel enjoys photography, climbing and mountain biking and is currently working to improve his skills in 3D modelling, 3D printing and video editing.

Ordinary Member: Mr. Bernard Chan BEng MRAeS

Bernard is currently the Chair of the RAeS Bedford Branch. This includes involvement organising branch STEM/outreach activities and helping to co-ordinate these with Lockheed Martin's local presence in the area. This includes the successful joint effort between Lockheed Martin, the Aircraft Research Association and the RAeS to provide a deployable wind-tunnel in support of national STEM activities. He has been a member of the RAeS since 1990 and was involved in the young members activities in the mid-1990s. He joined the Weapon Systems & Technologies Specialist Group, initially as the young person representative in the early 2000s, and eventually chaired the group during the period 2010-2017 and is still active as the Vice-Chair. Bernard is also the Chair of the RAeS Specialist Groups Committee and has instigated changes to increase their wider involvement and engagement of the RAeS membership. He sees this as essential to allowing the RAeS to maintain its future relevance in the aerospace sector. In addition, he is on the RAeS Diversity & Inclusion Working Group and the Continuous Professional Development Committee. Bernard's working life has centred on aerospace related activities including a brief service with the RAF and working for what was at the time Hunting Engineering. The company has undergone several changes, to ultimately become part of the Lockheed Martin Corporation. Bernard has worked on subjects such as ground based air defence/situational awareness systems, guided and ballistic missiles and space systems. He is an early life cycle Systems Engineer with a working interest in operational analysis, concept and design, costing, technology development, aerodynamic design and testing.



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Ordinary Member: Oliver Westbrook-Netherton BEng Msc CEng MRAeS

Oliver Westbrook-Netherton supports Daniel Dyer with his lecture secretary role and other aspects of running the branches lectures. Oliver received his BEng (Hons) degree in Aerospace Design Engineering from the University of the West (UWE) of England in 2014 (including a year in industry placement which he completed at Lockheed Martin UK in 2013), and his MSc (Hons) degree in Advanced Aeronautical Engineering from Imperial College London in 2015.

Since 2022, Oliver has worked as a Systems Engineer with Schneider Electric where he designs home devices for smart energy management. Prior to this, he worked as a System Engineer with Lockheed Martin UK, where we worked on a variety of projects from 2015 - 2020, and was involved in numerous STEM and Outreach activities/events. He then took up a position as a Senior Systems Engineer at Leonardo UK where he designed Electronic Warfare (EW) devices for military aircraft until 2022.

Oliver enjoys; running, cycling, wake boarding and is a SSI advanced open water qualified scuba diver.