

MICHELLE HUNTINGTON

FORMER AIRLINE CAPTAIN · TEDX SPEAKER · AUTHOR OF LADY MACGYVER

LADY MACGYVER

What do you do when the plan you had
is no longer an option?

Fewer than 500

Female airline captains globally at any one time. Michelle was one of them.



SOME PEOPLE ARE GOOD AT FOLLOWING THE PLAN.

MICHELLE GOT VERY GOOD AT WHAT HAPPENS NEXT.

Michelle Huntington spent 23 years in aviation, eventually becoming a Boeing 737 Captain and one of fewer than 500 female airline captains globally.

Along the way, she flew small aircraft solo across the Pacific, landed after a lightning strike took out her instruments and radios, challenged senior authority when staying quiet would have been easier, survived breast cancer and eventually lost the career that had defined much of her adult life.

These are extraordinary stories. What makes them resonate is what happens in between: doubt, pressure, judgement, failure, courage and finding a way.

Lady MacGyver is a funny, very human keynote about what we're capable of when the plan disappears and we have to find a way.



LIGHTNING STRIKE

Every instrument failed



PACIFIC CROSSING

13½ hrs. Solo. One Engine



SPEAKING UP

Six months into probation.



A DIFFERENT VIEW OF
RESILIENCE



MORE TRUST IN THEIR OWN
CAPABILITY



INGENUITY AND HOW TO
FIND A WAY

WHAT THE AUDIENCE TAKES WITH THEM

"YOU HAD THE AUDIENCE COMPLETELY CAPTIVATED."

"Your keynote presentation was inspiring, thought-provoking and, at times, absolutely astonishing. You had the audience completely captivated as you shared stories of resilience, determination and overcoming obstacles that would have stopped most people in their tracks."

Kirsten Engels

Northern Territory Organising Committee

Australasian Council of Women and Policing Conference 2026



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Keynotes 45-60 mins · Australia · New Zealand · International


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