



# HARS AVIATION MUSEUM

## December 2015 Newsletter

### First Exclusive Tours of VH-OJA, our Boeing 747-438 Begin

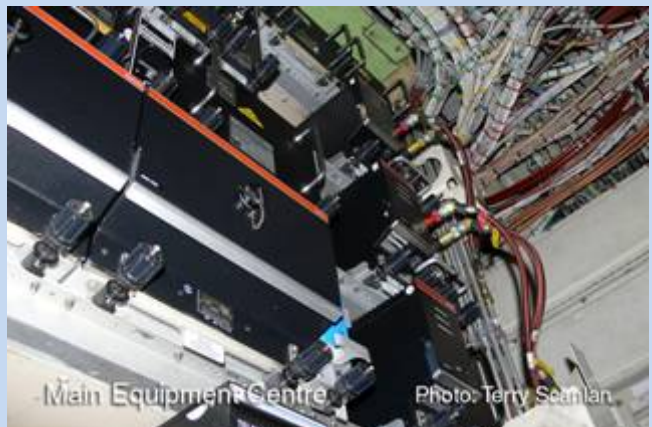
After much planning and preparation, the first exclusive tours of VH-OJA have begun. Our first group of visitors were asked to give a critique after the tour as they had all been on a tour of another 747 previously. They were treated to a video presentation, a tour of the external engineering spaces, cabin explanations and a detailed cockpit tour. Each of the guides on the tour are either retired or current Qantas staff and are able to give the visitors detailed information on all aspects of the operation of the Boeing 747-438.

One of the areas that passengers don't normally get to see is the Main Equipment Centre where all the aircraft's computers are housed.



Main Equipment Centre

Photo: Terry Scanlan



Main Equipment Centre

Photo: Terry Scanlan

The report on the tour by our first visitors was encouraging; they rated it 11 out of 10 - a gratifying response for the planners of the 747 tour.

### HARS AGM and Christmas Party

The HARS Annual General Meeting and Christmas Party were held on 5 December with around 180 members attending and then enjoying a lunch after the AGM.



AGM Sign-in

Photo: Terry Scanlan



HARS AGM

Photo: Terry Scanlan



HARS Christmas Party Photo: Terry Scanlan

## December Open Weekend

Once again the weather was a big factor in attendance numbers for our monthly open weekend on 13, 14, 15 December. Friday started out very hot with strong westerly winds keeping the visitors at home or in the cool shopping centres but Saturday and Sunday were much cooler days with a good turnout of visitors.

Aircraft on display were:

- CAC CA-25 Winjeel,
- Lockheed P2V-7 Neptune,
- C47, DHC-4 Caribou,
- CA-27 Avon Sabre
- and of course our B747-438

## HARS Hosts a Conference

HARS Aviation Museum regularly hosts functions for external organisations and in December a well known travel agency utilised our facility for their annual conference. A surprise team building exercise was held at the end of the conference where the attendees were split into two teams and challenged to pull our two DHC-4 Caribous, weighing in at 7,675 kg each (empty weight), in a race along the tarmac to the finish line. The group really enjoyed this exercise before joining their coach to return to Sydney.



Caribou pulling teams Photo: Tony Crampton



Caribou pulling teams Photo: Tony Crampton

## Coming Soon

HARS has negotiated the acquisition of a Convair 440 from Rovos, a luxury tour operator in South Africa. The aircraft is beautifully appointed with leather upholstery and was used to ferry passengers to and from the Rovos Luxury Train tours. It has become surplus to their requirements and will make an excellent addition to our collection.



## Did You Know...

- ...that the world's first commercial flight took off on 1 January 1914? Tony Jannus charged the former mayor of St Petersburg Florida \$400 to fly him to Tampa in his Benoist XIV biplane flying boat
- ...that an airliner's lifespan is not determined by years but rather by the number of pressurization cycles the aircraft undergoes? An approximate rule of thumb is that a typical airliner is limited to 75,000 pressurization cycles and this takes about 20-25 years for most aircraft
- ...that an airline providing electronic charts for their pilots on an iPad device can save in excess of one million dollars a year in fuel costs due to the reduced weight by not carrying paper charts and manuals?

## HARS at Parkes, NSW

Work is continuing at our satellite museum at Parkes NSW. What was once a storage facility for engines and other equipment from our Albion Park facility is now being converted into a display of HARS aircraft. Interest from the local community is creating a new membership base with many people from the surrounding areas joining and volunteering to help.

## Next Open Days

Upcoming open days will be held on 8, 9, 10 January and 12, 13, 14 February 2016.

## Membership

Are you or a friend interested in joining our tour guide or reception/shop staff ranks? We are actively looking for volunteers to join these areas; lots of laughs and mateship are guaranteed. Maybe you or your partner have a few spare days a month that you would like to contribute to the smooth running of our museum. Our next information session will be held on Saturday 30 January at 9:30am at the HARS Aviation Museum.

For further information about membership please visit <http://hars.org.au/contact-us/>. Enter 'New Member Enquiries' in the 'Who would you like to contact?' field.



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