



HARS AVIATION MUSEUM

April 2016 Newsletter

Wings Over Illawarra Airshow



Planning for Wings Over Illawarra is well underway and many exciting displays have already been secured, including Australia's only Focke-Wulf FW190, World War II German fighter. HARS aircraft will be open for inspection with the Connie, Caribou and Catalina participating in the flying displays.



RAAF Roulettes Aerobatic Team Photo: Mark Keech

For more information see: <https://www.wingsoverillawarra.com.au/>

March Tarmac Days

The March Tarmac Days coincided with the first anniversary of our Qantas Boeing 747-438 aircraft's arrival into the Illawarra Regional Airport. As a special treat for our visitors during the three Tarmac Days, several seminars were held on board the aircraft each day. These seminars were conducted by HARS members who had previously flown this aircraft and the visitors were given the opportunity to question those pilots during Q&A sessions held after their talks.



Other aircraft exhibited during the March Tarmac Days were:

- Douglas C-47B Dakota,
- de Havilland DHC-4 Caribou,
- Lockheed P2V-7 Neptune,
- Lockheed C-121C Super Constellation,
- Cessna 310B,
- de Havilland T.35 Vampire.

The Dakota and Cessna 310 flew circuits throughout the weekend.



The Navy also paid us a visit by flying in one of their AS350B Squirrel helicopters on Saturday.

Birthday Wash For Our Boeing 747-438

To mark the first anniversary of her arrival at HARS, a decision was taken to give VH-OJA a good old scrub down. Quite a task when you come to think of it and some serious elevation equipment was needed to get the guys up high enough to clean the sides of the fuselage.

Landscaping around OJA continues with concrete paths being laid and the surrounding area prepared for turf laying.



Site preparation

Photo: Terry Scanlan



New concrete paths

Photo: Terry Scanlan

Did You Know...

..."MAYDAY" is derived from the French word "m'aidez", which means "help me"?

...during a seven hour flight from New York to London travellers receive about the same dose of radiation as a chest X-ray? On a flight from New York to Tokyo, the dose is equivalent to two chest X-rays according to the US FAA.

...in 1940 to fly from London to New York would cost the equivalent of one year's wages? Today the cost could be earned by working for only two days!

Wings Over Illawarra Media Day

The local print, radio and TV media attended HARS Aviation Museum on 18 March for the launch to promote the Wings Over Illawarra Airshow to be held on Saturday 30 April and Sunday 1 May.

Our DHC-4 Caribou flew two circuits and a Pitts Special performed an aerobatics display for the assembled media. The Lockheed Super Constellation contributed with an engine run but didn't fly on that day.



Wings media day

Photo: Deb Farquhar

HARS will have the Lockheed Super Constellation, DHC-4 Caribou and PBY-6A Catalina participating in the flying displays during the Airshow. Go to <https://www.wingsoverillawarra.com.au/> for more details.

Wedding On The 747 VH-OJA

HARS was chosen by aviation enthusiasts Matthew Semmler and Merissa Lucas as the venue for their wedding held on Thursday 24 March 2016.



The happy couple

Photo: Steve Heesh

They were married by the Rev. Paul Semmler, the father of the groom, in front of 60 guests at door R3 on board our 747, VH-OJA. They completed the formalities by signing the register underneath the aircraft.

The aviation theme continued by substituting paper planes for confetti and the wedding cake, baked in New Zealand, was fashioned in the shape of a C-130 Hercules. Guests travelled from a number of Australian States, New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

The wedding reception was held in Hangar 1 against the backdrop of the Connie and other aircraft housed in that hangar with the Southern Highlands escarpment in the distance.

Next Tarmac Days

Aside from the spectacle that will be Wings Over Illawarra on 30 April and 1 May, our usual Tarmac Days will be held on 8, 9, 10 April and 13, 14, 15 May 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.

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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