

# **November 2016 Newsletter**

# **Townsville T150 Air Show and Open Day**

HARS aircraft featured prominently at the T150 Defence Force Air Show and Open Day in Townsville over the weekend of 15 and 16 October. Our Caribou, Catalina and Neptune made the journey of just over two thousand nautical miles. The air show was held over The Strand on the Saturday, and the Neptune crew enjoyed, as did the RAAF, flying with the C-130 Hercules camera ship and the 10 Squadron P-3 Orion. On the Sunday the aircraft were on static display at RAAF Base Townsville and many visitors were able to get up close to the RAAF heritage that HARS is proud to preserve.







## **October Tarmac Days**

Due to three of our aircraft being away for the Townsville T150 Defence Force Air Show and Open Day, HARS aircraft were a little light on the ground for the October Tarmac Days. Nevertheless we had a steady stream of visitors who were able to enjoy the remaining aircraft in Hangar Three as well as our outdoor displays.

#### Aircraft on display were:

- Lockheed P2V-7 Neptune,
- Lockheed C-121C Super Constellation,
- GAF IIIO(F) Mirage,
- General Dynamics F-111C,
- Piaggio P.166 Portofino.



This was also a great opportunity for us to bring our Piaggio P.166 back to the hangar from its usual display location near the threshold of runway 16, so that our visitors could get a closer look at it.

#### **South Coast Tourism Awards**

HARS Aviation Museum provided the venue for this year's South Coast Tourism Awards. The gala evening was held in our Hangar One on Wednesday 26 October with Connie taking centre stage. These awards are the principal tourism industry event for the Illawarra and they recognise the best tourism operators and their outstanding achievements over the past 12 months at the same time celebrating our \$2 billion p.a. tourism industry.



## **Super Constellation Ball**

Following closely after the Tourism Awards night was the inaugural Super Constellation Ball, a black tie event held on Saturday 29 October to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the arrival in Australia of the HARS flagship Lockheed C-121C Super Constellation VH-EAG "Connie". The aircraft was saved from the scrappers in the early 1990s and over a four year period was painstakingly restored to flying status by HARS members who travelled to Tucson, Arizona to work on the project. In 1996 she was flown across the Pacific via Oakland, Honolulu, Pago Pago and Nadi arriving in Sydney on 3 February.





To celebrate twenty years of operating Connie in Australia a wonderful evening of entertainment and surprises was enjoyed with over 350 people in attendance. The evening was a huge success and helped raise funds for a much needed repaint of our Connie.

#### Radiance of the Seas visit to Port Kembla

On the morning after the Super Constellation Ball, Port Kembla Harbour was visited by the Royal Caribbean Cruise liner Radiance of the Seas. The ship was in port for just one day and a number of tours around the Illawarra were offered to the passengers, including a visit to HARS Aviation Museum. Three HARS aircraft were mobilised to greet the ship on its arrival into Port Kembla, the Catalina, Dakota and Neptune. We were well prepared and a large number of the passengers made the journey to Illawarra Regional Airport to view our collection.





#### Did You Know...

...the paint applied to an Airbus A380, for a typical paint scheme, weighs approximately 600 kilograms?

...that hard landing you usually experience on your commercial flight is normal and is not a sign of bad pilot skills? The hard landing is to maximise the weight on the landing gear to assist the efficient braking of the aircraft

...there have been twice as many Astronauts as there have been Pilots who have ever flown Concorde?

## **Flying Activities**

HARS aircraft will overfly Stanwell Park on 9 November to commemorate Lawrence Hargrave's flight beneath a string of box kites from Stanwell Park beach in November 1894. Lawrence Hargrave was an Australian pioneer of flight and contributed significantly to the design of the aerofoil wing shape that eventually lead to the Wright brothers making the first powered flight. He lived in Stanwell Park.

On 24 November the Catalina and Neptune are expected to attend an event at RAAF Edinburgh in South Australia to commemorate the phasing out of the Orion fleet and replacement with P-8 Poseidon aircraft. The appearance of HARS aircraft at events is subject to serviceability.

## **Boeing 747-438 Premium Tours**

This tour enables participants to learn all about the workings of this iconic aircraft. Your tour includes areas of the aircraft which are normally inaccessible to the public, such as the crew rest areas, cargo holds, electronics bay and the cockpit.





The HARS volunteers who conduct this tour are either current or retired pilots, engineers and cabin crew who have worked on the 747. Therefore you can be assured your tour will not only be informative, but also include some amusing stories about the aircraft and its operations.

Bookings can be made by phoning HARS on (02) 4257 4333.

#### **Next Tarmac Days**

Upcoming Tarmac Days will be held on 11, 12, 13 November and 9, 10, 11 December 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. An information session for potential new members will be held at 11:00 am on Sunday 27 November. All are welcome.

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









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