



HARS
AVIATION
MUSEUM
www.hars.org.au

October 2016 Newsletter

Convair CV-440 flight from South Africa

A pilot's account, by Geoff Sheppard

The flight of the Convair from Wonderboom, South Africa was quite an achievement for an aircraft that has not flown any significant hours for eight years. There had been a lot of work getting it to a standard that allowed the ferry flight to proceed and the results were stunning.

The flight started in early August, with three pilots catching the direct flight from Sydney to Johannesburg. Five days later we departed Wonderboom with a small group of people there to wish us well. It was a bit emotional for those saying goodbye to an aircraft that Rovos Air had owned for 15 years, however that was mixed with the knowledge it was going to a good home.

After departing Wonderboom on 9 August, there were two short sectors, first via Kruger (to get a departure clearance from South Africa) and then to Beira in Mozambique. After that, it was two of the longest flights to the Seychelles then to Mattala in Sri Lanka. Mattala was quite unusual. It is an international airport that appears to have been built in the middle of nowhere, with wonderful facilities and vanishingly little use. This airport and the hotel we stayed at are two of the most vivid and delightful memories we have of the trip.

Next it was across to Johor Bahru on the Southern tip of Malaysia. By now, we were becoming rather tired, since our routine had become an alternation of flying one day and then working on the aircraft the next so a day off to visit Singapore was decided upon.

For the rest of the ferry flight, the aircraft just ran and ran. On the following days we flew to Bali then Darwin, Mt Isa and Dubbo. The final leg, Dubbo to Wollongong, was via an overfly of Parkes to say hello to our satellite facility. Clearing the Blue Mountains and seeing the Pacific Ocean for the first time was quite a sight - and then there was the landing and reception!



Convair arriving at Dubbo

Photo: Mark Keech



Convair at Wollongong

Photo: Mark Keech

To say that we are proud of this aircraft is an understatement. It is a credit to Rovos Air for the care they lavished on the aircraft and our many sponsors who generously (some extremely generously) ensured this aircraft arrived here. We are MOST grateful for their assistance.

September Tarmac Days

September tarmac days saw the following aircraft on display:

- Both Douglas C-47B Dakotas A65-94 and A65-95,
- Douglas DC-3, Hawdon,
- Convair CV-440,
- de Havilland DHC-4 Caribou,
- Lockheed P2V-7 Neptune,
- Lockheed C-121C Super Constellation.

Several aircraft were fired up to test engines and systems, including the Convair CV-440 and Douglas DC-3, Hawdon. Lockheed P2V-7 Neptune, A89-273, which has undergone an extended period of maintenance, was also pushed out onto the tarmac on the Saturday and had all four engines run. The sound of the two, 18 cylinder Wright 3350 engines operating at the same time as the two Westinghouse J34 turbines is quite unique!



Flying Activities

Three HARS aircraft, the Catalina, Neptune and one of the Caribous, will depart mid-October to participate in the RAAF Townsville Air Show and Open Day on 15 and 16 October.

Sunday 30 October sees the arrival of the cruise ship Radiance of the Seas into Port Kembla harbour and a number of HARS aircraft will be in the air to greet the ship and special tours have been arranged for the guests at our facility at Illawarra Regional Airport. Later that morning the Catalina will depart for an overfly of the Rathmines Catalina Festival at Lake Macquarie.

HARS aircraft will overfly Stanwell Park on 9 November despite the Festival of Flight being cancelled this year. The flight is to commemorate Lawrence Hargrave's ascension beneath a string of box kites on Stanwell Park beach in November 1894.



On 24 November the Catalina and Neptune are expected to attend an event at RAAF Edinburgh to commemorate the phasing out of the Orion fleet and replacement with P8 Poseidon aircraft.

As always, the appearance of HARS aircraft is subject to serviceability.

Did You Know...

...the aircraft "Black Box" was originally conceived by Australian engineer David Warren in 1953? He built the first prototype in 1958 but it wasn't until the mid 1960's that the units were redesigned and became widely used.

...the most powerful commercial jet engine in service at this time is the General Electric GE90-115B engine, which is built exclusively for the Boeing 777? In 2002, during certification testing, a GE90-115B set a world record by developing 127,900 pounds of thrust. By way of comparison, the Rolls Royce RB211 fitted to Boeing 747-400 aircraft develops approximately 60,000 pounds of thrust.

...the Convair CV-240 aircraft was initially designed and produced by the American Convair company as a possible competitor/replacement for the Douglas DC-3? The type was produced from 1947 to 1954 in both civilian and military versions, Convair being formed by the merger of the Consolidated and Vultee Aircraft companies.

Super Constellation Ball

Tickets are still available for the Super Constellation Gala Ball. This event is open to the general public so why not get some friends together and book a table for what will be a fun filled night.

The ticket price includes drinks, canapés, a three course meal and entertainment.

| | |
|--------|--|
| When: | Saturday 29 October 2016 |
| Time: | 6.00pm (drinks and canapés served in reception before proceeding to Hangar One for the ball) |
| Where: | HARS Aviation Museum, Illawarra Regional Airport, Albion Park Rail |
| Dress: | Formal Black Tie |
| Cost: | \$200 per person (\$50 will be donated to the Connie Painting Fund and is tax deductible). |

To book, phone HARS reception on 02 4247 4333.

City of Canberra - Boeing 747-438 News

Additional Engine Installed

City of Canberra has had another engine delivered and installed on pylon 4. It is anticipated the final engine will be received in coming weeks. This will replace the engine on pylon three which is from a Boeing 747-338 and was originally on static display within the HARS collection.

Air-conditioning for the Upper Deck

Thanks to the generosity of Panasonic Australia and their local dealer Careda Air, City of Canberra now has dedicated air-conditioning on the upper deck. This is a most welcome addition, particularly with the summer months not far away.

Turf Laid Around Aircraft Hard Stand

During September the unpaved area around City of Canberra received a significant improvement with turf being laid.



747-438 at Wollongong

Photo: Mark Keech

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.



747 Throttle Quadrant

Photo: Mark Keech



The 747 Experience

Photo: Mark Keech

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.

David Massy-Greene

It is with sadness that we report the recent passing of David Massy-Greene. David was responsible for the integration of the 747-400 series into the Qantas fleet and was the Captain of City of Canberra on her record-breaking flight from London to Sydney on 16 and 17 August 1989. David was also present when City of Canberra landed at Albion Park on 8 March 2015 and only recently became a HARS member.

Next Tarmac Days

Upcoming Tarmac Days will be held on 14, 15, 16 October and 11, 12, 13 November 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 23 October. All are welcome.

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



Privacy

You are receiving this email because you have registered your email address with us to receive the HARS Newsletter. We respect your privacy and only use your details for this newsletter. If you no longer want to receive the HARS Newsletter, please [UNSUBSCRIBE](#).

©2016HARS Aviation Museum | Cnr Airport Drive and Boomerang Avenue | Albion Park Rail NSW 2527. This content cannot be reproduced without permission from HARS Aviation Museum.