



**HARS**  
**AVIATION**  
**MUSEUM**  
[www.hars.org.au](http://www.hars.org.au)

## February 2017 Newsletter

### Upgrades at HARS Aviation Museum

Over the past months we have been investing significant resources into improving the museum to enhance our visitors' experience. Improvements include:

- The redesign and upgrade of the entrance and shop which includes a new service counter, made from 747 wing flaps with a 707 cabin interior backdrop, and improved café facilities,
- The installation of a fire sprinkler system to all areas of the museum and hangars which includes water tanks and pumps for fire fighting,
- Solar panels to provide power during daylight hours, thereby significantly reducing our carbon footprint,
- Laying of turf around and under the 747 with an in-ground watering system that uses rain water captured from the hangars.

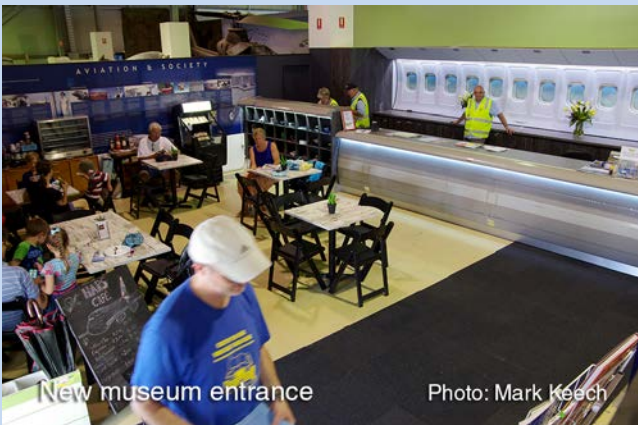


Photo: Mark Keech



Photo: Mark Keech



Photo: Mark Keech

## 747 used in film production

Where does a film production company go when they need to use an airliner as a set? The airlines are not always able to accommodate them as it means taking an aircraft offline for a day or more which results in a loss of revenue. This is where HARS can help out and we are often requested by film production companies to use our aircraft as sets for movies or advertisements, particularly the 747 as it is still quite a modern airliner. On Wednesday 25 January that's exactly what happened as a massive entourage of producers, set technicians and actors descended on our 747 to film an advertisement for a well known drink brand.



The rear of the passenger cabin was transformed with window diffusers and curtains and filled with “passengers” to make it look like it was in flight. About 100 people were involved over an eight hour period, all to shoot about 15 seconds! Look out for the ad when it appears.

## January Tarmac Days

January tarmac days were very successful with a large number of visitors attending due in part to the weather being pleasant and falling in the school holidays. Aircraft on display were:

- Convair CV-440, VH-TAA,
- Douglas DC-3, VH-AES, “Hawdon”,
- de Havilland DHC-4 Caribou,
- Lockheed P2V-7 Neptune,
- Piaggio P.166 Portofino.

This weekend was an opportunity for us to reveal our Convair CV-440 to the public for the first time since its arrival from South Africa. As the aircraft is being readied for its first flight in Australian registration, the interior has been restored and was opened to the public for inspection.



Visitors on Saturday and Sunday experienced the sounds of the engines running on both the DC-3 and the Convair. The DC-3 also performed some taxi trials and higher speed runs on the main runway, in preparation for its return to flying status.



## Avalon 2017

The Australian International Airshow at Avalon is a major aviation and defence conference and exhibition to be held from 28 February to 5 March at Avalon airport, Victoria. The event is open to the public from 2pm Friday 3 March and all day Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 March, with various flying displays on each day.

HARS intends to display our Lockheed C-121C Super Constellation and Convair CV-440 at this air show.

After Avalon, Connie will fly to Wagga Wagga where she will be repainted. The repaint is being sponsored by Douglas Aerospace of Wagga with support funds raised at last year's Constellation Ball which commemorated the 20th anniversary of Connie's arrival in Australia.

## Did You Know...

...the total production of the German WWII Messerschmitt Bf 109 fighter aircraft exceeded 33,000 airframes, the largest number of any fighter aircraft in history?

...the German Focke-Wulf Fw 190 was designed as a successor to the Bf 109 and was considered to be a much superior aircraft? Over 20,000 of this type were produced.

...the first Lockheed Super Constellation to enter Qantas service did so on 3 May 1954? It was also the last to be removed from Qantas service in May 1963 and was registered VH-EAG. The HARS Connie is also registered VH-EAG, the registration being reserved when our Connie project was in progress to honour the first and last Super Constellation in Qantas service.

## 747 Cockpit Experience tours now ready for boarding

HARS is pleased to announce that as of 21 January 2017 an exclusive experience will be available on our 747-438, VH-OJA, the 747 Cockpit Experience. Tours will be conducted by an experienced 747 pilot who will explain the cockpit in detail and will take you through all the procedures. You will experience sitting in the pilots' seats and be able to actually handle the controls. This is an incredible opportunity to experience first-hand what really goes on at the pointy end of these magnificent aircraft.



747 Throttle Quadrant

Photo: Mark Keech



747 Cockpit Experience

Photo: Mark Keech

VH-OJA holds the record as the first and only passenger aircraft to fly London to Sydney non-stop. Bookings are limited to two guests per tour. The cost is \$120 per person and is payable at time of booking.

## The total Boeing 747 Experience

In addition to the 747 Cockpit Experience, our 747 Premium Tours are still proving to be popular with our visitors. For just \$195 you can have the complete 747 Experience.

You will be briefed on every aspect of this historic airliner from its record breaking London to Sydney non-stop flight to what tyre pressures are held in the landing wheels. Your personal tour guides will explain and answer all your questions. After a pre-flight video and briefing in our conference room, your tour starts from the ground as you walk around and prepare your Boeing 747 for flight.

Once your pre-flight inspection is complete, climb on board and see what tasks a flight attendant has to do before each flight. Having armed and cross-checked the doors and prepared the cabin for take-off, it's up the stairs and onto the flight deck. The pilot will greet you and show you to the captain's seat and run through the pre-start check list and engine start procedure then the rest is up to you. Make your address to the cabin and you are cleared for take-off.

Your tour price includes a \$20 gift voucher which is redeemable in our Cafe or gift shop.

If this appeals to you and you would like to see what others only dream about, then you shouldn't miss out on this rare opportunity!



Bookings for both tours are strictly limited, so book early so as not to be disappointed. For more information and bookings call 02 4257 4333.

## Next Tarmac Days

Upcoming Tarmac Days will be held on 10, 11, 12 February and 10, 11, 12 March 2017.

## 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 26 February. 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.



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