



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

## June 2018 Newsletter

### *Australia's Aviation Heritage*

#### **Another successful Wings Over Illawarra**

The Wings Over Illawarra airshow spectacular was held over the weekend of 5 and 6 May and the weather for both days can only be described as superb, particularly for flying!

HARS Aviation Museum contributed by opening 14 aircraft for public inspection, including the perennial favourites, the Boeing 747-438 and the Lockheed C-121C Super Constellation. Over 12,000 people took the opportunity to inspect our aircraft!



Wings Over Illawarra 2018

Photo: M. Keech



Wings Over Illawarra 2018

Photo: M. Keech

The weekend was an outstanding success for the organisers, the public and HARS Aviation Museum and there was a huge range of aircraft flying displays. The Royal Australian Air Force dominated the proceedings with displays from the F/A 18 Hornet, Hawk 127 and C-17 Globemaster III, the first ever airshow appearance of the P-8A Poseidon and the Roulettes in their final Wings Over Illawarra display with the Pilatus PC-9. Army Blackhawk and Navy Seahawk helicopters were also displayed as well as the MRH-90. Historic warbirds were well represented with a stunning formation of Merlin-engined fighters – the Hurricane, Spitfire and Mustang.



Roulettes final PC-9 performance

Photo: M. Keech



Boeing P-8A Poseidon

Photo: M. Keech



Paul Bennet in the Wolf Pitts

Photo: M. Keech



F/A-18 finale

Photo: M. Keech

## John Travolta's Boeing 707-138

As previously reported, John Travolta's ex-Qantas Boeing 707-138 has now been formally gifted to HARS Aviation Museum.

There is significant work in progress to enable this aircraft to return to Australia, including compliance with regulatory requirements in the US and Australia, and maintenance work. Much is yet to be done but HARS remains committed to the project.

Given the many variables and the complexity of this project, it is still too early to predict the timing of the aircraft's arrival in Australia but watch this space.



John Travolta's last visit to HARS

Photo: HARS



John Travolta's last visit to HARS

Photo: HARS

## May Tarmac Days

For the May tarmac days our aircraft were pretty much in the same positions as they were for Wings Over Illawarra. Aircraft on display in Hangar One and surrounds were:

- Auster J-5G Autocar
- Boeing B747-438, City of Canberra
- Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation CA-25 Winjeel
- Corby CJ-1 Starlet
- de Havilland DH-82 Tiger Moth
- both de Havilland T.35 Vampires
- Douglas C-47B Dakota
- Grumman S-2G Tracker
- Lockheed C-121C Super Constellation

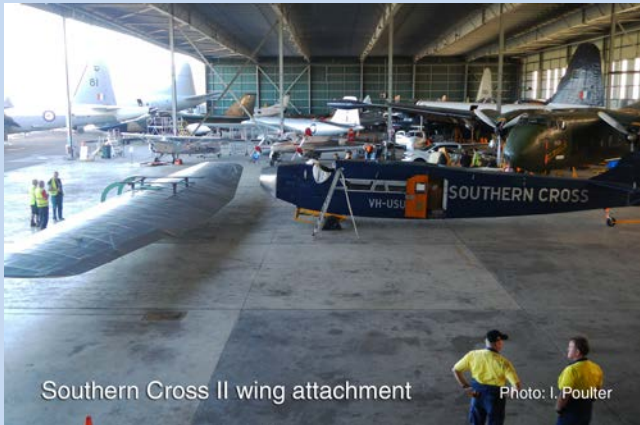
Guided tours of the remainder of the collection were available throughout the weekend.

## Southern Cross II

Thursday 3 May saw a huge milestone for the restoration of our Fokker F.VIIIb/3m, Southern Cross II - the completed wing was lifted and fixed into position on the fuselage.

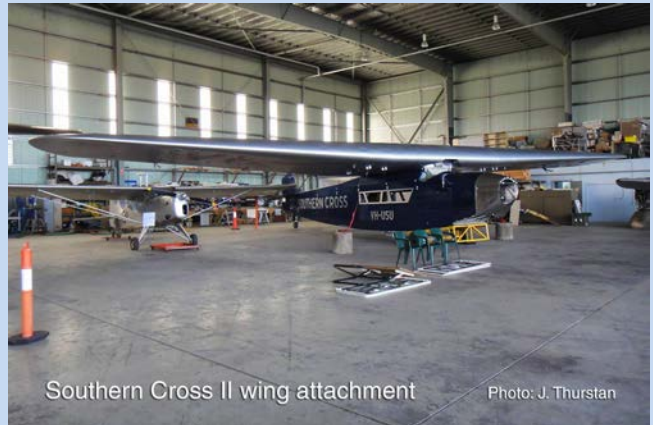
It was a very tense time, particularly for the restoration crew, hoping all would go as planned but the work proceeded smoothly without any problems. With the attachment of the wing and additionally, in recent days the attachment of the horizontal stabiliser, Southern Cross is now starting to look like a whole aircraft again.

The team remains cautiously optimistic the aircraft will be flying again late this year or early in 2019. The event was reported on the local WIN evening news.



Southern Cross II wing attachment

Photo: I. Poulter



Southern Cross II wing attachment

Photo: J. Thurstan

## Flying activities in May

There was an increase in flying activity during May as several of our aircraft had their maintenance cycles completed and were cleared to fly.

Our de Havilland DHA-3 Drover made several flights during the month enabling the crews to maintain their currency on the type. One of our de Havilland DHC-4 Caribou had two flights, one of which included a trip to attend an open day at Mittagong airfield. The Douglas C-47B Dakota A65-94 was also seen flying circuits and the de Havilland DH-82 Tiger Moth, which is not yet cleared to fly, had its engine run as part of the programme to return it to flying status.

## Did You Know...

...in the 1940's and 1950's both the Americans and the Russians researched the concept of a nuclear-powered aircraft? Whilst both countries tested reactors in aircraft, an operational nuclear-powered aircraft was never produced.

...the world's first operational jet-powered bomber was the German Arado Ar 234 Blitz (Blitz meaning Lightning)? It was operational in the closing stages of World War II.

...orders for the Airbus A380 total just 331 aircraft? Emirates Airlines orders account for 178 of the total!

## Porsche Club NSW visit

On Sunday 27 May the Porsche Club NSW visited HARS Aviation Museum. Up to 60 Porsches of various models made an appearance and kept our Café staff busy.



Porsche Club visit

Photo: A. Crampton



Porsche Club visit

Photo: A. Crampton

## Café Connie

Next time you're visiting Illawarra Regional Airport drop in to Café Connie! Breakfast and lunch menus offering a wide selection of both hot and cold foods are available at very reasonable prices. The Café's beverage offering features barista coffee with milk shakes, smoothies and soft drinks. If you're passing our way, why not drop in for coffee and a chat with our friendly staff, or if you're planning a visit to the museum you can now make a meal of it.



Café Connie

Photo: Mark Keech

## City of Canberra - Boeing 747-438 tours

Our Boeing 747-438, City of Canberra, holds the record as the first and only aircraft to fly from London to Sydney non-stop. We are pleased to offer three different exclusive tours of our 747-438:

### The Wing Walk Experience

Follow in the footsteps of the Hon. Stephen Jones MP and view our 747 from a completely different angle. The walk will take you to about 16 meters (52 feet) along the right wing. With the beautiful Illawarra escarpment in the background, a totally unique picture and experience awaits you. Wing walk times are between 10am and 3pm at a special introductory price of \$65 which includes museum entry.

Please note that fully enclosed, flat (no heels) footwear must be worn. Ladies must wear shorts or pants - please no skirts. This is to facilitate the fitting of a snug safety harness.



Stephen Jones MP wing walk

Photo: M. St John



The 747 Cockpit experience

Photo: M. Keech

### The Total Boeing 747 Experience

The 747 Premium Tours are very popular with our visitors from all over the World. For just \$195 you can enjoy the complete 747 experience.

Your tour is led by experienced 747 personnel many of whom actually flew and worked on VH-OJA. You will be briefed on every aspect of this historic airliner from its record breaking London to Sydney non-stop flight to the shortest flight from Sydney to Wollongong. Your personal tour guides will explain and answer all of your questions.

This tour commences with a brief audio-visual presentation followed by a tour of the entire aircraft, including the cabin and galleys, crew rest areas, the forward cargo hold and a detailed inspection of the cockpit in the company of an actual 747 captain.

### The 747 Cockpit Experience

This Cockpit Tour is conducted by an experienced 747 pilot who will explain the cockpit in detail and will take you through the many procedures required to mount a typical operation. You will experience sitting in the pilots' seats and actually be able to handle the controls. This is an incredible opportunity to experience first-hand what really goes on at the pointy end of these magnificent aircraft.

Bookings are limited to two guests per tour. The cost is \$100.00 per person and is payable at time of booking.



City of Canberra - Boeing 747-438 tours

Photo: Mark Keech

### Bookings

Reservations for both tours are strictly limited, therefore book early so as not to be disappointed. Combinations of the various 747 tours are also available at discounted prices. For more information and bookings call 02 4257 4333.

## Next Tarmac Days

Upcoming Tarmac Days will be held on 8, 9, 10 June and 13, 14, 15 July 2018.

## 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 17 June. 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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