



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

**December 2018 Newsletter**

*Australia's Aviation Heritage*

## RAN Historic Flight finds new home

HARS Aviation Museum is proud to announce that our bid to acquire the RAN Historic Flight collection was successful, the announcement being made on 6 November.

The RAN Historic Flight includes several aircraft that were airworthy until a 2008 decision by the Navy saw the flight grounded. For many years the future of the aircraft remained uncertain until a decision was made to dispose of the Historic Flight collection by a restricted tender process.

The HARS tender for the Historic Flight included a proposal to keep the entire collection together. Our intention, in the short term, is to relocate the collection to our facilities at Illawarra Regional Airport. It is also intended to assess all the aircraft to determine which projects would be practical to restore to airworthy condition.



Two RAN Hueys

Photo: M. Hough



Hawker Sea Fury

Photo: M. Hough

The Historic Flight comprises two Grumman S-2G Trackers, two Bell UH-1B Iroquois helicopters, two Westland Wessex HAS.31B helicopters, a Douglas C-47 Dakota, Hawker Sea Fury and de Havilland Sea Venom.



Grumman S-2G Tracker

Photo: M. Hough



Westland Wessex HAS.31B

Photo: M. Hough

## Neptune P2V-5 addition to HARS collection

One of the most recent additions to the HARS collection is an ex RAAF Lockheed P2V-5 Neptune, numbered A89-302. The Neptune was previously located at the RAAF Museum at Point Cook, Victoria and has now been relocated to its new home at Parkes, New South Wales. A89-302 is one of only a handful of P2V-5 Neptunes left surviving in the world and the intention is to restore it for static display.

In late October and early November, a team of HARS members went to Point Cook to dismantle the aircraft into components to be trucked to Parkes. The main tasks were to remove the engine barrels, inboard flaps and to break the fuselage into three sections. The wings, tail section and engines had previously been removed. It was clear Lockheed never envisaged the aircraft would one day need to be pulled apart for road transport as evidenced by every bolt stubbornly resisting removal.



Neptune A89-302 was originally built as a P2V-4 but was upgraded to P2V-5 standard whilst still on the Lockheed production line. Delivered to the RAAF in November 1951, its original serial number was A89-595 but was renumbered as A89-302 in August 1952. In June 1959 the aircraft was the first RAAF P2V-5 to be returned to the United States for fitment of its Westinghouse J34 jet engines. The aircraft was withdrawn from service in 1967.

This aeroplane already has a connection with two long term HARS followers. Jim Treadwell was a signaller on A89-302 for its first RAAF mission. He went on to become qualified as a navigator and pilot and was the only RAAF airman to hold all three qualifications. He later commanded 77 Squadron while it was equipped with Mirages and actually flew our Mirage, A3-42.

The other HARS associate was Air Commodore Geoff Michael AO OBE AFC who was pilot / instructor on that first mission. Geoff was a close supporter of HARS and a board member of the Avalon Air Show. He also flew on our airworthy Neptune A89-273. Geoff's son-in-law, David Amor is an active HARS member today.

## November Tarmac Days

Aircraft on display in Hangar One and adjacent tarmac area for the November Tarmac Days were:

- 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
- Douglas DC-3 Dakota, Hawdon
- Fokker F27-500 Friendship
- General Dynamics F-111C
- Grumman S-2G Tracker
- Lockheed C-121C Super Constellation
- Lockheed P2V-7 Neptune

The Bell 47G helicopter and the CA-18 Mustang were in attendance, each offering flight experiences.





Douglas DC-3, Hawdon made some local flights during the weekend, passing over the HARS hangars several times before returning to land on Runway 16.

## Oz Flight Sim Expo

In a first for HARS Aviation Museum, Oz Flight Sim Expo was held in Hangar One over the weekend of 17 and 18 November. The Expo showcased the latest and greatest in flight simulation technology, with HARS aircraft providing the back-drop for the exhibition.

Moving the event out of its home in Queensland where it had been hosted in various locations throughout the Gold Coast, Brisbane and Sunshine Coast was always going to be a risk for the organisers but it proved to be a very positive experience for the visitors and exhibitors alike. With hardware and software developers from the UK, Germany and the US present the expo gave local simmers a unique opportunity to experience the cutting edge of flight simulation technology.



Aviation travel vlogger and private pilot, Stefan Drury, was invited to speak at the event and made a vlog of his visit which can be seen here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sKN3v4jbMOI>

The organisers were so happy with the success of the expo that they have already booked HARS Aviation Museum for the 2019 event. Keep an eye out for them at Wings Over Illawarra next year also as they are planning a flight simulation showcase as part of that event.

## Australian Aviation Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

The Australian Aviation Hall of Fame (AAHOF) Induction Ceremony and Dinner was held in Hangar One on Saturday 24 November 2018. This Dinner is held annually to recognise individuals and organisations for their outstanding contributions to Australian aviation and aerospace. At this year's dinner, the following four individuals and one organisation were inducted into the Hall of Fame:

- Ernst Krolke - Developer of the 'slot' system of runway allocation that greatly improved worldwide aviation efficiency;

- The Late Captain David Massy-Greene - One of the leaders of the Future Air Navigation System (FANS) enabling more efficient navigation, especially on Trans-Pacific air routes;
- Sir Rod Eddington AO - CEO of Cathay Pacific Airways, Ansett Australia and British Airways;
- The Late Dr Rob Lee AO - Director of Bureau of Air Safety Investigations, aviation human factors authority;
- Mission Aviation Fellowship Australia (Southern Cross Award) - An organisation that provides aviation services for people living in remote areas from Australia and around the world.

The approximately 200 dinner guests were provided with brief video clips highlighting the remarkable achievements of each of the inductees.



Guests were delighted to welcome the Deputy Prime Minister The Hon. Michael McCormack to the dinner. Deputy Prime Minister McCormack, who has ministerial responsibility for the Aviation Portfolio, delivered a thought provoking address on the critical role aviation plays in Australia.

AAHOF has now established its permanent home in the HARS facility at the Illawarra Regional Airport.

## Did You Know...

...the Pratt and Whitney R1830 "Twin Row Wasp" radial engine was first built in 1931? Production ceased in 1953 after 173,618 engines were built. The engine has many applications including C-47 / DC-3 Dakota, PBY Catalina, B-24 Liberator and Bristol Beaufort.

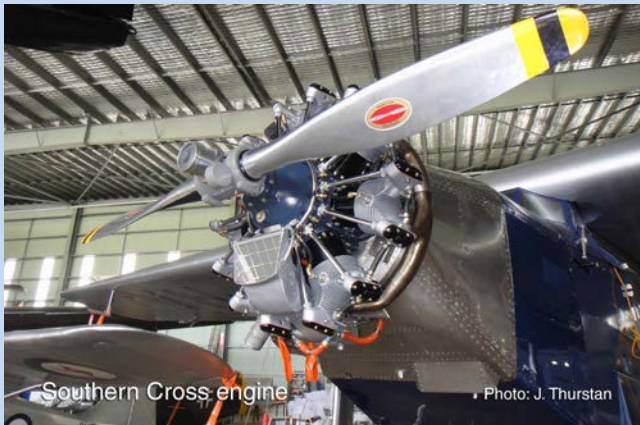
...over 18,500 B-24 Liberators were built between 1940 and 1945 making it the most produced heavy bomber ever built?

...the Rolls-Royce Avon engine was the first axial flow jet engine designed and produced by Rolls-Royce with production commencing in 1950 and not finishing until 1974? A derived industrial version is still produced today to power electricity generators for isolated mining operations.



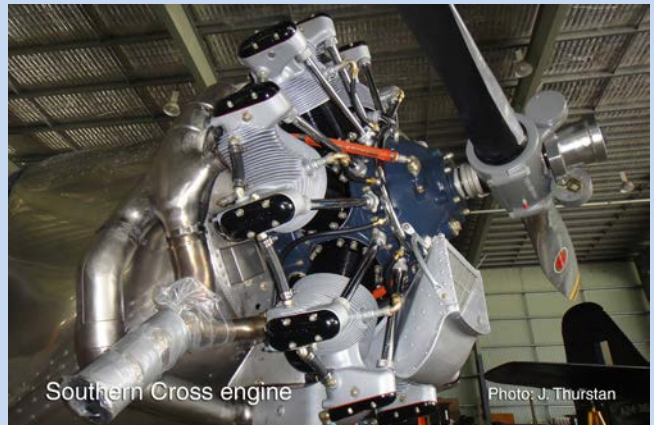
## Southern Cross II update

Another major milestone in the Southern Cross restoration was achieved in November with the installation of the first of its three Jacobs R-775 radial engines. The engine and propeller have been beautifully restored and they will soon be followed by two more to complete the major structural elements of the restoration.



Southern Cross engine

Photo: J. Thurstan



Southern Cross engine

Photo: J. Thurstan

## Seasons Greetings from HARS

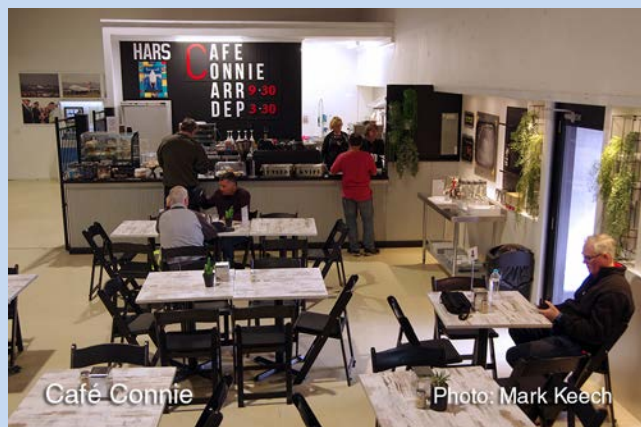
Christmas and New Year are looming large! HARS Aviation Museum wishes all our readers all the best for the coming festive season and for 2019.

HARS Aviation Museum is open throughout the Christmas and New Year period except for Christmas Day. The holiday season is a great time to visit HARS, particularly if you haven't been for some time. Our aircraft collection continues to grow so there are always lots of new things to see.

The Historical Aircraft Restoration Society would like to take this opportunity to thank our sponsors Viva Energy Australia and the Jeremy Flynn Memorial Trust for their generous support throughout the year.

## Café Connie

Next time you're visiting Illawarra Regional Airport drop in to Café Connie! Breakfast and lunch menus offer a wide selection of both hot and cold food items available at very reasonable prices. The Café's beverage offering features barista coffee with milk shakes, smoothies and soft drinks also available. 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

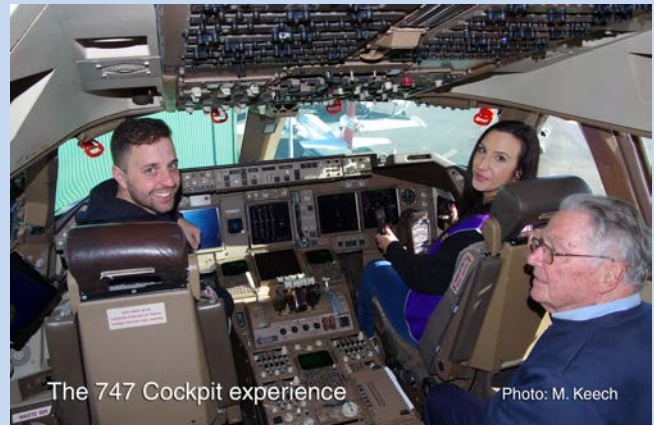
Our Boeing 747-438, City of Canberra, holds the record as the first and only aircraft to fly from London to Sydney non-stop. We are pleased to offer three different exclusive tours of our 747-438:

### 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. All wing walks are subject to weather conditions and may not be available on all days.



### **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.



### **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 14, 15, 16 December 2018 and 11, 12, 13 January 2019.

## 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 9 December. 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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