

GENERAL UPDATE 3/19-  
**The NHF Project- Progress In WEEK ENDING 24 FEB 19**

Michael Hough AM  
HARS Navy Heritage Flight Project Leader

This week, ending 24 Feb 19, has continued to be very busy for the newly activated HARS Navy Heritage Flight, during which our HARS volunteers (and friends) continue to work on moving or updating the recently acquired 9 airframes and associated stores off the operational HMAS Albatross base or settling them into their new locations at either HARS Albion Park or at HARS Parkes or at Air Affairs ( at Albatross Aviation Technology Park).

The main activities that have been achieved this week are now listed- NOT in any order of time sequence of events or of relative importance:-

#### Trackers 844 and 845

These are now located at Air Affairs secure areas at the Albatross Aviation Technology Park (AATP), where:-

- 844 is in temporary open but secure storage within the grounds of our major sponsor Air Affairs, and has received its regular weekly visit by HARS volunteers to maintain its engineering readiness status
- Tracker 845 is in temporary storage at AA with no immediate plans to work on it or to move it short term

#### Dakota C47

- The aircraft fuselage of N2-90 is at AA in secure short-term storage, and at this stage the wings are being stored separately to the fuselage. There has been no planned work on this airframe in this last week

#### Wessex

- Wessex 832 was been on display at HARS Albion Park- where our HARS volunteers have continuing to do an impressive job in cleaning it up and re-attaching components which were being stored separately. It is proving a very popular addition to our HARS airframes on display and is attracting much interest from our visitors
- This week we started work on removing the spares from the final container of Wessex spares recently trucked to HARS Albion Park, and our volunteers are beginning the task of sorting through what is actually in storage!
- Wessex 813 is at HARS Parkes on long term display

#### Sea Venom

- The completely dismantled Sea Venom has now been fully being transported to HARS Albion Park- either in containers or as loose spares (e.g. wing spars)- where a team of enthusiastic HARS volunteers are unpacking and cleaning components as they are removed from e.g. their containers, and HARS has allocated a dedicated space in Hangar 3 for the rebuilding of the aircraft. The final status of the Sea Venom restoration is still unclear at this time.

#### Sea Fury

- Sea Fury WG 630 airframe is temporarily in secure storage at AA, and our HARS volunteers this week have concentrated on removing the massive engine and

propeller, and have successfully transported them by road to HARS Albion Park – where a dedicated space in Hangar 1 has been allocated for the Sea Fury display. In the meantime, our Sea Fury project manager and his team are focusing on obtaining RMS approvals to move the Sea Fury airframe by road to HARS Albion Park- where it will be on public display in Hangar 1 whilst being assessed by our HARS engineering staff for developing an approved schedule for repair and restoration – hopefully back to airworthy.

#### Hueys

- Iroquois UH-1B Numbers 893 and 898 are at Air Affairs at AATP in secure storage and there has been no change in their status this week
- Subject to appropriate approvals being obtained e.g. from Defence, CASA and Warbirds Australia, Air Affairs is prepared to sponsor both the operation and maintenance of the B Model 'Hueys'. The current plan is that after required HARS remote site approvals have been finalized with e.g. CASA, Air Affairs will take full responsibility for the maintenance and operation of 1 flyable Huey acting at all times under HARS licences and accreditations.

Once again we have had a solid week of very positive list of achievements, and I continue to pay my tribute and sincere thanks to all who have so actively and enthusiastically been involved in undertaking and completing a very significant project- the removal of 9 airframes and associated stores from the operational Navy base to either a sponsored short term location (e.g. C47) through to a direct move to a 'home' either with a sponsor (e.g. Hueys at Air Affairs), or the HARS main base at Albion Park.

As the NHF Project leader, I restate that HARS is, in principle, committed to the future return of operational airframes back to the long- term home of Naval aviation at Nowra Hill.  
CAN YOU HELP?

We now welcome selected new volunteers, as well as sponsors/ supporters- to assist in this massive project of **Restoring, Preserving and in some cases Operating, These 9 Historic ex-FAA Airframes.**

Here is a list of some of the many ways you could assist our Navy Heritage Flight project, ways of helping which include but are not limited to:-

- ***Providing 'in kind' sponsorship-for example we are about to start repainting and then preserving the Wessex with special coating oil, and this will cost up to approx. \$1500 per airframe to PURCHASE these supplies. Can anyone assist by donating the required paints and oils (we are happy to tell you what specifications we need)***
- ***Helping us financially by committing to a regular sponsorship payment e.g. if 50 persons commit to a regular monthly payment of \$A20 / month each, we will receive approx. \$5K a year to assist our constant expenses. Here is a partial list of the current activities which we need to fund this way:-***
  - ***Bills for transporting airframes -for example moving the two Wessex to either PARKES or ALBION PARK incurred a contractor bill of a total of \$A6200.***
  - ***We estimate the RMS and escort costs for moving the Sea Fury by road from Albatross Aviation Technology Park to HARS Albion Park will be up to approx. \$1500.***

UPDATE 3 17 FEB 19

- *Have you got any spares or manuals or related equipment(s) from any of our 9 airframes? Will you loan them so we can copy them, or would you donate them with suitable acknowledgements?*
- *Can you assist us with maintaining our inventories of spares? (a perhaps non-glamorous but essential task)-as we have many pallets and containers of spares in storage at present*
- *Can you assist with maintaining certain specific parts of our social media presence either through our website or Facebook or similar?*

IF YOU THINK YOU CAN ASSIST PLEASE EMAIL ME AT [harsnhf@hars.org.au](mailto:harsnhf@hars.org.au). or contact me through our HARS NHF Facebook page  
Thank you!

In the meantime, please enjoy the accompanying photos of NHF activities this week.

**Michael Hough**

Navy Heritage Flight Project Leader

24 Feb 19

PHOTOS OF WESSEX / SEA VENOM AND SEA FURY PROJECTS IN ACTION AT HARS ALBION PARK THIS WEEK