

GENERAL UPDATE-
The NHF Project- Progress for WEEK ENDING 24 MAR 19

Michael Hough AM
HARS Navy Heritage Flight Project Leader

This week ending 24 MAR 19 has been a quieter week, with a particular focus on finalizing the last short term moves of the Sea Fury/ Trackers and C47 out of the Albatross aviation Technology Park secure storage offered by our major sponsor Air Affairs.

We are moving these airframes short term to the HARS Albion Park Rail major Maintenance facilities.

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

Here is a brief summary of each airframe of the NHF and its status this week:-

844 Tracker Startups

We are running Tracker 844 each week, and here are two video clips of the engine run-up on Monday 18 Mar 19:-

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/YywRRcZ5r3N6DHyr5>

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/y9BN4M96VSiY9pVeA>

Tracker 845

We are exploring ways of towing this to HARS Albion Park- where it can undergo an external refurbishment as a first stage but essentially this is a display airframe only

Dakota C47

There was a detailed inspection of this airframe in the last week carried out by our senior HARS staff including our Chief Pilot Mr. Bob De La Hunty and our Chief C47 Pilot Don Hindle. We are now planning to tow this airframe to HARS Albion Park, and to submit it to a thorough engineering inspection with a view to restoring it to flying longer term.

Wessex

Wessex 832 (Albion Park) is being cleaned up and worked on to improve its display features, and we were delighted to find out this week that the electrical systems will still “fire up” and provide live display of the cockpit instrumentation for example. Our Wessex volunteers are working hard on sorting through a large container of spares

Wessex 813 is at HARS Parkes- no reported activity this week.

We are establishing a more reliable weekly reporting system from our Parkes volunteers so we can provide more regular updates from there.

Sea Venom

The completely dismantled Sea Venom has a team of HARS volunteers unpacking and cleaning components as they are removed from e.g. their containers.

Sea Fury

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Sea Fury WG 630 is in temporary secure storage at Air Affairs, and we are planning to move the airframe by road asap from Nowra to HARS Hangar 1 Albion Park. We have now been advised that we will require additional Police escorts plus two other escort vehicles to make the move, and the estimated costs of this move have just increased considerably as a result of this decision

Hueys

Both Iroquois UH-1B- Numbers 893 and 898 are at Air Affairs at AATP in secure storage.

There is no reported activity this week

General Comments

The airframes are in a very wide range of condition, and therefore represent many challenges, and I restate that HARS is, in principle, committed to the future return of **selected** operational airframes back to the long- term home of Naval aviation at Nowra Hill.

We are going to ask for your help!

As advised last week, I reconfirm that the HARS Navy Heritage Flight is incurring, and will continue to incur, real costs associated with ground transport and haulage of airframes, and the purchase of essential restoration items such as paint and oils.

We will VERY SOON launch a crowdfunding project with a 'can you help' series of requests for help-either straight financial or 'in-kind' support e.g. paint/ transport and similar.

The logic of crowdfunding includes the fact that- 'Lots of people giving small and realistic (for them) amounts, can quickly add up to significant financial or 'in kind' project help. We look forward to any support that you can choose to give!

Regards and thanks to all our followers and supporters

Michael Hough

Navy Heritage Flight Project Leader

24 MAR 19

PHOTOS OF:-

Tracker/ C47 / Sea Fury and Hueys at Secure Storage Locations at Air Affairs

Wessex and Sea Venom at HARS Albion Park Rail

Videoclips of Tracker 844 engine runs.