



HARS
AVIATION
MUSEUM
www.hars.org.au

April 2019 Newsletter

Australia's Aviation Heritage



HARS Lockheed AP-3C Orion flies!

After more than 15 months of hard work, including aircraft systems testing, ex-RAAF Lockheed AP-3C Orion, A9-753, now registered VH-ORI, took to the sky on Wednesday 6 March as the newest aircraft type to fly in the HARS fleet! The aircraft, which has been onsite at Illawarra Regional Airport since December 2016, was officially handed over to HARS by the Chief of Air Force in November 2017 and the various teams have put in extraordinary efforts to obtain all of the approvals necessary to operate and maintain it in the civilian, limited category. Indeed, this may be the first time that a current military aircraft has been allowed to be operated in the civilian arena. Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Japan, New Zealand and Norway are among the current military operators of the type.



Lockheed AP-3C Orion startup

Photo: M. Keech



Orion takes to the air

Photo: M. Keech

In RAAF service the aircraft was part of 92 Wing which included 10, 11, 292 and 492 Squadrons. Having flown over 16,000 hours, Orion A9-753, had participated in most RAAF P-3 operations including the search for the missing Malaysian Airlines Flight MH370, Operation GATEWAY and numerous deployments to the Middle East, including Iraq and Afghanistan. The aircraft was delivered to the RAAF on 4 August 1978, having been built in May 1978.



Low and fast over Five Islands

Photo: M. Keech



Return to base

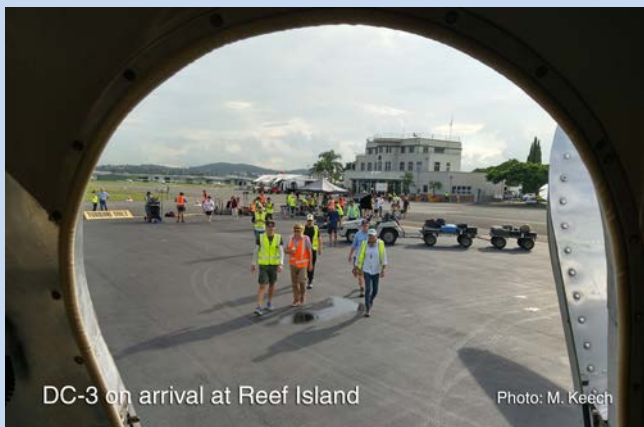
Photo: M. Keech

Extensive flying operations were conducted on 6 and 7 March to exercise all the aircraft's systems and to support

crew training and currency.

DC-3 at the movies

On 21 March our Douglas DC-3 Hawdon, VH-AES took a trip to Archerfield, Queensland to participate in a film shoot. Film work is something that HARS aircraft are frequently used for, mostly in advertising. In this case the production was Disney ABC (US) TV series 'Reef Break', starring Australia's own Poppy Montgomery. Set in a stunning Pacific island paradise, 'Reef Break' is described as an action-packed crime drama full of fast-paced, high-octane adventures and island intrigue.



Without revealing anything of the plot, Hawdon was used for some serious action filming over two days at the end of March and will return to Wollongong early in April.

March Tarmac Days

Aircraft on display in hangar one and the adjacent tarmac area were:

- Boeing B747-438, City of Canberra
- Cessna C-310B
- Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation CA-25 Winjeel
- Corby CJ-1 Starlet
- de Havilland DHA-3 Drover
- de Havilland T.35 Vampire
- English Electric T Mk.4 Canberra
- General Dynamics F-111C
- Government Aircraft Factory III0(F) Mirage
- Grumman S-2G Tracker
- Lockheed AP-3C Orion
- Lockheed C-121C Super Constellation
- Lockheed P2V-7 Neptune

March flying activities

In addition to the first flights of the P-3 Orion, other aircraft to fly in March included:

- Lockheed P2V-7 Neptune, A89-273
- de Havilland DHC-4 Caribou
- Douglas DC-3 Hawdon, VH-AES
- Douglas C-47B Dakota, A65-094
- Cessna 310B, VH-REK

Successful engine runs were also completed by our military-style Dakota, A65-95 which is expected to take to the air again sometime within the next few months.



Concorde 50 years on

This month marked the 50th anniversary of the first flight of Concorde on 2 March 1969 and although it last flew on 24 October 2003, the aircraft is remembered as the only supersonic aircraft, so far, to enter commercial service.

Many of the world's airlines ordered the aircraft in the 1960s but with the early 1970s fuel crisis and concerns about the aircraft's noise footprint, these orders were cancelled. The 14 production aircraft built were allocated to Air France and British Airways who took seven each.

A technological marvel for its time, the aircraft was unfortunately destined to never be a commercial success due to its high cost of operation with commensurate expensive air fares and limited routes on which it could fly. Concorde only visited Sydney a few times and no commercial services to Sydney were ever established. On one occasion, on a flight from Christchurch, a British Airways Concorde landed in Sydney after part of the rudder broke off mid-flight.

Airshows for 2019

A final reminder that Wings over Illawarra is to be held on 4 and 5 May at Illawarra Regional Airport. Tickets can be obtained at www.wingsoverillawarra.com.au.



HARS will be a prominent exhibitor at the air show with most of our aircraft on display. Several aircraft including our Boeing 747-438 "City of Canberra" will also be open for the public to get on board.

Did You Know...

...the first revenue flight of the Boeing 707 took place on 26 October 1958? The flight was operated by Pan American Airlines and flew from New York to Paris.

...in October 1946 a Lockheed P2V-1 Neptune flew non-stop without re-fuelling from Perth, Western Australia to Columbus, Ohio in the USA? The flight took 55 hours and covered over 11,000 miles.

...Concorde could cruise at Mach 2 or 2,140 km/h?

Café Connie

Next time you're visiting Illawarra Regional Airport or HARS Aviation Museum 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.



Next Tarmac Days

Upcoming Tarmac Days will be held on 12, 13, 14 April and 10, 11, 12 May 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 Saturday 20 April and Sunday 12 May. 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.



Privacy

You are receiving this email because you have registered your email address with us to receive the HARS Newsletter. We respect your privacy and only use your details for this newsletter. If you no longer want to receive the HARS Newsletter, please [UNSUBSCRIBE](#).