



HARS
AVIATION
MUSEUM
www.hars.org.au

June 2019 Newsletter



Australia's Aviation Heritage

Wings Over Illawarra

Wings Over Illawarra, the Sydney Airshow was held on 4 and 5 May and despite some rain showers on the Sunday was an amazing success. Though some people were disappointed that the RAAF didn't send an F/A-18 Hornet this year, this was more than made up for by the spectacular display put on by the BAE Hawk 127. Other spectacular displays were given by the Paul Bennett and Matt Hall teams, the Russian Roolettes, the RAAF Roulettes flying the PC-21 for the first time, a fantastic array of warbirds and the always popular Learjet formation.



HARS Dakota A65-94

Photo: M. Keech



HARS Caribou A4-234

Photo: M. Keech

As well as the PC-21s the RAAF displayed a C-17A Globemaster, a C-27J Spartan, a C-130J Hercules and a P-8A Poseidon. World War 2 warbirds included a formation of Spitfire, Hurricane, Kittyhawk and Mustang, the Hawker Hurricane being a type that has never been seen at Illawarra Regional Airport before. A Wirraway, a Harvard and an Avenger also represented the WW2 era.



Air Force Cadets practising anti-aircraft

Photo: M. Keech



Matt Hall waves from the Mustang

Photo: M. Keech

HARS was represented in the flying displays by a Douglas C-47B Dakota and a de Havilland DHC-4 Caribou, with some people saying that the Caribou outperformed its replacement, the C-27J Spartan! This year 16 HARS aircraft, including the 747, were open for public display free of charge and this proved very popular with the crowds, particularly when the rain set in on the Sunday.



Spitfire, Hurricane and Kittyhawk Photo: M. Keech



A nice collection of toys in Hangar One Photo: M. Keech

The organisers, Mark and Kerry Bright retained their sense of humour throughout and are to be congratulated for yet another successful airshow.

Rathmines Catalina Festival

During World War 2 the RAAF had a flying boat base at Rathmines, NSW. Located on the western shore of Lake Macquarie. The base was the largest RAAF flying boat facility and was home to over 3,000 personnel. Every year the Rathmines Catalina Memorial Park Association puts on an airshow to raise money for the restoration of their PB-Y-5A Catalina, a project that HARS Aviation Museum supports.



Dakotas ready to fly Photo: M. Keech



Rathmines Catalina Festival 2019 Photo: M. Keech



Rathmines Catalina Festival 2019 Photo: M. Keech



Rathmines Catalina Festival 2019 Photo: J. Sharples

In previous years the HARS Catalina has made the trip to Rathmines to participate in the airshow but was unable to this year. HARS was represented by a formation of two Dakota aircraft though. Our C-47B, A65-94 and our DC-3, 'Hawdon' made the flight from Illawarra Regional Airport to Rathmines, flying in formation all the way. Our website and facebook pages received many comments from people up and down the coast who had seen the formation and commented that it had been a long time since two Dakotas were seen together.

May Tarmac Days

May tarmac days were held the weekend after Wings Over Illawarra and a surprisingly high number of visitors came by, no doubt inspired by the airshow the week before. Aircraft on display were:

- Boeing B747-438
- Cessna C-310B
- Corby CJ-1 Starlet
- de Havilland DHA-3 Drover
- both de Havilland T.35 Vampires
- Douglas C-47B Dakota
- General Dynamics F-111C
- Government Aircraft Factory III(F) Mirage
- Grumman S-2G Tracker
- Hawker FB11 Sea Fury
- Lockheed C-121C Super Constellation
- Lockheed P2V-7 Neptune

A BAE Systems Hawk 127 of the RAAF is still present and on display in Hangar One at HARS Aviation Museum and is likely to remain there for some weeks. Come and check it out! The CA-18 Mustang is also still on display and is available for adventure flights. For information contact Mustang Flights, www.mustangflights.com



The CA-18 Mustang with some Mustangs Photo: M. Keech



A leftover Hawk 127 from WOI

Photo: M. Keech

Boeing 707-138 Project Update

The story of the HARS 707 project continues with further planning developments taking place during the last month. We are now in the advanced stages of planning for the maintenance work to be carried out, flight planning is well underway and we are working towards a date this year for the ferry flight with the previous owner on board.

A huge event will be planned for the arrival and we would like to see as many people at Illawarra Regional Airport as possible to greet John Travolta and the 707. The 747 arrival was big; this promises to be even bigger!



707 flap deployment test

Photo: J. Marshall



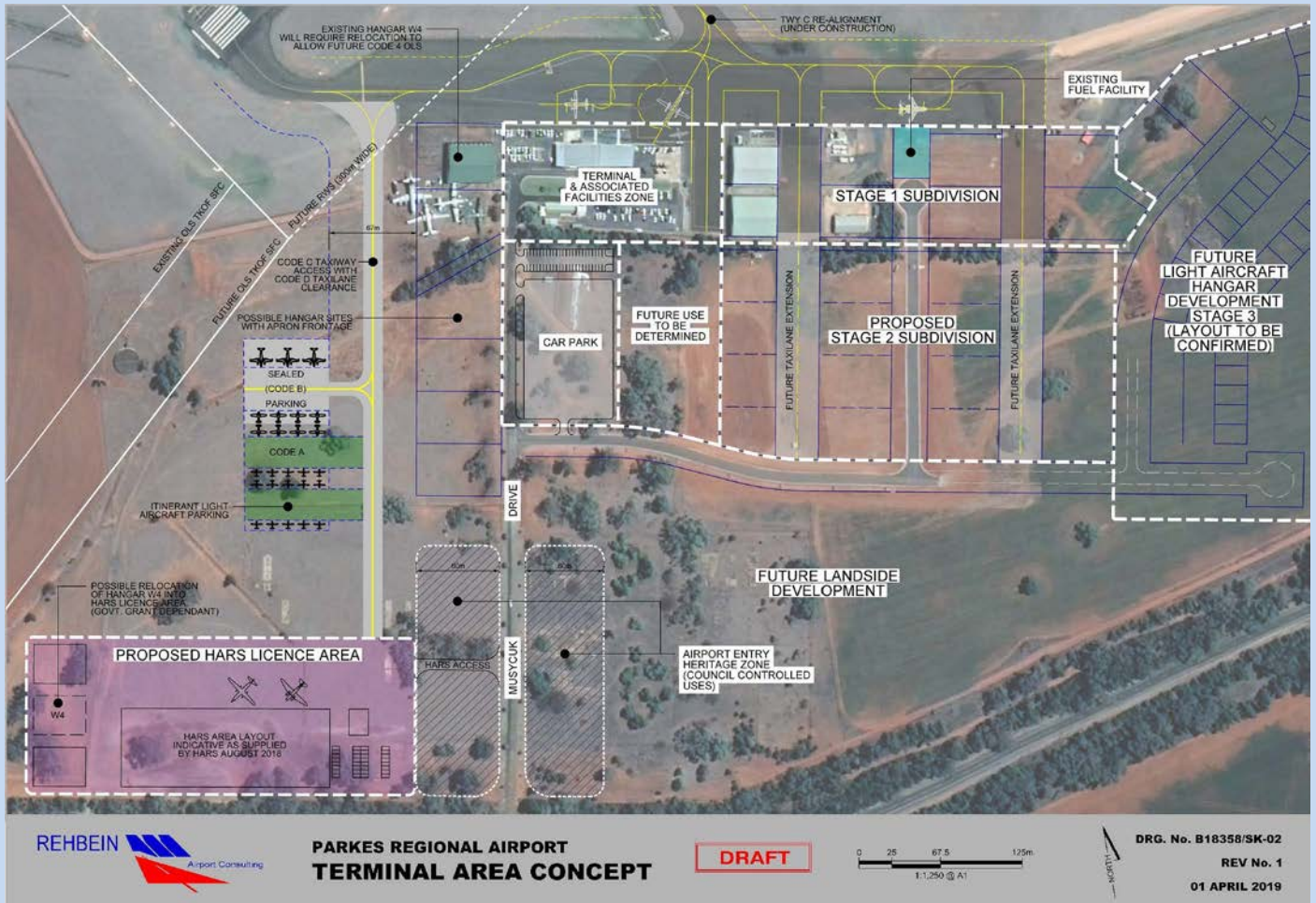
HARS 707-138 in Brunswick

Photo: A. Zakeli

We would like to thank Bendigo Bank for their generous support of the 707 project. We are still seeking funds to make this project happen so if you would like to contribute to this historic event please get in touch by calling our reception desk during opening hours on 02 4257 4333 or just come and visit our museum. Donations are tax deductible.

HARS Aviation Museum Parkes

In a major development for our satellite museum, Parkes Shire Council has released its master plan for the development of the airport. A space has been put aside in the plan for HARS operations that will provide better access and will be more visible to the passing public. Over 37,000 m² has been allocated to HARS Aviation Museum Parkes as part of a heritage precinct that will potentially include the relocation of our existing heritage hangar. That's about three times the space we currently occupy at Illawarra Regional Airport and is more than enough for our future plans, including a permanent space for our spare parts storage.



Did You Know...

...500,000 rivets were used in the DC-3 or C-47 construction and when laid end to end would cover a distance of 15,625 feet or three miles?

...the Avro Shackleton long range maritime patrol aircraft was developed from the Avro Lincoln, the Lincoln being a development of the Avro Lancaster?

...Qantas set the record for the most people carried on a Boeing 747 during the evacuation of Darwin after Cyclone Tracy? On 29 December 1974 Qantas 747-238B, VH-EBB departed with 674 passengers and 23 crew on board.

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.



Next Tarmac Days

The next Tarmac Days will be held on 14, 15, 16 June and it is planned to run engines on the Neptune, Orion, Dakota and Drover on both the Saturday and Sunday so come and check them out!



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 8 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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