



HARS
AVIATION
MUSEUM
www.hars.org.au

September 2019 Newsletter

Australia's Aviation Heritage



Army recognises HARS assistance

HARS Aviation Museum's Boeing 747-438, City of Canberra, has on several occasions over the past few years been made available to the Army's 171 Special Operations Aviation Squadron (171 SOAS) for specialist training.

On Friday 16 August a delegation from 171 SOAS arrived by Blackhawk helicopter and presented a framed photo and plaque to HARS depicting our Boeing 747 with Blackhawk helicopters operating overhead. This photograph and plaque were in appreciation for the help that HARS has provided to support SOAS training.

On hand to accept the recognition was HARS President, Bob De La Hunty, Vice President Maureen Massey and HARS member Terry Wilson who led the team that originally selected the Blackhawk helicopter for the Army.



The president accepting the plaque

Photo: M. Scott



Blackhawk and Caribou

Photo: M. Scott

HARS Aviation Museum Parkes news

Work on restoration of the de Havilland DH.114 Heron and Lockheed P2V-5 Neptune at Parkes continues with significant progress made. Much of the work on the Heron and Neptune has been performed by a group of Parkes secondary school students who attend the museum on Thursdays to gain some practical trade work experience.

The Heron, which had been in the hangar, was recently moved outside which has enabled both wings to be installed and the landing gear fixed in place. The horizontal stabiliser and the engine cowlings have now been fitted. In the coming weeks the fin and rudder will be fitted which hopefully will have our Heron resembling a complete aircraft. Four items that are proving difficult to source however are the Lycoming IO-540 engines. Unserviceable units are sought as the aircraft will only be for static display.

Neptune 302 has had its forward fuselage, jet engine pods and wing tanks rubbed back, corrosion treated and painted. Neptune 272 was badly damaged in cyclones at RAAF Townsville over the years and the fibreglass radar dome in the belly of the aircraft was badly dented. Some months ago the students devised a method of fitting an adjustable brace to the inside to hold the damaged dome in place so it could be repaired with new fibreglass. That task was completed and the dome has now been painted. Those skills will come in handy as the same part on Neptune 302 is also damaged and will need a similar repair.



HARS Aviation Museum Parkes receives donations of WW2 memorabilia from time to time and a recent acquisition was a US Army Air Force 44 gal drum. It is made from substantial steel and the students have prepared and painted the drum and highlighted the US lettering. Any memorabilia is welcomed and the students now have the skills to restore and display it in the museum.

Air Venture 2019 will be held at Parkes airport over the weekend of 20 to 22 September. HARS Aviation Museum Parkes will be open and our aircraft will be on display. Air Venture will also provide an opportunity for STEM students from across the state to assemble and fly a kit aeroplane. A number of our students have nominated for selection in the build team and we wish them well in the selection process.

August Tarmac Days

Our tarmac weekend was for a second consecutive month impacted by inclement weather meaning aircraft were unable to be displayed on the tarmac. The winds became so strong on the Saturday it was necessary to close access to the Boeing 747-438 and the scheduled flight of the AP-3C Orion was cancelled.

Aircraft on display in Hangar One were:

- Corby CJ-1 Starlet
- de Havilland DHA-3 Drover
- de Havilland T.35 Vampire
- Douglas DC-3 Dakota
- General Dynamics F-111C
- Government Aircraft Factory IIIIO(F) Mirage
- Grumman S-2G Tracker
- Hawker FB.11 Sea Fury
- Lockheed C-121C Super Constellation

Battle of Long Tan Commemoration

Sunday 18 August was the 53rd anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan. Various remembrance ceremonies were held around the country to mark the date.

One of our DHC-4 Caribous, A4-234 flew to Canberra to fly over the ceremony there.

John Travolta 707 project update

During August several members of the 707 project team travelled to Brunswick, Georgia where our 707 is parked at the Stambaugh Aviation facility.

Stambaugh Aviation has carried out maintenance on the aircraft in the past and with their assistance the team was able to perform systems checks including engines and instruments. After cataloguing the spares and manuals on board the final exercise on this visit was to take on 2,000 gallons of fuel and run all four engines. The engineers report they were very pleased with the results of the checks and engine runs, meaning one more part of this

complex project has been successfully completed.



Should you wish to make a tax deductible donation to this project please contact HARS on 02 4257 4333 or email HARSInfo@hars.org.au to obtain details of how to contribute.

Did You Know...

...in July this year Qantas celebrated the 60th anniversary of entering the jet age? On 29 July 1959 Qantas' first jet service using a Boeing 707-138 departed Sydney bound for San Francisco.

...Qantas ceased Boeing 707 operations on 25 March 1979? With the retirement of the last 707, Qantas became the only airline in the world with an all-747 fleet.

...the Australian built CAC CA-27 Avon Sabre made its first flight on 1 August 1953? The Australian Sabre differed from the American F-86 Sabre by using a Rolls Royce Avon turbojet engine and was in service with the Royal Australian Air Force from 1954 until 1971.

City of Canberra - Boeing 747-438 tours

HARS Aviation Museum is pleased to offer three different exclusive tours of our 747-438:

Wing Walk Experience

This walk will take you to about 16 meters (52 feet) along the right wing where your guide will explain many aspects of the aircraft components and operation. Wing Walk times are between 10am and 3pm for the price of \$65, which includes Museum entry.

The Total Boeing 747 Experience

This tour includes a brief audio-visual presentation followed by a tour of the entire aircraft, including the cabin and galleys, crew rest areas, avionics bay, the forward cargo hold and a detailed inspection of the cockpit in the company of a 747 expert. The tour duration is approximately 4 hours with a personalised tour of the full HARS Museum also included in the tour. The tour price of \$195 per person with a maximum of 4 persons per tour.

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. Bookings cost \$100 per person with a limit of two guests per tour and includes Museum entry.



Boeing 747-438, VH-OJA, City of Canberra

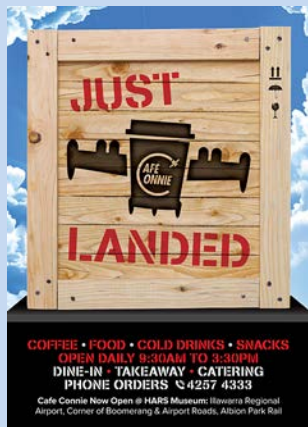
Photo: Mark Keech

Bookings

Reservations for all tours are strictly limited. Combinations of the various 747 tours are also available at discounted prices. For more information and bookings call 02 4257 4333.

Café Connie

Next time you're visiting Illawarra Regional Airport drop into Café Connie! Breakfast and lunch menus offering a wide selection of hot and cold foods are available at very reasonable prices. The Café's beverage offering features barista coffee with milk shakes, smoothies and soft drinks. 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: M. Keech

Next Tarmac Days

Upcoming Tarmac Days will be held on 13, 14, 15 September and 11, 12, 13 October 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 7 September. 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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