

GENERAL UPDATE 33/2019-
The NHF Project- Progress Report-WEEK ENDING 29 SEP 19

Michael Hough AM
HARS Navy Heritage Flight Project Leader

It is my pleasure to again update you on the progress we are making RIGHT NOW on the range of NHF airframes, thanks to a lot of very enthusiastic people!
Here is a very brief summary of each current NHF project-

Tracker 844 at HARS Albion Park Rail

I am pleased to report that since its arrival 844 at HARS Main base 844 has been run regularly with no major issues and we have also restored Navy to both sides of the airframe. The CONTINUED good news is that Tracker 844 has settled quickly to its new 'home' at HARS Albion Park Rail airport and is planned to fly again at our October Tarmac weekend (12 Oct) as well as the mid-week Tracker re-union in October, (see following)

A consequence of success:-

CAN YOU HELP WITH THE ANNUAL INSURANCE COSTS- ESPECIALLY NOW TRACKER 844 IS FLYING- PLEASE?

Our total insurance bill for covering 9 (nine) NHF airframes for liability and Hangar keepers insurance this coming year is \$5300 (which includes the Tracker)

Please contact me if you can contribute towards these costs- and thanks for your help!

CLAIM THE DATE:- Tracker Reunion 23-24 October 2019. Venue: HARS at Albion Park, over two days. This event is being organised by Bruce Saville, who runs the "Friends of the RAN Grumman Tracker" Facebook page. You can register interest in attending the re-union by going to:- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/703844286295816/events/>

***Tracker 845 at Air Affairs**

- 845 is in open storage at our major sponsor AIR AFFAIRS, and our short-term intent now is (courtesy of our major sponsor Air Affairs) move it to HARS Albion Park for the Tracker reunion in October so that we plan to have three Tracker airframes for that event- 844 / 845 and 851. Our longer-term intention is to repaint it externally at HARS Albion Park, and then use it as the first display aircraft on the block of land next to the FAA Museum when this is granted by EIG.

***Dakota C47**

We are planning to move the C47 to HARS Albion Park soon with the generous sponsorship of Chris Sievers at Air Affairs, and our current aim is to try to get it up for the Tracker reunion dates in October- so here's hoping that "Plan A" works.

I visited Air Affairs last Thursday and took some update shots of the C47 and Tracker 845 which are attached

***Wessex**

- Wessex 832 is on display at HARS Albion Park in HARS Hangar 3 and being continually updated
- Wessex 813 is at HARS Parkes - no update received this week

Our longer term plan is to restore the ASW configuration inside the airframe Wessex 832, and we are still short of qualified/ knowledgeable Wessex support team members so if anyone out there can assist us, we would really welcome your enquiry about joining HARS and if accepted, coming to assist with a particular project such as the Wessex.

***Sea Venom**

Following are very recent progress shots taken this week of the Sea Venom restoration, and the team is still focusing on re-assembling the cockpit AND THE engine unit.

Once again- a big "Thank You Very Much!" to everyone who is helping with this challenging project.

***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.

***Sea Fury**

- Sea Fury WG 630 airframe is still on display in HARS Hangar 1 and we have rearranged its location and the attached photos show the Sea Fury on display in HARS Hangar 1 next to the interesting range of other historic airframes

We continue to promote our major Sea Fury appeal- help us with your donation(s) to fund and develop the engineering analysis which is the start the rebuild of this magnificent Sea Fury historic airframe back to flying status!

***Other Historic Navy airframes**

HARS also has in its collection FAA Tracker 845 and replica ex FAA Auster, and I am choosing to include occasional photos of these airframes in weekly NHF reports

***Our future home adjacent to the FAA Museum**

We have begun a dialogue with EIG to negotiate the allocation to HARS of the block of land adjacent to the FAA museum reconfirmed for the building of a future hangar and admin complex for the HARS Navy Heritage Flight.

We Request Your Support:-

Don't forget that donations to HARS of over \$2 are tax deductible so please act now and if **you can assist in any way-please email me at:- harsnhf@hars.org.au. or contact me through our HARS NHF Facebook page**

In the meantime, enjoy the accompanying photos of each ex FAA airframe remaining at HARS Main base or Nowra Air Affairs, and as a special bonus some shots of the C47 and Tracker 844 at a previous Avalon airshow provided by a previous Historic Flight member Robert Gale. Thanks Rob!

Enjoy!

Michael Hough

Navy Heritage Flight Project Leader

29 Sep 19

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ATT

PHOTOS:-

A number of Tracker 844 routine maintenance photos and other NHF airframes attached- all are copyrighted with permission to use in non-profit usage - given by M Hough, and the Huey photo is from the FAA Museum archives, and the Avalon airshow photos from Robert Gale Enjoy!