

UPDATE 35 13 OCT 19

GENERAL UPDATE 35/2019-
The NHF Project- Progress Report-WEEK ENDING 13 Oct 19

Michael Hough AM
HARS Navy Heritage Flight Project Leader

It is my pleasure to again update you on the progress we are making on the range of NHF airframes, thanks to a lot of very enthusiastic people!

Here is a summary of each current NHF project-

PREPARING FOR THE "FRIENDS OF TRACKER" RE-UNION 23/24 OCT 19 AT HARS

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 THIS SAT 12 OCT 19 it was again ground run, taxi-ied and wing fold tested. See Tracker 844 fly in YouTube clip created by one of HARS volunteers Deb mainly focusing on the Tracker 844 preparations and move from Nowra to HARS Albion Park. See:- <https://youtu.be/5XiphC1k7Og>

The CONTINUED good news is that Tracker 844 has settled quickly to its new 'home' at Subject to technical availability, is planned to fly again at the mid-week Tracker re-union in October, (see following).

*Tracker 845 at Air Affairs

- 845 is in open storage at our major sponsor AIR AFFAIRS, and our short-term intent still 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.

CLAIM THE DATE:- Tracker Re-union 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/>

This will be a great 2 days and we at HARS are putting much energy into preparing to host this terrific event including getting the blades on Wessex 832 and preparing the replica ex-Navy Auster for a taxi-ing display

We understand that approx. 70 have registered and there is room for many more- so come on you ex Tracker crews and friends, please register and support this event by coming!

A SPECIAL REQUEST FOR THOSE ATTENDING THE RE-UNION

Please consider bringing with you and loaning or donating to us (HARS NHF) any Tracker memorabilia e.g. Log Books Manuals and Photos, plus any Tracker equipment or Tools you may have acquired.

We are ESPECIALLY after a Tracker propeller mounting tool if you can assist but any/ all other Tracker tools and related eqpt. are VERY welcome and useful

*Dakota C47

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We are planning to move the C47 to HARS Albion Park soon with the generous sponsorship of Chris Sievers at Air Affairs.

***Wessex**

- Wessex 832 is on display at HARS Albion Park in HARS Hangar 3 and this week our enthusiastic HARS volunteers remounted the blades and gave it a spring clean in preparation for the Tracker reunion. Thanks to all who did this, and the photos attached show the significant improvement in credibility of presentation
- 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 progress shots taken this week of the Sea Venom restoration, and the team is still focusing on re-assembling the cockpit AND we now have a small team of volunteers focusing on 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. I attach a historic photo of 898 in Navy service

***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 Lockheed Super Constellation- "Connie".

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 at HARS**

FAA Tracker 845 and replica ex FAA Auster, and please again enjoy photos of these airframes in this NHF report

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

We are continuing the 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:-

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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, plus some historic photos courtesy of the FAA Museum archives

Enjoy!

Michael Hough

Navy Heritage Flight Project Leader

13 Oct 19

ATT

PHOTOS:-

A number of NHF airframes photos and Tracker 844 photos attached- all are copyrighted with permission to use in non-profit usage - given by M Hough, and the remaining airframes in service photos are from the FAA Museum archives. Enjoy!