



**HARS**  
**AVIATION**  
**MUSEUM**  
[www.hars.org.au](http://www.hars.org.au)

## April 2020 Newsletter

*Australia's Aviation Heritage*



### COVID-19 impact on HARS

On Monday 23 March, in accordance with government directions, HARS Aviation Museums at both Shellharbour Airport and Parkes Airport and Café Connie were closed until further notice to contain the spread of the COVID-19 virus. The decision was not taken lightly and is aimed at reducing the risk to our members and visitors. Rest assured that our aircraft are in a safe place, maintenance is still being carried out in isolation and projects in planning, such as the 707, will continue so that we will be able to emerge from this crisis bigger and better than ever.

This may be the last newsletter for a while but we will continue to post updates on our website and facebook pages:

[www.hars.org.au](http://www.hars.org.au)

<https://www.facebook.com/HARSAviationMuseumAlbionPark/>

<https://www.facebook.com/HARSAviationMuseumParkes/>

To all our readers, please stay well and we look forward to reopening our doors when it's safe to do so.



We will re-open as soon as it's safe

Photo: Mark Keech

### Wings over Illawarra 2020

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the Wings over Illawarra airshow, which was scheduled for 2 and 3 May, has been postponed until 7 and 8 November. More information regarding the postponement together with details of the event and ticketing can be obtained from the Wings over Illawarra website:

<https://www.wingsoverillawarra.com.au/>

### HARS Parkes Neptune P2V-5 progress

Work has continued on our ex-RAAF, Lockheed P2V-5 Neptune, A89-302 at Parkes. The reciprocating engines and propellers together with the radar dome have now been fitted. In addition, painting of the wing centre section has been completed.

With the closure of the museum only limited activity is anticipated in the coming months. It is hoped in the second half of this year we will be able to fit the wings, wing tanks, jet pods and vertical stabiliser which, once these tasks are completed, will see the aircraft largely complete.



The P2V-5 Neptune at Parkes

Photo: I. Poulter

## March Tarmac Days

Aircraft on display during the March Tarmac Days were:

- Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation CA-9 Wirraway
- Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation CA-27 Sabre
- Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation CA-25 Winjeel
- Convair CV-440
- Corby CJ-1 Starlet
- de Havilland DHA-3 Drover
- de Havilland DH-82 Tiger Moth
- de Havilland T.35 Vampire
- Douglas C-47B Dakota
- Fokker F27-500 Friendship
- General Dynamics F-111C
- Government Aircraft Factory III(O)(F) Mirage
- Grumman S-2G Tracker
- Hawker FB.11 Sea Fury
- Lockheed AP-3C Orion
- Lockheed C-121C Super Constellation

The Orion, Dakota and Fokker Friendship were positioned on the apron in front of Hangar One with the Fokker having its engines run and some taxiing tests done. On the Sunday the Orion conducted some local flights for crew training. Our friend, Brett Leech, was also present providing local flights for our visitors in his Bell 47G helicopter.



Lockheed AP-3C Orion

Photo: M. Keech



Bell 47G helicopter

Photo: M. Keech

## Mazda MX-5 car club visits HARS

During March the Mazda MX-5 car club paid a visit to HARS at Shellharbour Airport. The members were fascinated

by the HARS aircraft on display and took the opportunity to take photos of their pristine cars parked under our Boeing 747.



## Interior refurbishment of Connie

During recent filming of the Qantas safety videos, the production art department made up some bulkheads to enhance the authenticity of the Super Constellation era presented in the video. If you missed it last month, the video can be seen here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rLq8if1nkTM>.

It has been a long term goal of our Connie team to refurbish the interior and present it more in the fashion of an airliner rather than the spartan cargo interior that it had from its Air National Guard service years. Inspired by the work of the video art department, our team has been working on a properly-engineered set of bulkheads that have dramatically improved the appearance of the interior.



## Did You Know...

...the MiG-21 is a delta-winged, supersonic (Mach 2) fighter and interceptor which was introduced into service with the Soviet Air Forces in 1959? More than 11,000 were produced making it the most-produced supersonic aircraft in history.

...Solar Impulse is a Swiss, long-range experimental solar-powered aircraft? Two aircraft have been built with the second, Solar Impulse 2, having completed the first circumnavigation of the Earth by a piloted fixed-wing aircraft using only solar power.

...the original design for the Douglas DC-4 incorporated three tail fins? The prototype was rejected by the airlines involved in its development, which resulted in Douglas redesigning the aircraft to have a single fin.

## Next Tarmac Days

Due to the closure of the museum, April Tarmac Days have been cancelled. At this stage it is not possible to announce when the museum will re-open but we intend to continue with our monthly Tarmac Days when the

time comes.

## Membership

With the closure of the museum we have also suspended new membership activities. We will advise when we are able to consider signing on new members.



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