



HARS
AVIATION
MUSEUM
www.hars.org.au

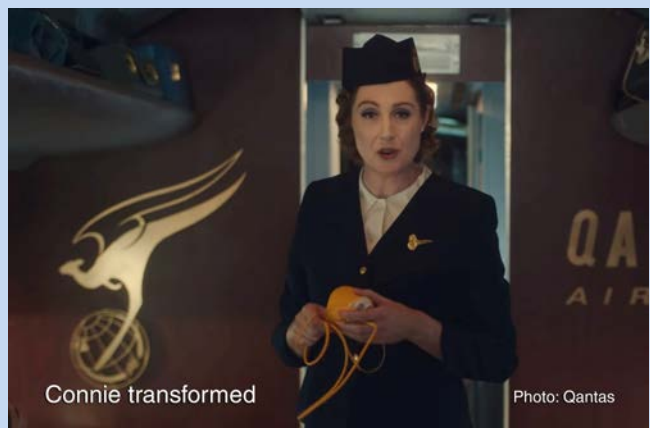
March 2020 Newsletter



Australia's Aviation Heritage

HARS features in new Qantas in-flight safety video

During the final months of 2019 HARS was taken over by a number of film crews working on projects that we haven't been able to discuss – until now! One of the projects was a new in-flight safety video for Qantas which was released this week. Filming took place in our Fokker F.VIIb/3m Southern Cross, Lockheed C-121C Super Constellation, Boeing 707 and Boeing 747 and there are some easily recognisable exterior shots at Shellharbour Airport.



The video is available for public viewing on youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rLq8if1nkTM>

HARS Parkes Museum news

There has been significant progress reassembling our Lockheed P2V-5 Neptune, ex RAAF A89-302. The contribution to this progress by the students from Parkes High School, who attend on Thursdays, is very much appreciated. It is also great to see young people involved, and interested in, historical aircraft restoration and preservation.

Neptune 302's nose section has been moved outside and attached to the wing centre section. The rear fuselage and tail have been fitted. Engine barrels and reciprocating engines have also been fitted and the aircraft is now standing on its undercarriage.



Future activities will include refitting the wings, rudder and many other relatively minor airframe components before the aircraft will finally begin looking complete.



Our Convair 580 was visited by a technical crew from Albion Park. The crew carried out some maintenance work on the aircraft and ran up both engines.

The air stairs assigned to our AP-3C Orion have been moved into the hangar which will enable the students to complete the repainting. In the interim, the military stairs have been refitted which will allow visits on board the P-3 to continue.

Our resident hydraulics specialist, Nathan, has recently overhauled the hydraulics on the air stairs and they can now be used to access the Wessex rotor head which in turn will allow this mechanism to be freed up. The rotor blades can be then be installed.

A constant activity at Parkes, with the many dust storms recently, is trying to keep the aircraft clean.

John Travolta 707 project update

Work continues on the 707 project with significant progress being made on the paperwork trail. As you may be aware, the paper trail on any aircraft is enormous and the 707 is no exception.

The HARS Engineering team has been working tirelessly through the outstanding Airworthiness Directives, the major one being the inspection and replacement of attachment fittings on the engine pylons. This task requires removing all four engines to do the full inspection, as there are no access panels on this model 707.

Eddy current testing was carried out earlier and revealed possible corrosion, but this task is incomplete because of the lack of access.

The engine attachment fittings (two of each, one inboard, one outboard) will then have to be manufactured and replaced. Boeing does not stock these items on the shelf, therefore alternate sources of supply will have to be found.



We are confident that with the continuing support of CASA, Boeing and Pratt & Whitney, the 707 project will ramp up this year and good progress will be made.

February Tarmac Days

A large part of our flying activities during February took place during the tarmac weekend and we are planning for more flying over the upcoming tarmac weekends in March and April. There was also a lot of activity on the ground with the following aircraft on display on the tarmac area and in Hangar One:

- 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
- Department of Aircraft Production Mk. 21 Beaufighter
- Douglas C-47B Dakota
- General Dynamics F-111C
- Government Aircraft Factory IIIO(F) Mirage
- Grumman S-2G Tracker
- Hawker FB.11 Sea Fury
- Lockheed AP-3C Orion
- Lockheed C-121C Super Constellation

In addition to the static displays the Lockheed AP-3C Orion conducted some engine runs with high speed taxiing on the runway. Our Douglas DC-3 'Hawdon' took to the sky in a stream take-off with Douglas C-47B VH-EAF, the pair stunning our visitors and the wider community as they flew in company in a rarely seen gathering of Dakotas.



C-47 and DC-3 lined up

Photo: M. Keech



Active HARS flight line

Photo: M. Keech

Ex-RAAF CA-18 Mustang, A68-199, which has now been resident at HARS since January, flew throughout the weekend as well. The fantastic sound of the V-12 Merlin engine delighted many aviation enthusiasts and is not something that will ever grow old.

Wings over Illawarra 2020

Wings over Illawarra air show will be held over the weekend of May 2 and 3. This year promises to be bigger than ever with the RAAF again making a significant contribution.

HARS, as usual, will be a major contributor with aircraft such as our Boeing 747 and Lockheed Super Constellation on display.

Details of the event and ticket booking link can be found at www.wingsoverillawarra.com.au.



Wings over Illawarra

Photo: M. Keech



Wings over Illawarra

Photo: M. Keech

Illawarra Light Rail Museum partnership

Trains and Planes Sunday was held for the first time on 16 February and was by all accounts a great success. Many visitors took the opportunity to visit both HARS Aviation Museum and Illawarra Light Rail Museum. A shuttle bus operated between the museums and at times this was close to being at full capacity. The event was especially popular with families and young children.



Trains and Planes Sunday

Photo: B. Johns



Trains and Planes Sunday

Photo: B. Johns

Having had a successful start, it is planned to make this event a regular occurrence. Standby for details of the next Trains and Planes Sunday!

Did You Know...

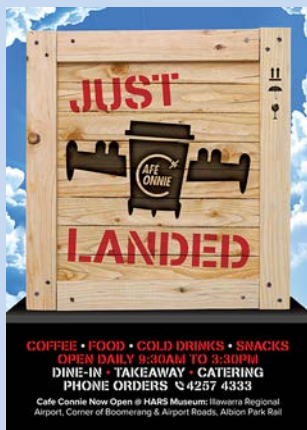
...the Lockheed F-117 'Nighthawk' first flew in 1981 and the type was retired from active service in 2008? Only 64 F-117s were built with 5 of these being prototypes.

...in September 1946 a modified Lockheed P2V-1 Neptune dubbed the 'Truculent Turtle' flew non-stop and un-refuelled from Perth, Western Australia to Columbus, Ohio, covering more than 18,000 km? The flight took 55 hours and 17 minutes.

...the Convair CV-880 was a narrow-bodied airliner designed to compete with the Boeing 707 and Douglas DC-8? It was claimed to be faster than its rivals but was not a sales success with only 65 of type produced.

Café Connie

Next time you're visiting Shellharbour 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.



COFFEE • FOOD • COLD DRINKS • SNACKS
 OPEN DAILY 8:30AM TO 2:30PM
 DINE-IN • TAKEAWAY • CATERING
 PHONE ORDERS ☎ 4257 4333
 Café Connie Now Open @ HARS Museum, Hawera Regional
 Airport, Corner of Boomerang & Airport Roads, Albion Park Rail



John Travolta visits Café Connie

Photo: M. Keech

Next Tarmac Days

Upcoming Tarmac Days will be held on 13, 14, 15 March and 10, 11, 12 April 2020.

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. Information sessions for potential new members will be held at 11:00 am on Saturday 7 March and Saturday 4 April. 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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