



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

## September 2020 Newsletter

*Australia's Aviation Heritage*



### 75th anniversary of the end of WW2

August 15, 2020 marked the 75th anniversary of the end of the war in the Pacific and therefore the end of World War 2. It was on this day, after two Atomic bomb attacks on Japan, that Emperor Hirohito announced the acceptance by Japan of the cessation of hostility demands of the allied forces. The formal surrender documents were signed on 2 September 1945.

To commemorate the end of the war, the President of HARS, Bob De La Hunty, participated in a wreath laying ceremony and memorial service at Albion Park RSL. HARS also contributed to the service by flying a DHC-4 Caribou over the event. While not a WW2 aircraft the Caribou is well-remembered by veterans of the Vietnam war for its outstanding service in that conflict.



Caribou starting up

Photo: M. Keech



Caribou over Albion Park

Photo: M. Keech

### Qantas' final 747 flight crew visit

As reported last month our Boeing 747, City of Canberra, was honoured by a flyover of Qantas' last 747 on 22 July as it made its way to retirement in the Mojave Desert. On 22 August HARS Aviation Museum was visited by Captains Sharelle Quinn, Greg Fitzgerald and Owen Weaver who were part of the crew that made that last 747 flight.



747 crew presentation

Photo: M. Keech



747 final flight memorabilia

Photo: M. Keech

As the HARS mission is to preserve Australia's aviation heritage the crew very kindly donated some important memorabilia from the flight, including the setout details for the flying kangaroo that they drew in the sky, and shared some interesting anecdotes from the flight. After the presentation the crew members were given a detailed tour of the museum which they thoroughly enjoyed.

## August Tarmac Days

Aircraft featured at the August Tarmac Days were:

On the Tarmac:

- de Havilland DHC-4 Caribou
- two Fokker F27-500 Friendship
- Lockheed AP-3C Orion
- Lockheed P2V-7 Neptunes 273 and 281

In Hangar One, aircraft on display were:

- Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation CA-9 Wirraway
- Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation CA-18 Mustang
- Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation CA-27 Sabre
- Corby CJ-1 Starlet
- de Havilland DH-82 Tiger Moth
- both de Havilland T.35 Vampires
- General Dynamics F-111C
- Government Aircraft Factory III0(F) Mirage
- two Grumman S-2G Trackers
- Hawker FB.11 Sea Fury
- Lockheed C-121C Super Constellation



Neptune 273 engine run

Photo: M. Keech



Morava engine run

Photo: M. Keech

Engine runs and taxi tests were conducted by Neptune 273 and the Let L-200A Morava.

For our September Tarmac Days we are planning to conduct engine runs on our AP-3C Orion, the only military-configured Orion in the world operated by a civilian organisation, and two P2V-7 Neptunes, 273 and 566.

## John Travolta's Boeing 707

The John Travolta Boeing 707 project has reached a major milestone with HARS signing a contract with Stambaugh Aviation in Georgia, to start the work on replacing the four Engine Pylon Attachment Fittings.



This work will involve removing the four engines, inhibiting them, and later re-installing them. The replacement of the Attachment Fittings has long been the biggest and most complicated exercise of all the Airworthiness Directives that will need to be addressed to enable the aircraft to fly.

After the replacement of the Attachment Fittings work is complete (around 90 days work) work will begin on the many checks to be carried out to secure the Special Flight Permit for the flight to Australia. This will include 'C' Checks, and parts of the 'A' and 'B' Checks.

We are working with our sponsors to make this project happen and with positive feedback from Bendigo Bank, who are very supportive of the idea of having this iconic aircraft making its new permanent home at the HARS facility in the beautiful Illawarra region.

## Wings over Illawarra

After being postponed in May due to Covid-19, Wings over Illawarra is now planned to be held on the weekend of November 7 and 8. The event organisers are working closely with NSW Health in developing a comprehensive Covid-19 Safety Plan for the event to ensure it can proceed safely in November.

HARS will be a major contributor to the air show. It is planned to have four of our aircraft fly over the weekend: Lockheed C-121C Super Constellation "Connie", Consolidated PBY-6A Catalina, de Havilland DHC-4 Caribou and Grumman S-2G Tracker.



Further information and tickets can be found at [wingsoverillawarra.com.au](http://wingsoverillawarra.com.au). Tickets for this event will only be available online but can be purchased up until the event closes.

## Did You Know...

...that the Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation CA-15, dubbed CAC Kangaroo, was an Australian designed propeller driven fighter aircraft that first flew in March 1946? Based on the CA-18 Mustang, only one prototype was built, with development being cancelled when the introduction of jet aircraft was imminent.

...between 1938 and 1946 the Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation built 755 CAC Wirraway aircraft?

...it is estimated that well over 100 DC-3s are still flying commercially as both freighters and passenger aircraft? Most of these aircraft would be over 75 years old and some have been converted with turbo-prop engines to extend their life even further.

## Aviation anecdotes

“Nothing said I had to crash!”

- Comment by R A ‘Bob’ Hoover who had landed safely after hitting a telephone wire which severed two feet of wing from his P-51 Mustang.

## Next Tarmac Days

The next Tarmac Days be held on 11, 12, 13 September and 9, 10, 11 October 2020. During the September Tarmac Days we plan to focus our displays around commemorating the 80th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain. Also, not to be missed on this weekend will be engine runs on our AP-3C Orion and Neptunes 273 and 566. Of course, planned aviation events are always subject to weather and serviceability.

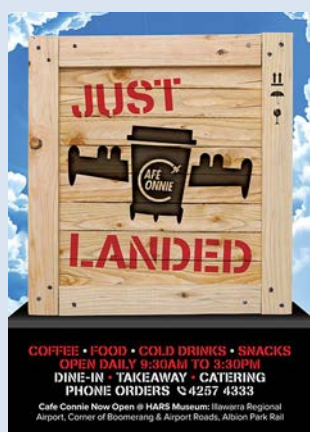
Tarmac Days are held over three consecutive days commencing on the second Friday of each month. The Tarmac day experience differs from a normal tour of the museum. Hangar One and part of the tarmac in front of this hangar are open for visitors to walk around and see our aircraft at leisure. Tour guides are on hand to answer any of your questions.

## Café Connie

Café Connie is now fully operational for eat-in and takeaway options. The café is Covid-19 approved to seat up to 50 customers.

Breakfast and lunch menus offer a wide selection of both hot and cold foods at very reasonable prices. The Café’s beverage offering features barista coffee with milk shakes, smoothies, and soft drinks.

If you are passing our way, why not drop in for coffee and a chat with our friendly staff, or if you are planning a visit to the Museum, why not stay for breakfast or lunch. Café Connie is open from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm, seven days per week.



## Online Shop

HARS Aviation Museum now has an eShop. A special range of HARS-badged clothing such as T-shirts and hoodies,

together with some HARS household items such as a carry bags and cushion covers are available.

These items are not carried in the HARS physical shop at Shellharbour Airport. The merchandise is of exceedingly high quality and will be delivered by post to your nominated address.

Visit [www.harsmuseumshop.com.au](http://www.harsmuseumshop.com.au)

## 747 Premium and Cockpit Tours and Wing Walks

Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 social distancing requirements, HARS is currently unable to take bookings for these intimate tours. We will advise when tours are again available.

## Membership

HARS Aviation Museum is actively looking for volunteers who have an interest in preserving aviation heritage. We seek not only people with an aviation qualification, but also volunteers who can assist in areas such as facilities maintenance, IT, tour guides, reception, the café, or just generally helping out with the day to day running the museum.

If you or a friend are interested in joining HARS please visit [hars.org.au/contact-us](http://hars.org.au/contact-us). Select 'New Member Enquiries' in the 'Who would you like to contact?' field and complete the details. One of our membership team will email you with details regarding our next membership information session.

Our next information sessions, held at our Shellharbour Airport museum, are Saturday 5 September and Saturday 10 October. Sessions start at 11.00 and typically run for about 45 minutes.

## HARS practises Covid-safety

HARS Aviation Museum has a safety plan in place in accordance with the NSW Government's template for Covid-19. Full details of our precautions can be found on our website: [hars.org.au/2020/06/hars-aviation-museum-is-now-open](http://hars.org.au/2020/06/hars-aviation-museum-is-now-open).



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