



HARS
AVIATION
MUSEUM
www.hars.org.au

January 2021 Newsletter

Australia's Aviation Heritage

Happy New Year!

HARS Aviation Museum wishes all our readers a happy, safe and prosperous New Year.

2021 promises to be another significant year for the Historical Aircraft Restoration Society. Work to return John Travolta's Boeing 707-138 to Australia has been hampered by travel restrictions imposed because of the Covid-19 pandemic, preventing our technical crew from working on the aircraft. However, we have engaged an aviation maintenance company in the US to continue the required work and significant progress has been made.

Southern Cross II, our replica Fokker F.VIIb/3m, now has all three restored engines attached. It is anticipated that the remaining work to complete the aircraft will be done in the first half of the year, enabling the aircraft to return to flying status in the second half.



Restoration work continues on our DAP Mk. 21 Beaufighter, de Havilland FAW Mk 53 Sea Venom and de Havilland T.35 Vampire. The Vampire is to be returned to airworthy status. In addition, some exciting and significant new additions to our collection are anticipated. Watch this space!

2020, the year that many wish to forget!

While 2020 has been a particularly challenging year for the everyone, in terms of the HARS aircraft collection there have been some significant achievements:

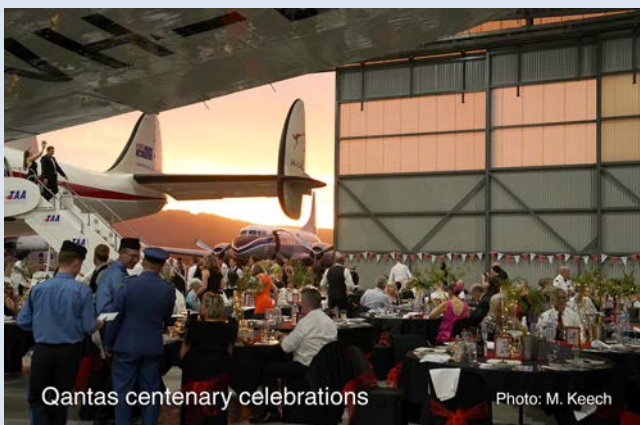
- One of our ex-RAN Historic Flight helicopters, the Bell UH-1B Iroquois has been returned to airworthy status.



- Significant progress has been made on the Fokker replica Southern Cross II with all three engines now rebuilt and installed.



- Lockheed P2V-4 Neptune 302 (located at our Parkes Aviation Museum) has been reassembled. This aircraft is particularly significant as it is believed to be the only surviving P2V-4 in the world.

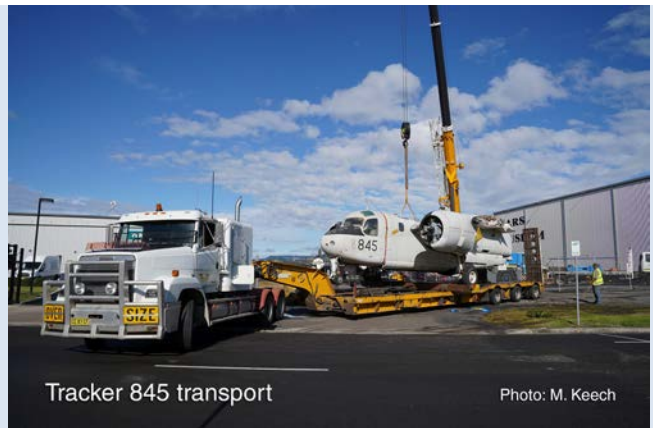


- HARS helped Qantas to celebrate its centenary by hosting a barbecue and formal dinner, culminating with a Qantas Boeing 787 flyover.



Navy Dakota arrival

Photo: M. Keech



Tracker 845 transport

Photo: M. Keech

- Ex-RAN Heritage Flight Douglas C-47B Dakota and a Grumman S-2G Tracker relocated from Nowra to HARS Aviation Museum at Shellharbour airport.

December Tarmac Days

Aircraft on display for the December Tarmac Days were:
on the tarmac:

- de Havilland DHC-4 Caribou
- Douglas C-47B Dakota
- Fokker F27-500 Friendship
- Lockheed AP-3C Orion

in Hangar One:

- Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation CA-9 Wirraway
- Corby CJ-1 Starlet
- de Havilland DHA-3 Drover
- de Havilland DH-82 Tiger Moth
- de Havilland T.35 Vampire
- English Electric T Mk.4 Canberra
- General Dynamics F-111C
- Government Aircraft Factory IIIIO(F) Mirage
- Grumman S-2G Tracker
- Hawker FB.11 Sea Fury
- Lockheed C-121C Super Constellation



December Tarmac Days

Photo: J. Thurstan



December Tarmac Days

Photo: M. Keech

Engine ground runs were conducted on a number of aircraft, including the Lockheed AP-3C Orion, Let L-200A Morava and Grumman S-2G Tracker 844.

85th anniversary of the first DC-3 flight

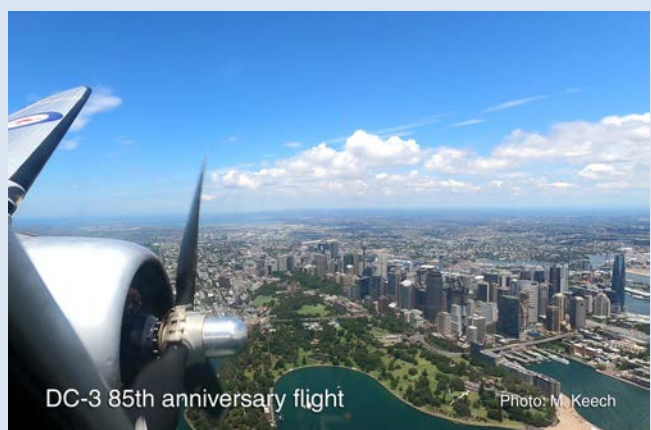
The first flight of the Douglas DC-3, a larger version of the DC-1 and DC-2, took place 85 years ago on 17 December

1935. The DC-3 was a major step forward in the evolution of passenger aircraft. Operations commenced in 1936 with the aircraft seeing widespread service right through until the 1960's. In fact, it is estimated several hundred DC-3s and the C-47 derivative are still flying today. HARS currently has three airworthy DC-3/C-47 aircraft.

The DC-3's rugged, over-engineered design meant that it was an obvious choice as a transport / utility aircraft when the Second World War broke out and a military version was produced, the C-47. In the early part of WW2, the Royal Australian Air Force operated leased DC-3s from Australian National Airways and other sources, the first of which entered RAAF service in September 1939. By 1943 though, production had ramped up in the US to the point where the RAAF could take delivery of its own C-47s.

Over 16,000 DC-3s and C-47s were produced from 1935 to 1949 and, when the war was over, thousands of them were converted for civilian airline use. In Australia, many airlines operated the type, including Qantas, Australian National Airways, Ansett ANA and Trans Australia Airlines, which commenced their services with a C-47 converted to DC-3 in 1946. That particular DC-3, 'Hawdon', has been preserved and still flies today as part of the HARS collection.

To mark the 85th anniversary the DC-3's first flight, one of our C-47s, VH-EAF (A65-94) was flown from Shellharbour Airport along the coast to Sydney Harbour via Long Reef on Sydney's northern beaches. The normal Harbour Scenic procedures were used and while the aircraft was orbiting east of the Harbour Bridge the HARS members on board were treated to spectacular views of the City, Harbour Bridge and Opera House.



The aircraft that was used on this flight, A65-94, was built as a C-47 for the Royal Australian Air Force in 1945. In fact, this aircraft holds the record for the longest serving aircraft in the RAAF, having been delivered and seeing service during the Second World War and continually operated until 1999. Actually, it has been operated continually by HARS Aviation Museum since it was acquired from the air force, so this aircraft has now had a total of 75 years of operation.

Did You Know...

...that the first flight of the Douglas DC-3 was on 17 December 1935, 32 years to the day after the first powered flight by the Wright Brothers?

...that early build DC-3's used 9-cylinder Wright R-1820 engines?

...that the C-47 or Dakota was a military development of the DC-3, production of which commenced in January 1942?

...that the Douglas DC-1 was the prototype for the DC-2, which in turn was developed into the DC-3? The first flight of the DC-1 was in July 1933 but only one of these aircraft was produced.

Aviation Anecdotes

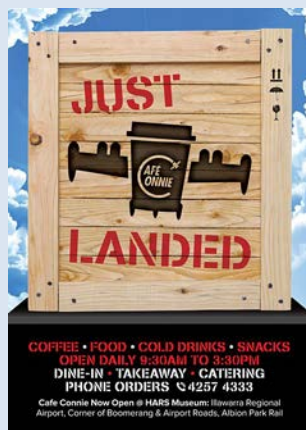
From a scene in the 1989 movie *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*:

Henry Jones: "I didn't know you could fly a plane."

Indiana Jones: "Fly yes... land no."

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

Next Tarmac Days

Upcoming Tarmac Days will be held on 8, 9, 10 January and 12, 13, 14 February 2021.

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. 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 2 January 2021 and Saturday 6 February 2021. Sessions start at 11:00 am 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.



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1916