



HARS
AVIATION
MUSEUM
www.hars.org.au

July 2018 Newsletter

Australia's Aviation Heritage

HARS Aviation Museum at Parkes

Since the 1980s when the Historical Aircraft Restoration Society was first formed we have had a presence at Parkes Airport in the central west of New South Wales. In the very early days the historical WW2 Bellman hangar was used as storage for our de Havilland Vampire project, Parkes having a dry climate making it an ideal location for long term storage. When the volume of spare parts exceeded the space available, new space was acquired offsite at the former Austop wool processing plant and the Bellman hangar was turned into a museum space that could be opened to the public.

Parkes was a major station for the Royal Australian Air Force during the war, being the base for No 1 Air Navigation School, No 2 Wireless Air Gunners School, No 8 Operational Training Unit, Central Flying School and No 87 Squadron. The HARS lease of the hangar has helped to preserve it as a reminder of this wartime activity which was part of the Empire Air Training Scheme.

HARS Aviation Museum at Parkes has been open to the public on Thursdays and Sundays for a number of years now but in the last twelve months the collection of aircraft has increased dramatically with the addition of:

- de Havilland DH.114 Heron,
- Convair CV-580,
- de Havilland DHC-4 Caribou, A4-275,
- Lockheed P2V-7 Neptune, A89-272.

The Caribou was disassembled and transported by road from Oakey, Queensland in 2017. The Neptune was the former gate guardian at RAAF Townsville which was removed from display after being damaged during Cyclone Yasi in 2011.



Parkes has been a hive of activity in recent months with many members making the trip from the Illawarra to work on the various projects. This month's work has included:

- attaching the wings, jet pods, fin and rudder to Neptune 272 (future work includes a refurbishment of the interior and repainting),

- installation of the fin and rudder to Caribou 275 and application of preservative to the external surfaces,
- movement of the Neptune, Convair and Caribou into position to allow better access from the main museum hangar,
- acquisition of an aircraft tug.

A local school group has also been involved in much of the work and the students are gaining valuable experience in technical trades as well as helping HARS immensely with their efforts.



Caribou and Neptune at Parkes

Photo: I. Poulter



Neptune A89-272 at Parkes

Photo: M. St John



Cattle class? Caribou 275 at Parkes

Photo: M. St John



Students restoring the tug

Photo: M. De La Hunty

More aircraft are due to be added in the second half of this year, including a Lockheed P2V-5 Neptune and a Fokker F27 Friendship. Stay tuned for an exciting announcement about HARS Aviation Museum Parkes in the coming months.

Australian Aviation Hall of Fame

Work has commenced on the facilities for the future home of AAHOF on the first floor of Hangar 2, HARS Aviation Museum at Illawarra Regional Airport. Construction of offices, a meeting room and IT room is well advanced. Air conditioning to the floor was completed some months ago – a must for the summer.

Work to be completed in the following months includes fully carpeting the AAHOF area, wall linings and the hanging of the various displays and memorabilia.

June Tarmac Days

June tarmac days were successful despite the inclement weather on the Saturday. A large number of guests were able to view the aircraft indoors and guided tours were also available into Hangar 3. Aircraft on display were:

- Auster J-5G Autocar
- Boeing B747-438, City of Canberra
- Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation CA-25 Winjeel
- Corby CJ-1 Starlet
- de Havilland DH-82 Tiger Moth
- both de Havilland T.35 Vampires
- de Havilland T.35 Vampire

- Douglas C-47B Dakota
- Grumman S-2G Tracker
- Lockheed C-121C Super Constellation

Engine runs were conducted on the Lockheed AP-3C Orion as work continues to prepare the aircraft for its inclusion on the civil register.



Orion engine run

Photo: M. Keech



Orion engine run

Photo: M. Keech

June Flying activities

Celebrating the completion of recent maintenance, the de Havilland DHA-3 Drover has made numerous flights during the last months enabling crews to maintain their currency. The Douglas C-47B Dakota, A65-94, made a flight to Parkes delivering members to support the work taking place there, and Connie, our Lockheed C-121C Super Constellation made an outdoor appearance to have its engines run.



Dakota at Parkes

Photo: I. Poulter



Connie engine run

Photo: M. Keech

Did You Know...

...the de Havilland DH.98 Mosquito was capable of speeds in excess of 390 mph? As a comparison the Spitfire's nominal top speed was around 360 mph.

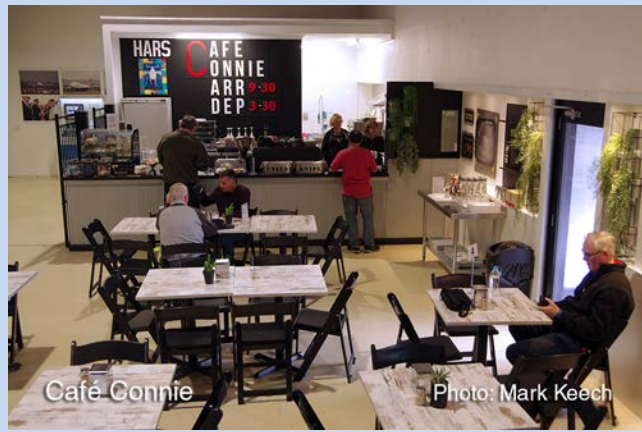
...Singapore Airlines has recently withdrawn four leased Airbus A380 airliners from service and returned them to the leasing company? Two of these aircraft are to be broken up for spare parts.

...the first RAAF Lockheed P2 Neptune entered service in November 1951? The early versions of the aircraft did not have the Westinghouse jet engines, but were retrofitted with these in the late 1950s.

Café Connie

Next time you're visiting Illawarra Regional Airport drop in to Café Connie! Breakfast and lunch menus offering a wide selection of both 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.



City of Canberra - Boeing 747-438 tours

Our Boeing 747-438, City of Canberra, holds the record as the first and only aircraft to fly from London to Sydney non-stop. We are pleased to offer three different exclusive tours of our 747-438:

The Wing Walk Experience

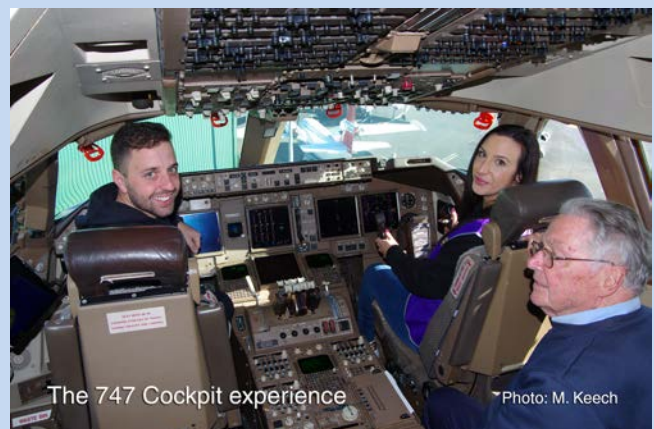
Follow in the footsteps of the Hon. Stephen Jones MP and view our 747 from a completely different angle. The walk will take you to about 16 meters (52 feet) along the right wing. With the beautiful Illawarra escarpment in the background, a totally unique picture and experience awaits you. Wing walk times are between 10am and 3pm at a special introductory price of \$65 which includes museum entry.

Please note that fully enclosed, flat (no heels) footwear must be worn. Ladies must wear shorts or pants - please no skirts. This is to facilitate the fitting of a snug safety harness.



Stephen Jones MP wing walk

Photo: M. St John



The 747 Cockpit experience

Photo: M. Keech

The Total Boeing 747 Experience

The 747 Premium Tours are very popular with our visitors from all over the World. For just \$195 you can enjoy the complete 747 experience.

Your tour is led by experienced 747 personnel many of whom actually flew and worked on VH-OJA. You will be briefed on every aspect of this historic airliner from its record breaking London to Sydney non-stop flight to the shortest flight from Sydney to Wollongong. Your personal tour guides will explain and answer all of your questions.

This tour commences with a brief audio-visual presentation followed by a tour of the entire aircraft, including the cabin and galleys, crew rest areas, the forward cargo hold and a detailed inspection of the cockpit in the company of an actual 747 captain.

The 747 Cockpit Experience

This Cockpit Tour is conducted by an experienced 747 pilot who will explain the cockpit in detail and will take you

through the many procedures required to mount a typical operation. You will experience sitting in the pilots' seats and actually be able to handle the controls. This is an incredible opportunity to experience first-hand what really goes on at the pointy end of these magnificent aircraft.

Bookings are limited to two guests per tour. The cost is \$100.00 per person and is payable at time of booking.



Bookings

Reservations for both tours are strictly limited, therefore book early so as not to be disappointed. Combinations of the various 747 tours are also available at discounted prices. For more information and bookings call 02 4257 4333.

Next Tarmac Days

Upcoming Tarmac Days will be held on 13, 14, 15 July and 10, 11, 12 August 2018.

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. An information session for potential new members will be held at 11:00 am on Sunday 8 July. 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.

HARS Aviation Museum

HARS Aviation Museum is open every day except Christmas Day between 9:30 am and 3:30 pm at:

Illawarra Regional Airport
54 Airport Road
Albion Park Rail NSW 2527
Tel: +61 2 4257 4333

HARS Aviation Museum is now also open at Parkes on Thursdays and Sundays between 9:30 am and 3:30 pm at:

Parkes Airport
Muzyczuk Drive
Parkes NSW 2870



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