



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

## Quarter 1, 2024 Newsletter

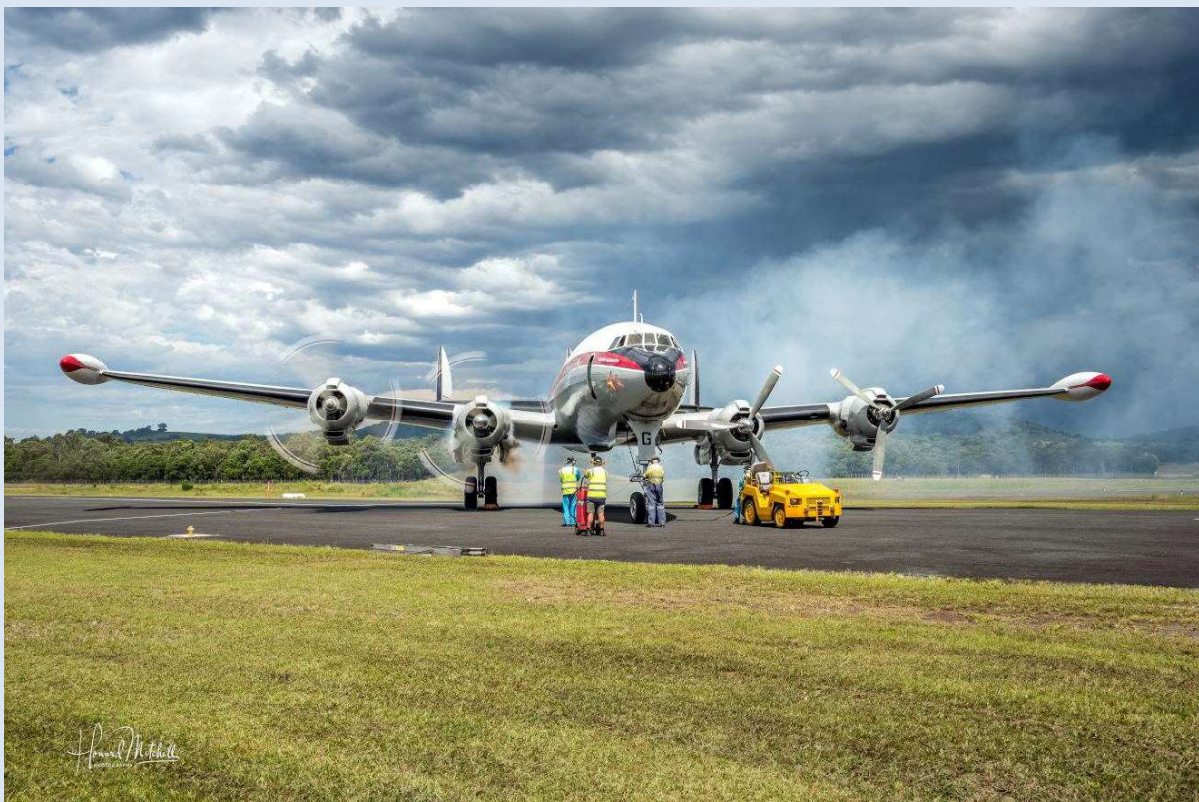
### *Australia's Aviation Heritage*

#### **2024 Airshows Downunder**

Airshows Downunder, held on the weekend of 2 and 3 March, was by all accounts an enormous success.

The weather restricted some of the flying activities on Saturday, but Sunday the weather was fine and good for flying.

HARS had eight aircraft participating in flying exhibitions on both days. These were our Lockheed Super Constellation (Connie), Fokker Tri Engine replica "Southern Cross," Lockheed P2V-7 Neptune, Douglas Dakota and DC-3, De Havilland Caribou, Grumman Tracker, and Lockheed AP-3C Orion.



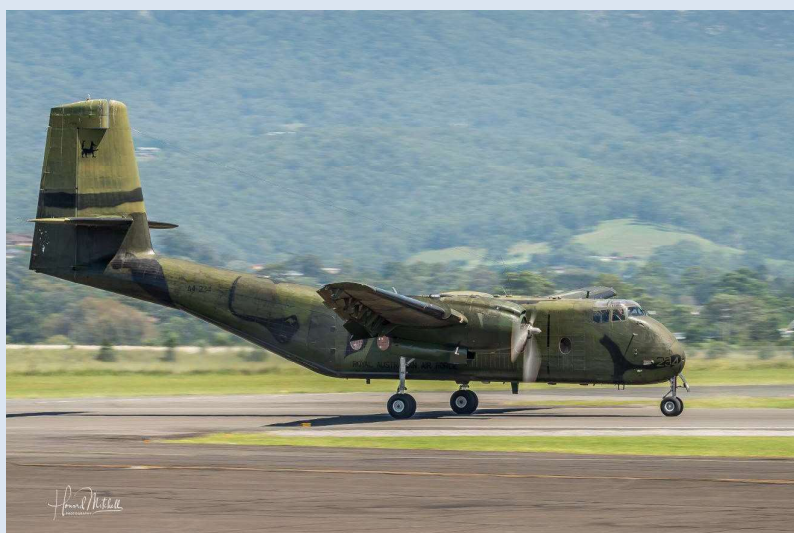
Connie engine runs as part of preparations for the Air Show.



"Connie".



Grumman Tracker – configured for arrested Aircraft Carrier landing.



De Havilland Caribou taxiing for departure.





Douglas DC-3 "Hawdon" low level pass.



BF 190 and HARS Neptune on the ground. Note RAAF 100 Squadron Canberra on late final in the background.



The final display – RAAF F-35 and the wall of fire.  
Howard Mitchell supplied all photographs.

## **Boeing 747-400 "City of Canberra" repaint.**

Our Boeing 747 has now been at HARS for over nine years, having arrived in March 2015. Nine years of being subjected to the elements at Albion Park have taken their toll on the aircraft's paint work.

In late 2023, the huge project of giving the old girl a complete repaint commenced. About 50% of the aircraft has now been completed.



Repaint in progress. Photo: Ian Poulter.

## **Parkes Aviation Museum**

### **New Parkes Aviation Museum Site**

Work has continued on the new HARS Parkes museum site. The taxi way from our current site is complete along with leveling and smoothing of the parking area. The site is now as ready as possible for the RA Aus Fly in for Fun over the weekend of 12-14 April 2024.

### **Dakota C-47 restoration.**

Work has continued on the reassembly and restoration of the museum's C-47, with wings, horizontal stabiliser and fin now fitted. The aircraft is now largely complete.



Photo: Col Lucas.

The Parkes High School continues to be a great supporter of the museum, with students attending on each Thursday to assist with the various projects that are always on the go.

## **HARS Southern Cross replica – help keep her flying!**

After the aircrafts post restoration first flight in December 2023, ongoing funding to keep her flying is needed. Importantly, the aircraft needs a spare engine so that it can confidently be displayed around the country. Being a fragile aircraft, it needs to be hangered when not in use. Should a breakdown occur way from base, exposure of the aircraft to the elements must be kept to a minimum, hence the requirement for a spare engine.

To this end HARS has established "go fund me" online account. All funds raised will be devoted to the acquisition of a spare engine. Should you wish to contribute to this fund go to:

<https://hars.org.au/donations/southerncrossreplica/>



Photo: Howard Mitchell.

## **Tarmac Days**

The usual collection of HARS aircraft is on display during each Tarmac Weekend, held over a three-day period commencing on the second Friday of each month and continuing over the following Saturday and Sunday.

Upcoming dates are April 12, 13, and 14, May 10, 11, and 12 and June 14, 15 and 16.

Aircraft normally on display in Hangar 1, or on the tarmac are:

- Lockheed Super Constellation "Connie",
- Douglas C-54 Skymaster,
- Lockheed AP-3C Orion,
- Mirage IIIO,
- General Dynamics F-111,
- Lockheed P2V-7 Neptune,
- Hawker Sea Fury,
- Hawker Sea Venom,
- Corby Starlet,
- Convair 440,
- Grumman S-2G Tracker,
- Two De Havilland DH-115 Vampires, and

HARS endeavours to fly and/or conduct engine runs on several aircraft over these weekends.



Ex French Marine P2 Neptune engine run. Photo: Howard Mitchell.

## Did You Know

... The prototype Junkers Ju 87 (Stuka dive bomber) was powered by a V12 Rolls-Royce Kestrel engine? The aircraft first flew on 17 September 1935.

... Rolls-Royce engines were used on several German aircraft during the mid-1930's? Another notable type being the Messerschmitt Bf 109 VI prototype which also used the V12 Rolls Royce Kestrel engine.

... The first General Dynamics F-111C for the RAAF was accepted at Fort Worth, Texas on 4 September 1968? However, due to technical issues the type does not enter service with the RAAF until mid-1973.

## Aviation Anecdotes

"And let's get one thing straight. There's a big difference between a pilot and an aviator. One is a technician; the other is an artist in love with flight."

Elrey Borge Jeppesen (an American aviation pioneer)

## There is more at HARS than you may know.

HARS is also home to the Australian Aviation Hall of Fame (AAHOF) and the Lawrence Hargrave Society.

AAHOF charter is "to honour the past and inspire the future". The Australian Aviation Hall of Fame honours those individuals and organisations whose contributions have advanced Australian aviation and aerospace. It was formed by a collection of passionate aviation enthusiasts. AAHOF is committed to inspiring the future of Australian aviation.

The AAHOF displays at HARS include information about past inductees and displays memorabilia from aviation days past. For more information go to: [www.aahof.com.au](http://www.aahof.com.au)





The Lawrence Hargrave Society's aim is to draw attention to the pioneering contribution that Lawrence Hargrave made to the development of human flight, as well as championing his interest in the natural heritage and cultural development of Stanwell Park.

There are various displays of Hargrave's experiments, including a full-size replica of the box kite which took him aloft some 129 years ago. For information go to: [www.lawrencehargrave.org](http://www.lawrencehargrave.org)

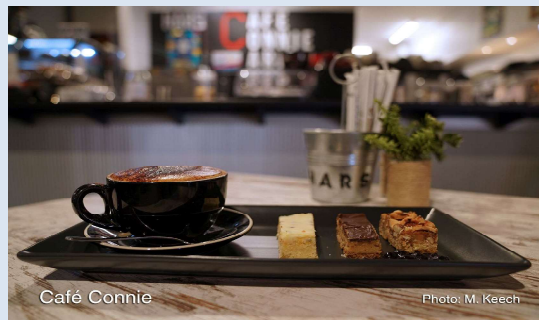


When you next visit HARS, ask your tour guide to include a tour of AAHOF and Lawrence Hargrave displays.

## Café Connie

Café Connie is open from 9:30 am to 2:00 pm daily for eat-in and take-away options. 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.



## Museum Shop

The HARS Aviation Museum Shop, located adjacent to the Museum Reception, has a diverse range of aviation products for sale. These include T shirts, jackets, children's toys, aircraft memorabilia, books, and DVDs.

There is also a broad range of collectable diecast aircraft models for sale.

When next at the Museum, have a browse through our shop.



## Online Shop

HARS Aviation Museum now has an eShop. A special range of HARS-branded clothing such as T-shirts and hoodies, together with some HARS household items such as carry bags and cushion covers are available.

These items are not carried in the HARS Museum Shop located 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).

## City of Canberra – Boeing 747-438 Tours

Bookings can be made for the following tours of our Boeing 747-438 'City of Canberra'.

### Wing Walk Experience

The Wing Walk will provide you with a unique perspective of the 747 taking you about sixteen meters (52 feet) along the right wing where your guide will explain many aspects of the aircraft components and operation. Wing Walk tours can be taken between 10am and 3pm for the price of \$75, which includes Museum entry.

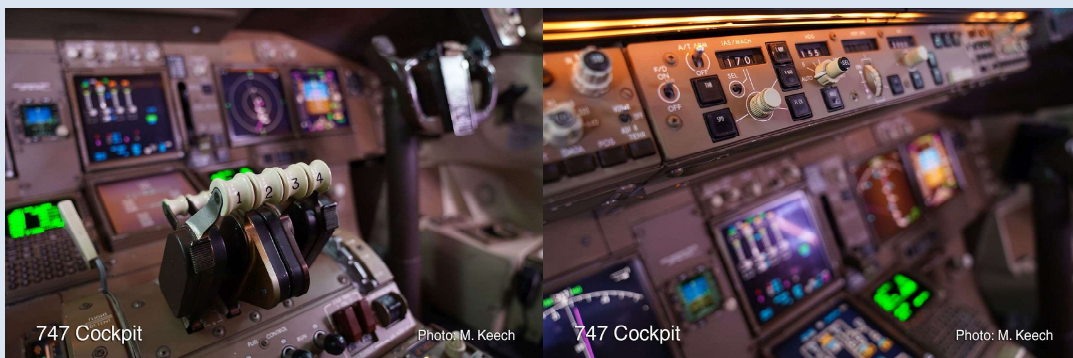
### The Total Boeing 747 Experience

This Premium 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 avionics bay, forward cargo hold and a detailed inspection of the cockpit, conducted by experienced 747 crew. The tour duration is approximately 4 hours and includes a personalised tour of the full HARS Museum. The tour is priced at \$205 per person with a minimum of two and a maximum of four persons per tour.



### 747 Cockpit Experience

The 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. Bookings are limited to two guests per tour, and costs \$110 per person which includes Museum entry.





## Bookings

All tour prices include a full Museum Tour. Reservations for all tours are strictly limited. Combinations of the various 747 tours are also available at discounted prices. For more information and bookings call 02 4257 4333.

## 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 with the day to day running the Museum.

If you or a friend are interested in joining HARS, please visit: [www.hars.org.au/contact-us/](http://www.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.

Information sessions are held at our Shellharbour Airport Museum on the first Saturday of each month. Sessions start at 11:00 am and typically run for about 45 minutes.

### HARS Parkes Aviation Museum Membership

Our Parkes Museum is also actively seeking new members. If you live in Central Western NSW and would like to get involved with the various projects at Parkes, contact Col Lucas on 0428 625 269, or drop into the museum and make an enquiry. The Museum is open for tours on Thursdays and Sundays.



HARS Parkes Museum hangar.



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