

Edition 48, April 2024



The **UIVER** Flyer

News from the Uiver Memorial DC-2 Restoration Project.



The nose frame was the last fuselage support to be riveted in place.

Another major step forward

The last of the frames supporting the fuselage – the nose frame – has been placed in position marking another small but significant step in the restoration of the Uiver memorial DC-2. Earlier, the last underfloor frame was riveted home and now all 25 frames, from nose to tail, are complete.

The fuselage will be complete when the distinctive DC-2 nose, which now hangs on the hangar wall, is eventually attached to the front frame but in the meantime, attention has moved to the interior of the cockpit where mountings around the side windows are being restored.

Adjacent to the fuselage, the wing centre section has been entirely stripped of its panels, most of which will be refurbished, while some of the supporting aluminium stringers have succumbed to corrosion and will have to be replaced. The disassembly, which took two years, has left just a single spar. The last floor frame has been riveted into position.



The last floor frame has been riveted into position



The vintage visitors on parade outside the hangar. PICTURES Pieter Mol

Chryslers take a spin to the hangar

The Chryslers on the Murray event brought a fleet of vintage vehicles to the restoration hangar on Saturday, March 16. About 40 enthusiasts brought about a dozen vehicles on the hangar visit, one of the options the organisers had listed during the Chrysler event.

Many of the vehicles harked back to the “Uiver era” of 1934, the oldest car was manufactured in 1929, a Plymouth tourer. Its owners, Jim and Jill Mather, had come to Albury-Wodonga from Mandurah, Western Australia, the car on a trailer as far as Ballarat because, with a top speed of 60kmh, competing with road trains on the Nullarbor would have been problematic.



Pieter Mol outlines the Uiver story. Picture: NEILL DREW.

The visitors spent about 2½ hours at the hangar, speaking to the volunteers working on the DC-2 and learning of the plane's history and the Uiver story through a talk by Uiver Memorial Community Trust chairman Pieter Mol.



The oldest car on the hangar visit dates back to 1929.

The Albury-Wodonga Chrysler Club, formed in 1990, ran the first event in 1992 and it has since grown to become the largest Chrysler show in the Southern Hemisphere. This year, the event attracted more than 900 vehicles, reportedly injecting \$30 million into the local economy.



Both Chrysler and Dodge brands were represented at the event.



The Rich-Air team saved us when the compressor failed. Pictures: RUSS JACOB.

Fresh air and it's back to work

Jindera firm, Rich-Air came to the rescue when work on the DC-2 ground to a halt after the failure of the hangar's air compressor. With replacement parts two to three months away, Neil Richards at Rich-Air provided a compressor on loan at no cost.

The failure of the compressor spelt disaster for the restoration as most of the tools –drills, rivet guns, orbital sanders and spray guns – are air powered. Three working days were lost until Rich-Air got the work going again.

After much re-organising the loan compressor was shoe-horned into place and our electrician Andy McSpadden completed the installation so the hangar became operational again.

After a tour of the hangar, the Rich-Air team, in a post on its Facebook page, said the volunteers were doing an “incredible” job. Rich-Air services southern NSW and north-east Victoria with industrial compressed air equipment service, repairs, hire and sales, as well as pipe work installation.



It may look like just a box but without it, the hangar was eerily silent.



Some of the different badges that will join our merchandise range.

More choice for badge collectors

More souvenir badges have been added to the merchandise on offer at the Uiver restoration hangar. Volunteer Karen Newton has been single-handedly producing a range badges, featuring the Uiver, the DC-2 and the landing at the Albury racecourse in 1934.

The badges will join other items on the merchandise counter, including

caps, coffee cups and souvenir booklets, all of which help to raise the funds on which the restoration project relies.



The badges will help raise funds for the DC-2 restoration project.

...and you can buy a rivet

Another of our fundraising efforts is continuing, both inside and outside the hangar – the Give-A Rivet campaign has made it easy for the public to support the project, either through visits to the hangar or online through the Uiver Memorial Community Trust website [Uiver Memorial Community Trust website](https://www.uivermemorialcommunitytrust.co.uk) or on the QR code below.



Help us spread the word

We want the whole community to know about our project and you can help by forwarding this newsletter to others in your address book, either through email or social media. You could encourage them to also forward on the newsletter so we can expand our circulation, and invite them to subscribe and join our emailing list.

A small effort could have a big impact.



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