

NEW ZEALAND WARBIRDS ASSOCIATION (INC.)

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UPDATE #7

27 July 2021

Canberra 'Strippers' become 'Sanders'

Apologies for the time lag since our last update 11 May but the stripping process continued to completion over a number of Wednesday sessions. In

Just to prove that males can multi-task, our team of strippers than became sanders!

It wasn't a task that many of us were relishing but the loan of a commercial dual orbital sanding unit complete with dust extraction meant exceptional progress.

A shout out to Gary Franklyn of Transform Painters for the use of the unit and his welcome advice.

You won't find any glamorous females at this venue! Just a bunch of somewhat mature, dedicated males who have been working away at the task of removing the protective coating from the Canberra fuselage.

Last Wednesday a group including Mike Watson, Garry Rasmussen, Paul Johnston, Dave Smith, Tim Sullivan, Dave Bevan, under the guidance of Gavin and Tony set to with Gorilla Graffiti Remover, scrapers, Scotchbrite-type pads and elbow grease to remove the remaining coating.

And like what we imagine a real stripper does, Miss WT346 is slowly but surely revealing her full beauty!

These working bees are entertainment in their own right because this mix of former RNZAF/RAF and airline pilots results in many funny and not-so-funny incidents being recounted. The camaraderie really comes to the fore and makes what otherwise could be a chore, a fun activity – see the attached photos.

One other session this week should see all of the coating gone.

The next step is to carry out the surprisingly few paint repairs that are required and then start the overall sanding, masking etc prior to painting.

The proposed paint system from Resene's Auto and Specialist Coatings division is being trialed on one of the panels and so far looks great.

Other Components

Transport options for the wings, tail plane etc are still in the melting pot as is the construction of yet-to-be-built frames to allow road transport to Ardmore.

Our thanks to you as a donor - pleasing to report that we've had a couple of recent donors ; please use this link for further information –www.nzwarbirds.org.nz/canberra

Gavin Trethewey/Tony Miller
Canberra Support Group

Donor Update #6