ON **SUNDAY 5 MAY**, ALBION PARK, SOUTH OF WOLLONGONG PLAYED HOST YET AGAIN TO ONE OF AUSTRALIA'S BEST REGIONAL AIR SHOWS – THE NOW-ANNUAL **WINGS OVER ILLAWARRA**.

PHOTOS BY GLENN FENWICK

A show favourite – P51 Mustang.

Dan Duggan in a Jet Provost Mk V.

Owned and operated by the Historical Aircraft Restoration Society (HARS), which is home-based at the Illawarra Regional Airport, WOI attracted massive crows to the one-day fly-fest.

And the crowds had plenty to cram in to a busy day.

For the first time ever, WOI featured civilian aerobatics with not one, but two, exciting performers in the skies.

Australia's premier aviation performer and former F/A-18 top gun, Matt Hall wowed the crowds with two impressive flying displays in his MXS-R – as did local performer, Southern

Biplane Adventures, in their 1943 Boeing Stearman.

Of course the RAAF Roulettes were there, demonstrating the grace of close-formation aerobatics in their relatively quiet Pilatus PC-9s – while the roar of a military fast jet ripped the skies over the otherwise sleepy sea-side town asunder.

With the theme for this year's event being 'Celebrating Naval Aviation', the Royal Australian Navy was well represented too.

Aside from the action in the air, the event also showcased a wide range of activities

and displays, including historic, modern and military aircraft as well as vintage car and bike displays and a number of static exhibitions and stalls.

Not least on the must-see list for most visitors was HARS' newly arrived F-111 swing-wing bomber, which, while she will never fly again, was officially the last one that ever did.

And, in a very rare coup for HARS, the F-111 now residing at their Albion Park HQ may be viewed t very close range, with WOI attendees gien close and elevated views of the shiny 'new' exhibit.

Matt Hall in action.

The graceful Caribou – still flying, thanks to HARS.

This little piggie came home to HARS.

Boeing Stearman 'Lillywarra' flown by Southern Biplane Adventures.

Left: Navy NH90 pilot and self-confessed CONTACT fan Dave Barlow proudly sports a very distinctive Blackjack ADF Class 21 patch.

Right: Roulette 6, Flight Lieutenant Steve English on a solo run.