

**FEEL  
THE POWER**

**AUSTRALIAN  
INTERNATIONAL  
AIRSHOW**  
4-6 MARCH  
GEELONG VICTORIA **2011**

## AUSTRALIAN WAR VETERAN RESTORED FOR AIRSHOW

An important part of Australia's aviation military past is being restored to its former glory for the 2011 Australian International Airshow at Avalon Airport.

The Canberra Bomber was Australia's first jet bomber, and one currently sits as the gate guardian to Avalon Airport.

Avalon Airport, the home of the Australian International Airshow, was founded when the Commonwealth purchased the land to begin construction of the Canberra Bomber.

Organisers of the Airshow have undertaken to restore and relocate the Canberra Bomber as a gate guardian at the entrance to the 2011 Australian International Airshow.

"As the 2011 Airshow at Avalon is celebrating the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Royal Australian Air Force, this aircraft will form the centre piece of the static display of historical aircraft to mark the occasion," says Airshow CEO Ian Honnery.

The first Australian built Canberra Bomber entered service in 1953. The Avalon gate guardian saw action in Vietnam as part of the 35<sup>th</sup> Tactical Fighter Squadron from the late 1960's to early 1970's.

Once restored, this Canberra Bomber will not only represent the RAAF but will also be a memorial to all those squadrons who served on the aircraft.

"This aircraft has been on display for over 25 years at Avalon, and this is a wonderful opportunity to restore it to its former glory and ensure it remains a part of Australia's aviation history," Mr Honnery says.

The 2011 Australian International Airshow and Aerospace & Defence Exposition is one of the most comprehensive aviation events in the Asia Pacific Region.

This years event will not only celebrate the RAAF's 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary, but will also recognise the centenary of passenger flight in Australia, and the 10<sup>th</sup> staging of the Airshow at Avalon Airport.

A record number of military, historic, commercial and general aviation aircraft from around the world and the country are expected to take part in both the static and flying displays.

The 2011 Australian International Airshow will be held from March 4 – 6 at Avalon Airport near Geelong.

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