

Day in praise of Catalinas

TOMORROW'S Catalina Festival at Rathmines will boost funds being raised to help restore a section of one of the most significant flying boat bases in the world in World War II.

Some of the money has been earmarked for the purchase and restoration of one of the aircraft.

The president of the Catalina Flying Memorial, Philip Dullhanty, searched the world before finding a suitable Catalina in Portugal.

Preparations are under way to ferry it back to Australia.

The intention is to base the restored aircraft at Rathmines in a reconstructed wartime hangar that will also be used as a museum.

Rathmines was the wartime secret base of the Catalinas.

Depending on weather conditions, tomorrow's festival will be formally marked by a flypast and landing of seaplanes at 10am.

An RAAF Hawke Jet from 76 squadron will perform a flypast north-

Timetable of events

FLYPASTS

11am: RAAF Hawke Jet from 76 Squadron.
10.30am-3pm: Sea plane antics by the Australian Seaplane Pilots Association.

COMMUNITY HALL

9am-3.30pm: School art show; open art show.
10.40am-11.25am: Kids puppet show.
11.30am-noon: Sillling Street Singers.
12.05pm-12.35pm: USA Choir.
12.40am-1pm: Irish dancers.

1pm-1.30pm: Tap dancers.
1.30pm-2pm: Sillling Street Singers.
2.05pm-2.35pm: USA Choir.

RATHMINES BOWLING CLUB

11am-11.30am: Tai Chi Ladies.
1pm-2.30pm: Swing band.
Peter Stephansen will perform throughout the day.

south and then south-north at 11am.

There will also be a fly-over of vintage Tiger Moths at 2.30pm.

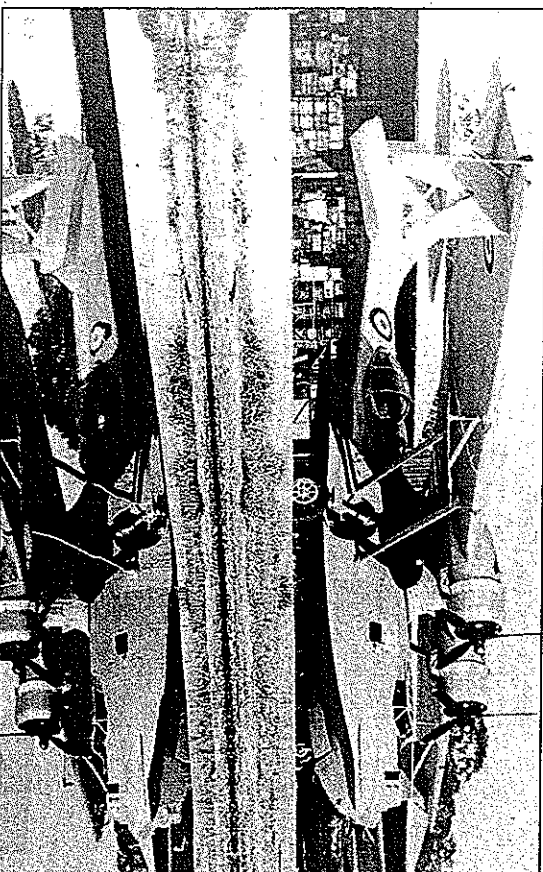
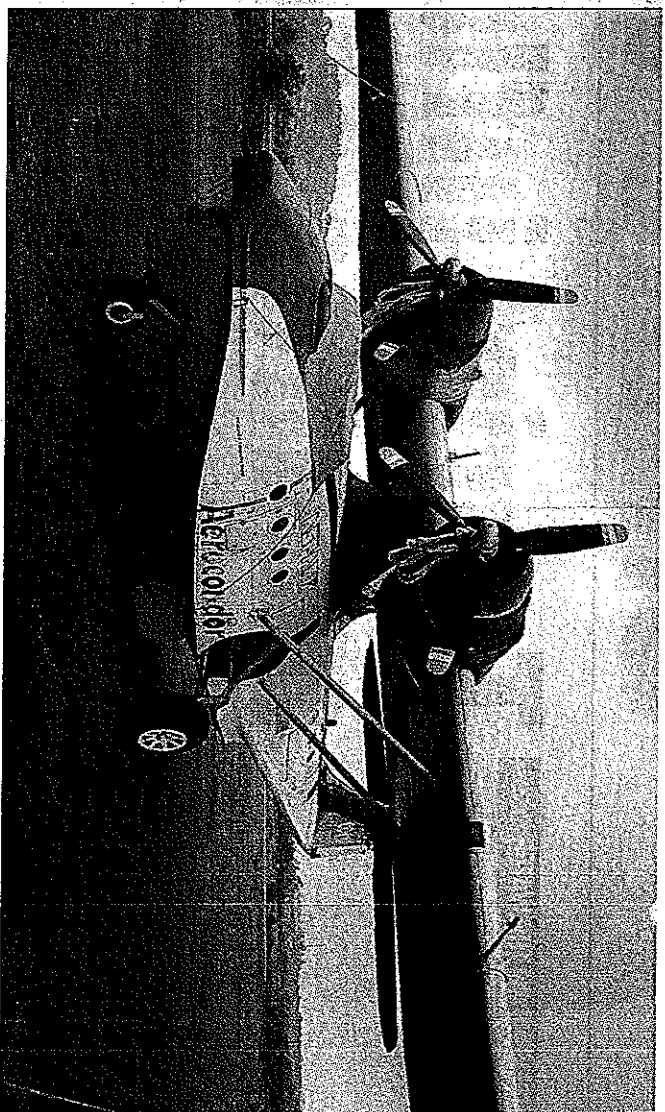
Hosted by Rathmines Memorial Bowling Club, the day will feature stalls, displays, choirs and bands.

Children's activities will have been organised

along with rides, an art show and static displays of classic and vintage cars and motorcycles.

Programs and donation for the day has been set at \$5 a family.

There will be a fund-raising dinner with entertainment tomorrow night. For information phone 4975 1955.



HISTORIC - Hopes are that this catalina from Portugal, top, will be restored at Rathmines. About \$150,000 needs to be raised to ferry it back to Australia. Left, a Catalina flying boat at the Rathmines air base during World War II.



THE HERALD Friday, October 3, 2008

THIS SAT 4th October 10am - 4pm

From 10am: Fly Past and Landings, Sea Planes

11am: RAAF Hawke Jet flypast by Past

2.30pm: Flyover by Tiger Moths

Stalls, displays, choirs and bands

Children's activities & competition

Vintage Cars and Motorcycles

Art Show, Entertainment 1955

Phone 4975 1955