

UIVER MEMORIAL RESTORED TO DUTCH DISPLAY

A STATUETTE funded by Albury citizens to mark a 1930s aviation tragedy is back for public viewing in The Netherlands after decades forgotten in storage.

The Montford Uiver Flight Memorial can be seen at

the Dutch aviation museum Aviodrome, which accepted it on loan from Amsterdam Museum for 10 years.

Uiver historian, Noel Jackling said Aviodrome attracted 150,000 visitors a year, many

of whom would come to know Albury's connection to the Uiver aircraft.

Created by Melbourne Shrine of Remembrance sculptor Paul Montford, the bronze and marble statuette was Albury's gift to

the people of Holland, presented by then-mayor Alfred Waugh in Amsterdam 84 years ago.

Residents raised 150 pounds to commission the piece following the Uiver's desert crash in December 1934, two months after the KLM DC-2 aeroplane had made its emergency landing at Albury racecourse, aided by car headlights lighting up a make-shift runway.

Originally displayed in Amsterdam Town Hall, the statuette was removed sometime before 1962 with Mr. Jackling's inquiries in 2014 failing to locate it.

But last year at the instigation of the Aviodrome curator Will Porrio, the Montford Uiver Flight Memorial was found in the storage depot of the Amsterdam Museum.

"It has since been subject to conservation and its dark blue-green patina treated", Mr. Jackling said.

Albury councillors voted to commission a replica of the memorial statuette for the Albury Library Museum at an estimated cost of \$13,910



ON SHOW: A 1935 gift to the people of Holland, the Montford Uiver Flight Memorial is now on display at the Aviodrome aviation museum. Photo courtesy of Will Porrio.

