



## Opera coming to the hangar

The Uiver hangar will be filled with the sounds of opera. Saturday March 18 is the date for Opera in the Hangar, a boutique version of Opera in the Alps, not only a first for the hangar but also for the region.

At its latest meeting, the board of the Uiver Memorial Community Trust gave the go-ahead for the unique event which will feature Opera Scholars Australia, the same company behind Opera in the Alps, accompanied by a chamber orchestra conducted by Guy Noble, with the Pipes and Drums of the Scots School, Albury.

Planning has reached the “save the date” stage. Because the hangar will be open to the adjacent airport apron, the event and security arrangements need approval from the Department of Home Affairs but several businesses are already on board, including Ebdon and Olive for hospitality, Albury Sound and Lighting, Barlens Hire for seating and staging, with Enhance Styling and Events as event co-ordinator. Other business will benefit, especially the accommodation sector.

The hangar will be transformed for the event, with the DC-2 fuselage as a spectacular backdrop to the stage. A “business lounge” will be set up for

drinks and canapes before the performance.

News of the event has drawn a great reception. There were cheers and applause when the Uiver trust made a “save the date” announcement at the Business After Hours function in the hangar on October 26.



Businesspeople get an insight into the DC-2 restoration. Picture: IAN COSSOR.

## **Business rises to another plane**

The Uiver Memorial Community Trust took the opportunity to drum up some support among the business community of Albury-Wodonga when the

hangar hosted a Business After Hours event on Wednesday, October 26. More than 60 businesspeople attended, enjoying drinks and snacks, while learning about the Uiver story, the restoration of the memorial DC-2 and our plans for a living museum.

Alan Harrison manned the microphone for the night before the gathering watched the first public airing of a five-minute video, prepared by Ian Cossor, of the Uiver story and the rebuilding of the DC-2. Trust board members and volunteers mingled with the guests, answering questions and receiving encouraging feedback on support for the project.

The Business After Hours functions are so popular among Albury-Wodonga businesses there is a waiting list until 2024 to host one. Businesses host them to show off new premises, new equipment, new products and services, while not-for-profit organisations get the opportunity to seek support and sponsorship. The events give businesspeople an opportunity to network, establish contacts and meet people and groups they may not know.

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The open day is a major event for the restoration project. Picture: IAN COSSOR.

## Open day was one of the best

A crowd estimated at more than 300 passed through the hangar on October 22 in one of the most successful open days the Uiver Restoration Group has staged. The progress on the restoration of the memorial DC-2 was not the only attraction, with the Twin Cities Model Aero Club and the Albury Library Museum's Dutch Connections exhibit complementing the Uiver story display.

Lazy Harry entertained, Geoff Reid's Lego version of the Uiver rescue enthralled young and old and the food and merchandise staff were kept busy. Having launched her children's tale of the Uiver landing Through The Clouds at the Albury Library Museum earlier in the day, Carm Hogan was

on hand for a book signing and to promote her other creation, the play All The Shining Lights to be staged at the Hothouse Theatre from November 10.





Many of the restoration volunteers, distinguished by their T-shirts, mingled with the crowd answering questions on the rebuilding of the DC-2 and project manager Russ Jacob gave a talk on the Uiver rescue and the memorial project.

The model aircraft display drew considerable interest. The club operates on its own airfield off Central Reserve Road, Ettamogah, five kilometres north of Albury, with three runways for remote-controlled planes and a circular field for tethered flying. It also offers flying instruction using a “buddy box” technology that allows a learner to fly with an instructor on a separate control able to step in if required.



The “food court” was a popular stopover during the day. Picture: IAN COSSOR.

The crowd ate through \$434 worth of food and drink, spent \$613 buying merchandise and donated \$688 including for the Give A Rivet fundraiser, boosting the project’s coffers by just over \$2000 for the day.



The Lego version of the Uiver being hauled from the mud. Picture: IAN COSSOR.





The Albury Library Museum's Dutch Connections exhibit was another attraction.



Russ Jacob outlined the Uiver story and the restoration project.

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## From ordinary to extraordinary

The world is full of ordinary people in ordinary towns but ordinary people, with courage, can do extraordinary things – this is the theme of *All The Shining Lights* a play about courage and wisdom to be staged by the HotHouse Theatre from November 10 to 19.

It is the Uiver story from a unique approach, a story about Charli and John and an aeroplane — one young, one old, all lost. Charli is bold, headstrong and desperate to soar over the hurdles life throws in her way. John is old, bitter and afraid of what comes next. The Uiver is an aeroplane caught up in a storm with no map, no guide, and nowhere to land.

At a time when so much of the world feels lost and adrift, Charli flies into John's room at Sunset Oaks and into his heart. Together they unlock the dramatic rescue of the Uiver plane and the little pearls of wisdom we all need, to face life and to face death. This is a story of then and now and what is yet to come.

John Walker, who plays the grumpy retirement home resident, was among the crowd at the Uiver hangar open day on Saturday, October 22, as was the play's producer Beck Palmer and Carm Hogan who created it. The other cast members are Rachel McNamara as the storyteller and Ruby Davis as Charli.

**HotHouse**  
THEATRE

**25**  
SEASONS

**ALL THE LIGHTS SHINING**

THE GREAT  
UIVER RESCUE OF 1934

**10-19 NOV**

SUITABLE FOR 6 YRS\*

HOTHOUSE THEATRE PRESENTS A WORLD PREMIERE PRODUCTION

CREATED BY  
**CARM HOGAN &  
BRENDAN HOGAN**

WRITTEN BY  
**BRENDAN HOGAN**

DIRECTED BY  
**KARLA CONWAY**

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## **...and we still need those rivets**

The smallest part of the memorial DC-2 has the biggest job – the humble rivet holds all the components together and more than 800,000 rivets will be needed to complete the restoration of the aircraft.

Community support is providing each and every rivet which is why the Give A Rivet fundraiser is so important to the project. Each rivet is valued at \$2, so every donation, large or small, is a step closer to achieving our vision of a memorial to the Uiver and Albury's role in saving the aircraft on that harrowing night in 1934.

Donations can be made through the Uiver Memorial Community Trust website <https://www.uivermemorial.org.au/> or on the QR code below.



## Help us spread the word

We want the whole community to know about our project and you can help by forwarding this newsletter to others in your address book, either through email or social media. You could encourage them to also forward on the newsletter so we can expand our circulation, and invite them to subscribe and join our emailing list.

A small effort could have a big impact.



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