Ryan STM

History of c/n 465; STM-2; S-29, A50-22, VH-AGW

Compiled by Geoff Goodall

S-29 in Australia 1942, location unknown, still in Dutch markings.   Photo: Geoff Goodall collection

Date	c/n 465; STM-2; S-29, A50-22, VH-AGW
11.40	Built at San Diego, California by Ryan Aeronautical Co. STM-2 to the order of Netherlands Navy/Marine Luchtvaart Dienst
	MLD serial S-29
7.12.40	Shipped to Netherlands East Indies ex Los Angeles on MS Java, arrived Sourabaya 22.1.41
2.42	All available MLD Ryans were prepared for shipment to Australia ahead of the Japanese advance through NEI.
17.2.42	Shipped to Australia from Sourabaya NEI on board MS Tjinegara
42	Photo: S-29 in Australia (quoted as Darwin), flying in NEI camouflage and markings
8.42	Brought on RAAF charge as A50-22
	To Qantas Empire Airways, Sydney for preparation for RAAF
4.8.42	Allotted 7SFTS ex QEA
13.8.42	Log book: first flight with RAAF

17.8.42	Received 7SFTS Deniliquin ex QEA
4.9.42	Flown to Richmond (RAF Wing)
10.9.42	Issued Station Headquarters Richmond
20.9.42	Aircraft struck tree top, damaged leading edge of port mainplane
27.9.42	Received 7RSU in u/s condition ex SHQ Richmond
28.9.42	Allotted 457 Squadron ex 7RSU
13.12.42	u/s approx one month at 7RSU
24.12.42	Allotted 2AD Richmond ex 7RSU
18.1.43	Received 2AD ex 7RSU
30.4.43	Received 3BAGS ex 2AD
12.12.43	Received Air Gunnery School, West Sale ex 3BAGS
29.10.44	Received AGS Stored Reserve ex AGS
18.12.44	Received 2AD Care & Maintenance Section, Evans Head ex AGS Stored Reserve
12.2.45	Received 1AOS Store Evans Head ex 2AD C&M
20.2.45	Included in Commonwealth Disposals Commission aircraft disposals list No.1. Located at RAAF Evans Head
9.3.45	Tender submitted by Brown & Dureau Pty Ltd, Melbourne Vic has been accepted by Commonwealth Disposals Commission
16.4.45	Issued to Brown & Dureau, sales voucher signed by W/Cdr Meehan
19.4.45	Struck-off RAAF charge

Fishermans Bend Vic 29 May 1948, in standard Brown & Dureau scheme.   Photo: : Geoff Goodall collection

2.4.47	Registered VH-AGW Brown & Dureau Pty Ltd, Melbourne Vic
	Identity quoted as c/n 465 & A50-22
2.4.47	CofA issued at Belmont Common airfield, Geelong Vic after civil overhaul by Brown & Dureau
29.5.48	noted at Fishermans Bend Vic
16.7.48	Log book: Flew Belmont Common-Essendon. Probably delivery flight
17.8.48	Change of ownership: Royal Victorian Aero Club, Essendon Vic
1948-1950	Log book: flew regularly, almost daily
9.6.50	Damaged in forced landing near Leeton NSW
10.11.50	CofA lapsed, stored
7.5.51	Change of ownership: Kingsford Smith Aviation Service Pty Ltd, Bankstown NSW
6.8.51	Struck-off Register in 1951 DCA Census of unairworthy aircraft
16.3.52	Log book: testflight
23.5.52	Testflown after overhaul
25.3.52	CofA renewed
25.3.52	Restored to Register: Kingsford Smith Aviation Service Pty Ltd, Bankstown NSW
7.4.56	Change of ownership: Cecil G. Rose, Sydney NSW
12.2.58	Change of ownership: G. W. Knight, Dennington Vic
28.8.58	Change of ownership: R. A. Chalmers, Melbourne Vic
8.9.59	noted at Moorabbin, in hangar
24.4.61	Change of ownership: E. R. Burnett-Read/Vintage Aircraft Group of South Australia, Adelaide SA
3.6.61	noted Parafield flying
6.8.61	noted Parafield flying
15.9.61	noted Parafield
16.9.61	noted Parafield flying
21.9.61	Change of ownership: Ian B. Lehmann, Galaquil East Vic
23.6.62	noted at Ballarat Vic, dismantled in hangar
10.64	Change of ownership: Robin Nuttall, Edenhope Vic
	Civil Register quotes ownership change to Nuttall as 20.9.65 but Nuttall confirmed that the actual date was 10.64 in letter to the compiler.
21.3.65	visited airshow Horsham Vic, metallic & yellow owned Robin Nutall, based on farm near Edenhope Vic

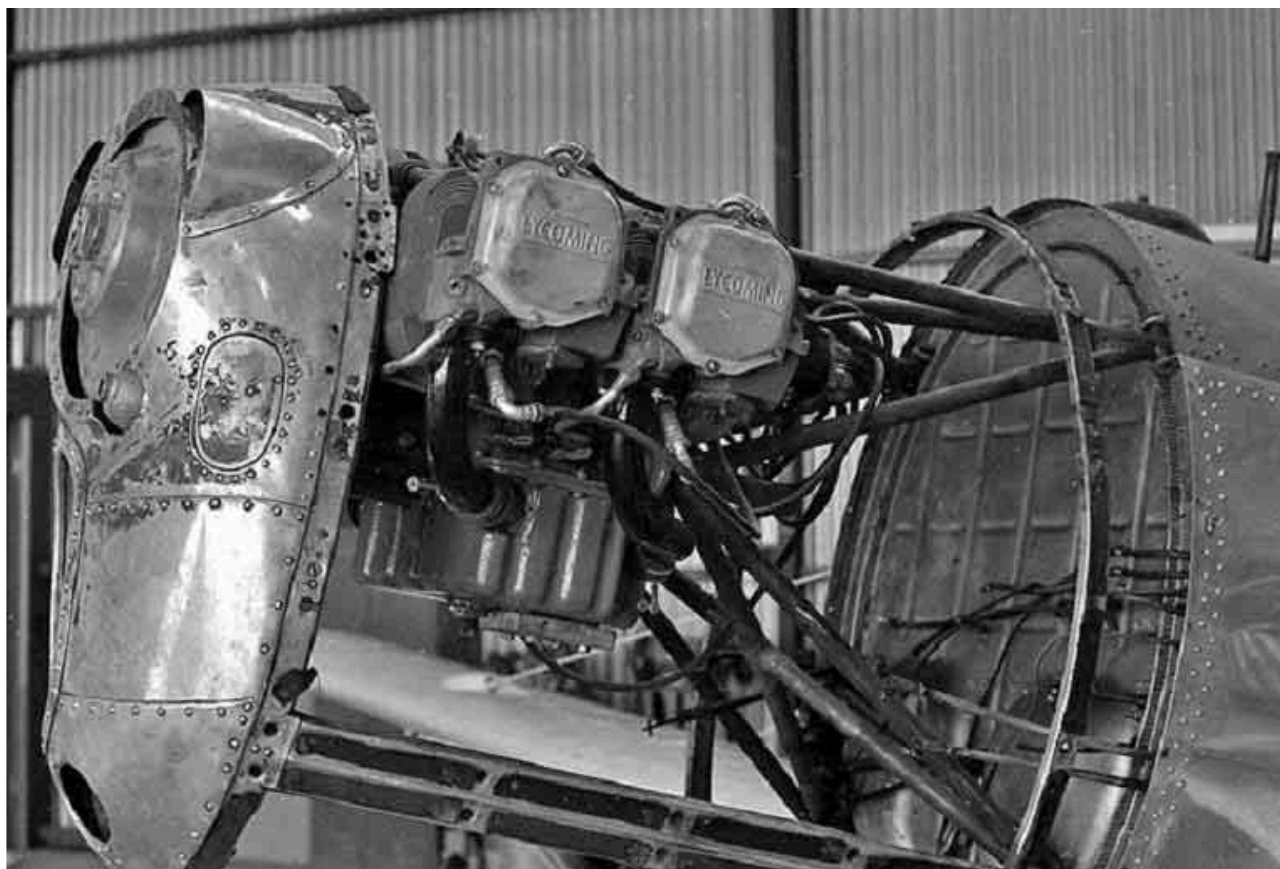Visiting an airshow at Horsham Vic March 1965 from its owner's farm at Edenhope.   Photo by Geoff Goodall

7.11.65	visited St Arnaud Vic airshow
24.1.66	Log book: airframe total time 985.25 hrs
6.9.66	noted Ararat Vic in hangar
12.9.66	noted Ararat Vic, in hangar wings removed
29.9.66	noted Ararat Vic
7.11.66	visited airshow St Arnaud Vic, natural metal with white tail & red flash
13.1.67	noted Ararat Vic
5.2.67	noted Ararat Vic
11.3.67	noted Ararat Vic, completed CofA renewal
7.11.67	Change of ownership: William F. Suhr, Melbourne-Moorabbin Vic.
	Suhr operated as Peninsula Air Services from a newly built hangar at Moorabbin
12.67	noted Moorabbin
19.1.68	Menasco engine lost power due mechanical failure during a local flight from Moorabbin, returned for safe landing at reduced power
27.4.68	noted at Moorabbin, in Bill Suhr's Peninsula Air Services hangar
1968-1969	Menasco C4S engine replaced by a 150hp Lycoming 0-360A engine with new cowling at Moorabbin
30.8.68	noted Moorabbin, engine removed Lycoming being installed, owned Bill Suhr

Moorabbin, August 1968 having the Lycoming flat four engine installed.

Photo: The Collection p6595-0038

Detail of the Lycoming 0-360A being installed.

Photo: The Collection p6595-0043

5.11.68   noted Moorabbin, Lycoming being installed

Lycoming engine, custom-built cowling, front cockpit covered.   Photo: The Collection p6595-0189

A fine view of VH-AGW, in full display paint scheme.   Photo: The Collection p6595-0044

18.3.69	First flight Moorabbin with new engine, enlarged cowlings painted all white
1969	DCA changed type designation to Ryan STM-2/A1
12.10.69	visited airshow Echuca Vic, Lycoming, white cowling, rest metallic, flown by Bill Suhr. By now had been fitted with a smoke system for airshow display flying

26.12.69	noted at Flinders Island, Tasmania
27.3.71	Change of ownership: Colin Munk, Sydney NSW
4.71	VH-AGW with Lycoming engine noted at Bankstown for several days on delivery to its new owner Connell (sic) Monk at Hoxton Park airfield
5.4.71	noted at Hoxton Park NSW in hangar
1.9.71	noted at Hoxton Park NSW, flying, Lycoming, white & metallic, chequerboard tail
12.71	noted Bankstown, Lycoming, chequerboard paint on tail & spats
3.2.72	Col Munk killed in crash of Beech E33A Bonanza VH-TYJ near Goulburn, when the aircraft failed to recover from an intentional spin
22.2.73	Change of ownership: Pacific Coast Aviation Pty Ltd, Sydney NSW
1973	Offered for sale by Ian Baillie Aircraft Sales, Moorabbin
1973	Change of ownership: Jeff P. Trappett, RAAF Point Cook Vic, later Morwell Vic
	Official Civil Register date 19.12.73
1973	Ferried Bankstown to Victoria by Jeff Trappett & Kevin Duffy
9.12.73	at airshow Point Cook Vic, Lycoming, chequerboard paint on tail & spats
5.74	at Point Cook having Lycoming engine replaced by DH Gipsy Major
7.12.74	at airshow Point Cook Vic, Lycoming, chequerboard paint on tail & spats, polished metal fuselage
7.12.75	at airshow Point Cook Vic
7.11.76	visited fly-in Wodonga Vic
5.12.76	at airshow Point Cook Vic, Lycoming, metallic and white new scheme
1978	restoration at Morwell by Jeff Trappett: engine changed to standard Menasco Pirate engine and original cowlings. The Lycoming 0-360A was sold to the Latrobe Valley Aero Club and installed in their Victa Airtourer 115 VH-MOI.
1978	Jeff Trappett stated "I am currently finishing off the restoration and she should be flying again by April 1978, although I am still in need of an oil cooler. The aircraft is a real beauty: she has never been involved in an accident (total time 1100 hours) and is all original from the firewall back. Of course she is polished - a ST trademark! Ian Baillie from CFS at Moorabbin supplied me with the Menasco and original Ryan cowlings. I am most grateful to both Ian and Val Chapman of Jerilderie, who also helped me with parts and expertise for - AGW."
1978	DCA changed type designation to Ryan STM-2
3.3.79	visited airshow Ballarat Vic
6.6.81	visited flyin Wodonga VIC, plate STM-S2 465 built 11.40
29.1.82	noted Moorabbin, Menasco, metallic & white scheme;
13.2.83	visited airshow Ballarat Vic

VH-AGW at Moorabbin January 1982, back to original Menasco engine.   Photo by Russell Legg

14.3.83	noted Morwell Vic, with Jeff Trappett's Winjeel A85-434 and ex RAAF Sabre
30.7.89	Change of ownership: Graham Hosking, Tyabb Vic
7.4.98	noted Tyabb Vic, painted as MLD "S-29";
19.2.99	visited airshow Avalon Vic, "S-29", owned Graham Hosking
25.3.00	Visited airshow Point Cook Vic
20.8.00	visited fly-in Caboolture Qld, owned Graham Hosking, "S-29"
23.10.01	Change of ownership: Nigel E. Arnot, Brisbane-Archerfield Qld
	Registered operator for owner Georges Mercadel, New York NY & Indonesia
2002-2006	Operated in conjunction with Hart's Flying Fighters, Brisbane-Archerfield
00.00.02	visited Watts Bridge Qld fly-in "S-29"
00.11.02	noted Archerfield in Hart's Flying Fighters display hangar, immaculate condition, MLD "S-29"
00.00.02	Flying Fighters Website: "owner of VH-AGW is George Mercadel, a New Yorker who resides in Indonesia, and entrusts the babysitting to us here at the Flying Fighters Collection. VH-AGW is, as far as we know, the only Ryan to still be in its original skin, it has not been rebuilt at any time."
30.5.04	noted Archerfield in Hart's Flying Fighters display hangar, immaculate condition, MLD "S-29"
28.8.04	visited fly-in Watts Bridge Qld "S-29"
17.4.13	Change of ownership: Walker Family Trust, Melbourne Vic
Current	

VH-AGW at Watts Bridge Qld August 2004, restored to Dutch markings.   Photo by Bert van Drunick