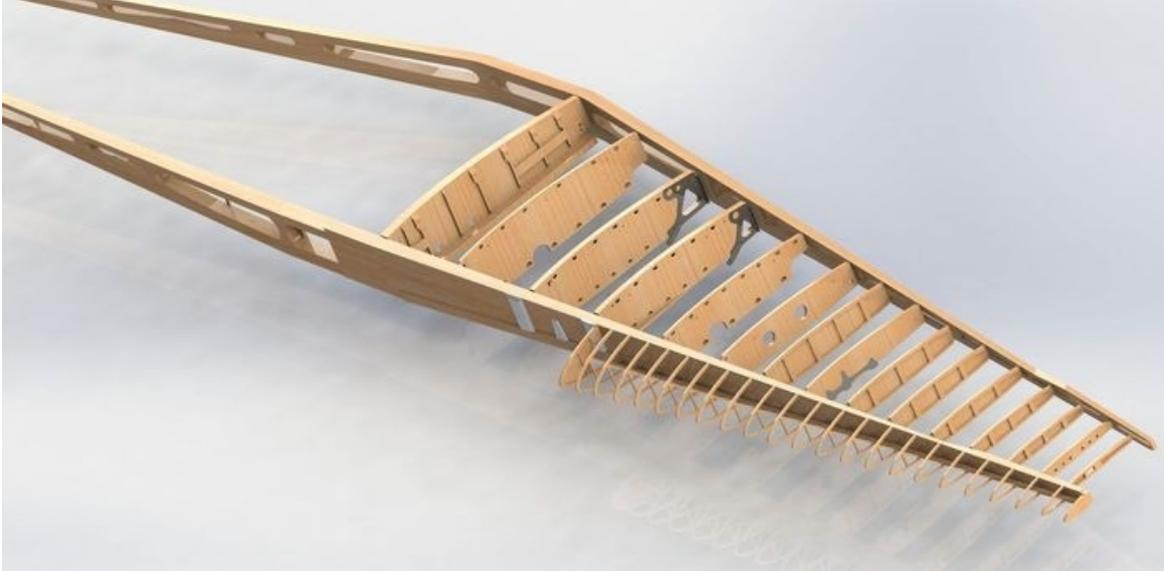


Latest news from The People's Mosquito

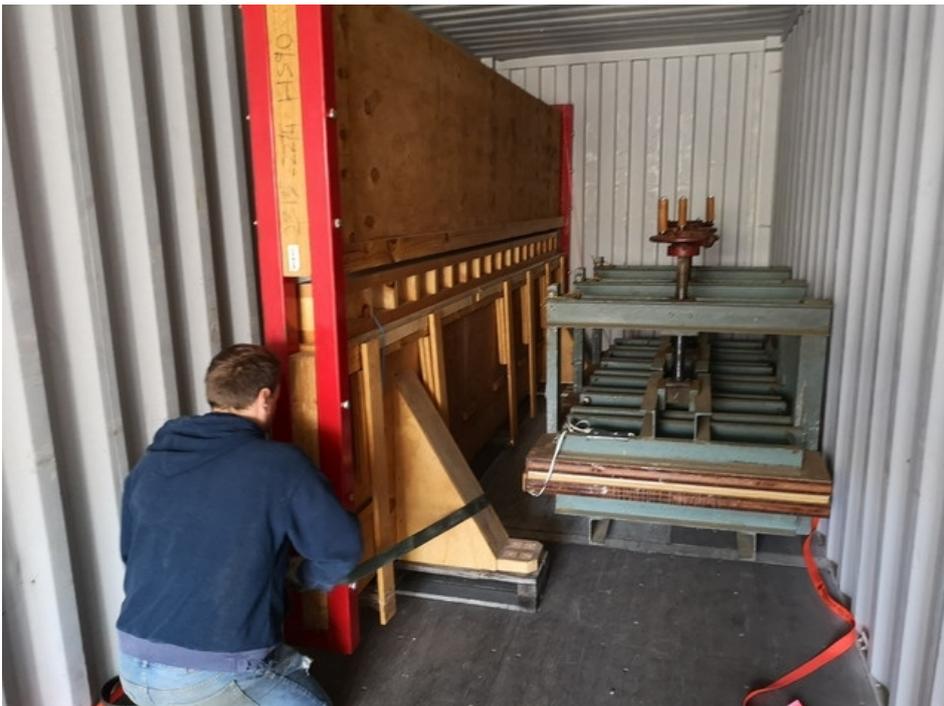
2018 was our most successful fundraising season to date raising in excess of £130,000, which is an incredible sum. My sincere thanks to all of you for donating, buying merchandise, joining the TPM Club and special thanks to our dedicated team of volunteers who have worked extremely hard at all of the air shows that we have attended.

As
we



embark on the new airshow season I am pleased to be able to announce two very exciting developments to the project.

Firstly, a container arrived late at night in Southampton during late March on the 200,000-ton container ship Al Dhana. This container was delivered to the premises of our appointed supplier Retrotec, for the restoration of RL249 in early April. Our thanks go to TPM volunteer Graham Charles and the Logistics company, SJG Haulage, who provided fantastic transport support which enabled the delivery of these important goods.

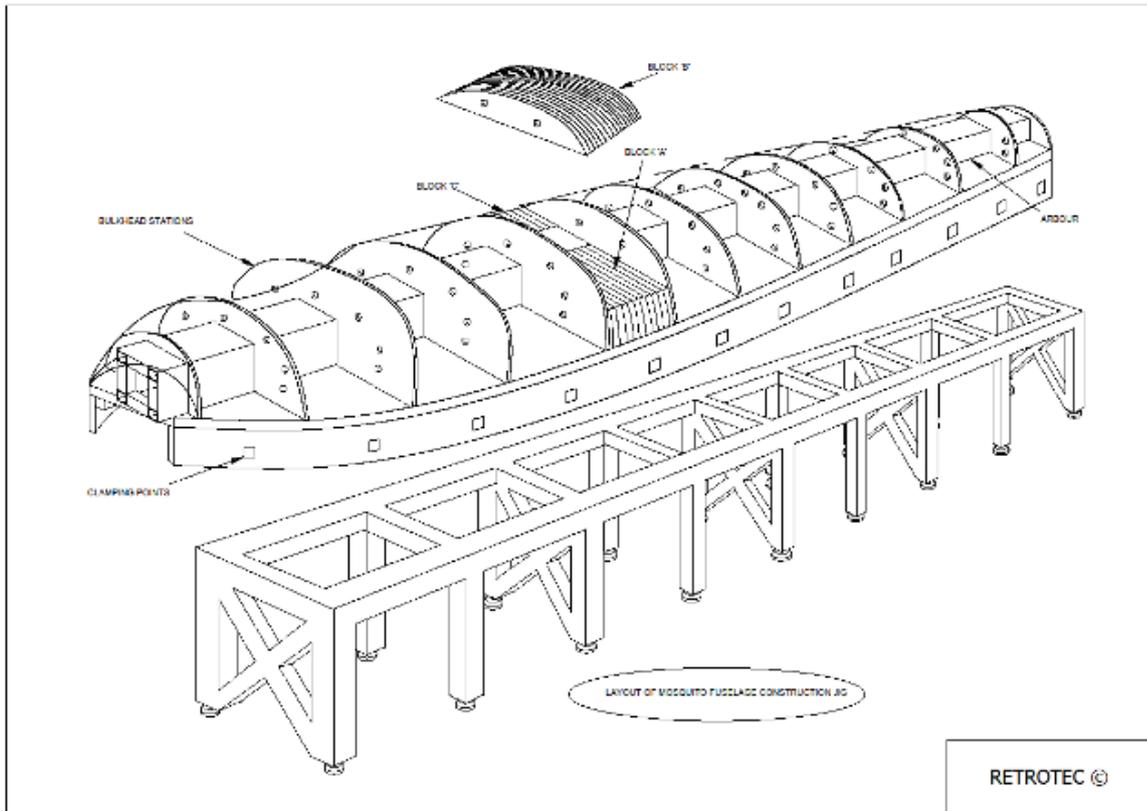


Inside the container were the newly acquired wing, tail and bomb bay jigs plus varied tooling and

presses from Aerowood (NZ) Ltd. These particular jigs produced the wings and tail section for one of the recent Mosquito restorations which went to a US owner. In addition in the box was our full set of wing ribs for RL249. What was not in the box but of extreme value were the CAD drawings which we have also purchased from Aerowood for the wings, tail and other components. Although we have in our hands over 22,000 technical drawings for the re-manufacturing stage these will be converted to CAD to ensure quality control for the construction process.



Secondly, work has commenced on the key ingredient to any Mosquito production - the moulds! The picture we share is an illustration of what the first Mosquito mould in the UK for 73 years may look like. Retrotec are on schedule to complete the final design and in the coming next issues of Buzz, we will share with you progress.



December 2019 The Buzz

Fast progress on the moulds

We are very pleased to report our supplier Retrotec continues to make excellent progress on the fuselage moulds at their East Sussex base. All the bulkheads are now on their box steel stands, the stands are now being painted in bright RAF maintenance yellow. Retrotec is now actively working on the in-fills and their varied designs, shapes that define each fuselage half.

Using our original de Havilland lofting drawings, combined with a modern CNC router, Retrotec cut the formers for both moulds in September. With the formers for mould A mounted on the full frame, the distinctive fuselage shape we all know and love starts to become clear.

Another question we get frequently on airshow stands is, 'If you're building new moulds, does that mean you could build more Mosquitoes?' The answer to that is of course, yes. Our fuselage moulds will be completely reusable, but let's focus on finishing RL249 first!



John Lilley Chairman TPM

Last edit 11 December 2019