

## OMAKA AVIATION HERITAGE CENTRE

**14 Rosina Corlett Lane, Aerodrome Road,  
Omaka, Blenheim 7272  
New Zealand**

<https://www.omaka.org.nz/>

Created by Sir Peter Jackson (Lord of the Rings – for anybody in the world who hasn't heard of him), the Omaka Aviation Heritage Centre is a 'must-visit' if and when you find yourself in the South Island of New Zealand! Consisting of two separate museums that display not only aircraft, but exhibits that have been retrieved from around the world, Richard and I visited the World War II exhibition entitled DANGEROUS SKIES. The WWI exhibition is KNIGHTS OF THE SKY.



Having introduced ourselves to the Chief Executive Officer Jane Orphan and explained a little about ANZAC REMEMBRANCE, we explored this most interesting WWII exhibition that concentrates mainly on Fighter Command. On display were aircraft that included a Spitfire and a Hurricane. Below is a picture of GLORIA LYONS, a P40 that was retrieved and lovingly restored. The plane, used in the Pacific by the RNZAF, holds an interesting history of how it was dedicated to a Christchurch girl with Tuberculosis.

<http://rnzaf.hobbyvista.com/gl.html>



Mannequins made by Weta Workshop add reality to every scene. One of the most impressive displays was that of a Lockheed Hudson, crashed in a jungle.

