

# Undaunted volunteers tackle mammoth task

## Concorde G-BBDG is uncovered at Brooklands

by Olivia Dawkins

**THE Brooklands Museum Concorde has emerged from its temporary hangar so work can be completed on rebuilding the supersonic aircraft.**

The shiny new paintwork to restore its original livery will also be finished.

Volunteers from the museum are undertaking the mammoth task of repainting the specially prepared panels using paint supplied free by PPG Aerospace.

### Progress

The front fuselage section is now refitted to the mainframe and the rear fuselage is next on the agenda.

The outer wings still have to be carefully positioned and fitted and then the Concorde will be lifted on giant air bags so that its elegant giraffe-like undercarriage can be added.

### Signature feature

During the next few weeks the aircraft's signature droop nose will be gracing the front end once again.

By the end of September, contractor ASI will have completed its work and Brooklands volunteers will be left to manage and complete the project.

They will be working on the interior during the winter months and it is hoped visitors will be able to inspect the heart of the flying wonder early next year.

### Essential item

One critical item still missing from the nearly complete shopping list is a set of Concorde steps so people will be able to climb on board.

Like all Concorde aircraft, the Brooklands example, registered as G-BBDG, was 60 per cent manufactured at Brooklands before being

transported to plants in France and Bristol for final assembly.

### Dream realised

The late Sir George Edwards, who died in 2002, was chief of the British Aircraft Corporation when the joint Anglo-French dream to go supersonic with a passenger jet was initiated.

His office, top management and technical team were all based in the Brooklands Road BAC aircraft factory.

### Help wanted

Brooklands Museum, which is located on Brooklands Road between Byfleet and Weybridge, is still looking for donations to the Concorde restoration fund, as well as for any volunteers who would like to get involved.

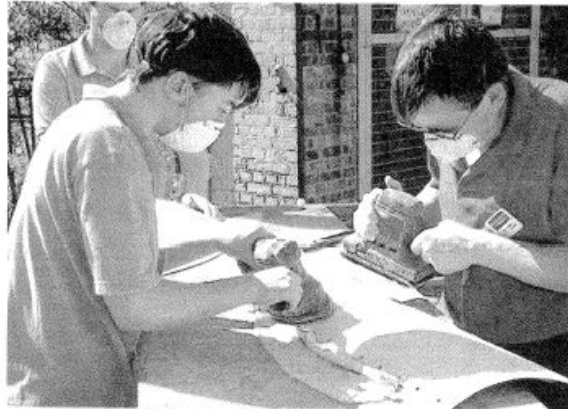


The aircraft's landing gear will be added at the final stage.

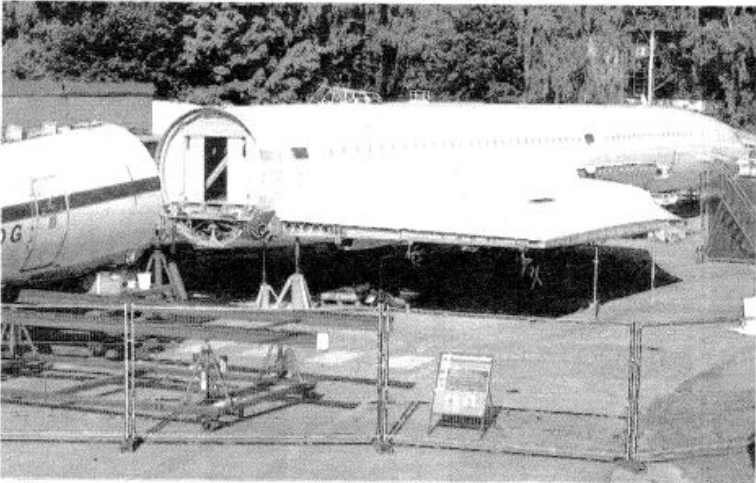
Anyone who can help with the project may like to call museum director Allan Winn on 01932 857381, extension 235, or e-mail [allanwinn@brooklandsmuseum.com](mailto:allanwinn@brooklandsmuseum.com).



Volunteers cleaning the rear fuselage prior to assembly and the uncovering of the shiny, repainted Concorde.



Labour intensive: Sanding Concorde's body panels.



The tent surrounding Concorde is removed, revealing the extent of the renovations.