



Lounge Area, Terminal Building,
Archerfield Airport, Brisbane
Friday 31 August 2018, 7:00 for 7:30pm

Short Sunderland

The “Flying Porcupine”

by Anthony Cooper

well known author of 5 books



Popularised within Allied wartime propaganda as the ‘Flying Porcupine’, in reality the Sunderland was highly vulnerable to fighter attack, as shown by the heavy losses suffered by the two Australian Sunderland squadrons serving with RAF Coastal Command during the crisis period of the war, 1942-43.

By 1943, the men of the two Australian Sunderland squadrons, Nos 10 and 461, were amongst the most proficient and capable operational airmen in any air force in the world. In their hands, the Sunderland made a major contribution to victory in the Battle of the Atlantic, as shown by the six U-boat sinkings achieved by these two Australian squadrons in 1943 alone.

This talk will explore the Sunderland’s design features and operational employment, illustrated by photographs and illustrations from the time.