KLM celebrates Centennial Anniversary

YESTERDAY, Mon 07 Oct 2019, saw a very special 100th birthday celebration by KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, which is the oldest airline in the world still operating under its original name. Australia has played a key part in the carrier's history, with KLM joining the legendary London to Melbourne air race in 1934, taking out the handicap section with its Douglas DC-2 "De Uiver". Today KLM is still widely recognised as a pioneer in the aviation industry, and its centennial year is not only looking back in celebration but looking forward with confidence to the future.

1919 - Dr Albert Piesman, first CEO of KLM.

SYDNEY IN 3½ DAYS

Comfort first and fast

KLM ROYAL DUTCH AIRLINES

1934 - Due to terrible weather, KLM's "De Uiver" had to make an emergency landing in Albury, NSW. The aircraft sank into the mud and the local population gathered to pull it out so it could continue its journey.
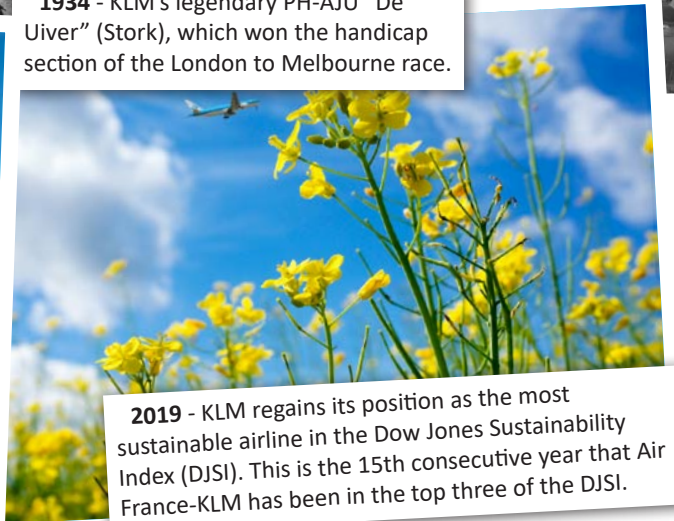
1951 - KLM vintage poster promoting travel to Sydney.

2004 - KLM and Air France merged, creating the Air France-KLM group. In the same year, KLM joined the SkyTeam alliance.

1934 - KLM's legendary PH-AJU "De Uiver" (Stork), which won the handicap section of the London to Melbourne race.

2018 - KLM and Qantas signed a codeshare agreement to expand their networks. Passengers can now fly from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane or Perth to anywhere in Europe via Singapore.

2019 - KLM regains its position as the most sustainable airline in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI). This is the 15th consecutive year that Air France-KLM has been in the top three of the DJSI.