

"Liberator Relives"
Grp Capt Carl Schiller (Ret) OAM CSM
B-24 Liberator Memorial Australia Incorporated

President

Lyn Gorman
18 Maddison Circuit
Darley, Vic. 3340
Ph: 0488 588 011
Hangar Phone: (03) 9731 1263

Secretary

Paul Rourke
PO Box 156, Werribee, Vic. 3030
Ph: 0409179254

Treasurer

Gary Singline
Box 156, Werribee, Vic, 3030
Ph: 0420491182

Email: liberator@b24australia.org.au

Web page: <http://WWW.b24australia.org.au>

LEST WE FORGET

Members Matter

Annual RAAF B-24 Liberator crews Commemorative Service at the Shrine

Our annual Service at the Shrine will be held on Thursday 23 March at 11.00 am. Family members and friends are welcome to attend.

ANZAC annual hangar reunion lunch

Our annual pre-ANZAC Day reunion lunch at the hangar will be held on Saturday 22 April at 11.30 am.

Members, family and friends are welcome to attend.

The cost is \$20 per person.

To book, please phone 0409179254.

The President's project review

We have busy and exciting times ahead, with our participation in the Avalon Airshow and, we hope, extra visitors to our hangar during the airshow, our annual Commemorative Service at the Shrine of Remembrance, the pre-Anzac Day lunch at the hangar and the Anson Open Day.

Several group visits are being planned, and we have been seeing increasing numbers of families and individual visitors at the hangar. We hope the upward trend continues so that we reach annual pre-pandemic visitor numbers again (c.3000).

I hope you will be able to join us for one of more of the events referred to in this Newsletter.

We would be most grateful if you could encourage any friends or contacts with an interest in our projects and museum either to join our association or to come and talk to us about volunteering.

Lyn Gorman, President

Hangar 1 relocation report

The detailed design is complete.

An application has been submitted to Heritage Vic. to widen our area to the future Dutchelm Avenue.

The usual procedures for approval will apply.

Approval is being sought to remove Hangar 1's external trusses off-site for restoration and repair prior to reinstallation.

Following approval of the outstanding heritage permits by Heritage Victoria, the tender process will commence.

2025 is getting closer!!!!

B-24 Liberator, work in progress

Electrical repair, testing and installation work has recommenced after the annual Christmas break.

In addition, planning and preparation are in progress for our display at the Avalon Airshow. Also requiring attention is the manning and support at our hangar to cover visitors calling in.

Airspeed Oxford, work in progress

Our Oxford team continues to make progress with the upper fuselage roof.

Consideration needs to be given to painting the interior the correct colour for the Oxford sub-assembly prior to installation. We also need to find additional floor space for the project.

Avro Anson, work in progress

The Anson team has expanded, with two additional volunteers participating in the project. The Amberley container has been

emptied to ascertain exactly what we have and what is useable. The fuselage is progressing, and the cockpit controls are being prepared for installation.

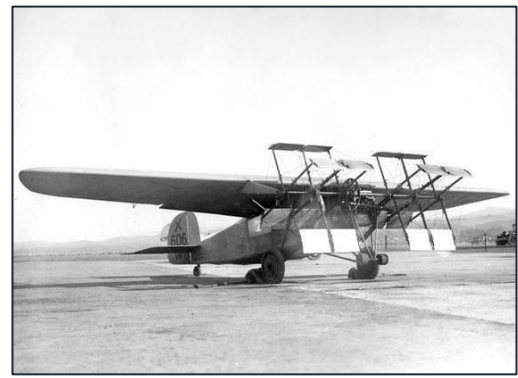
Strange, but true



PB4Y-1 Privateer

The US Navy version of the B-24 Liberator fitted with fuselage mounted HAVAR rocket rails.

Early planning error (2) !!



Cycloidal rotor aeroplane

Of interest

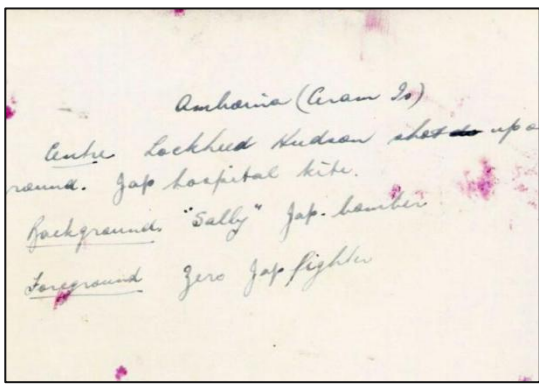
Our annual appearance at the Geelong Steam and Vintage Rally, organised by Tony Muller, was supported by a number of hangar volunteers. Our Pratt and Whitney 1830 engine was again put to good use with several engine runs attracting good responses from spectators. The proceeds of shop sales, donations and engine donations were gratefully received.

Not forgotten



Just a reminder of the important role ladies played during World War II, manufacturing, assembling, testing and flying all types of aircraft.

Flt Sgt KW Beale's story (cont.)



Ambodina, recce flight photo

Centre, Lockheed Hudson (Jap hospital kite)

Background, "Sally" (Jap bomber)

Foreground, "Zero" (Jap fighter)

Liberator Street, Ashburton, Melbourne



Ron Gillis, one of our hangar volunteers, submitted this for our information.

At the end of World War II, the State Government was faced with the challenge of housing returning war veterans. The Housing Commission was presented with the task of catering for the needs of some hundreds of families. Port Melbourne, with 374 homes, had been a successful group housing scheme in the 1930s, and the open fields of Ashburton and Ashwood were identified as the site for a massive Housing Commission estate. The Holmesglen Munitions Factory, which bordered Gardiner's Creek, now with the war almost ended, was no longer producing munitions, so in March 1945 it was converted to the production of 962 concrete houses (refer example of house in photo above), not all of which were destined for the Ashburton

Estate. By mid-1950 much of the Ashburton Housing Estate had been completed, a combination of brick houses and single-storey concrete, with walk-up blocks of flats.

Of note to aviation-minded folks are the great aircraft names contained in this housing cluster: Catalina Ave, Anson Ct, Sunderland Ave, Lancaster S., Halifax Ct, Beaufort Ct, Hudson Ct, Mitchell St, Mustang Ct, Wirraway Ct and Ventura St. The following names of battlefields where Australians were involved also have pride of place as street names: Tarakan Ave, Alamein Ave, Morotai Ave and Tobruk Rd, to name but a few.

Thanks to Ron Gillis.

Wanted

We are still searching for a redundant public address system that could be used in the hangar.

In addition, we require whitworth spanners and other British 1940s-era tools to service our Anson and Oxford projects.

Can you help?

Forthcoming events

3-5 March 2023 - Avalon Airshow

During the Airshow the B-24 Liberator restoration hangar will be open to visitors.

11 March 2023 - Scoresby Steamfest

7 May 2023 – An Open Day to celebrate the beginning of our Anson project will be held at our hangar.

For Gabrielle

The Doctor told me that jogging could add ten years to my life. I think he was right. I feel ten years older already.

A ferry boat Captain shouted to the crew's quarters below deck: 'Is there a mackintosh down there big enough to keep two young ladies warm?'

'No!' came the booming answer, 'but there is a MacPherson here who is willing to give it a try.'

when the concrete stairs
are out-of-order



Compiled by Dave Miller davezcorio@gmail.com

Edited by Lyn Gorman

Packaged and distributed by Jenny Dark and Paul Rourke

Membership Secretary, Graham Collis

graham.collis59@gmail.com