

## “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: 0473 567 146

### Secretary

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

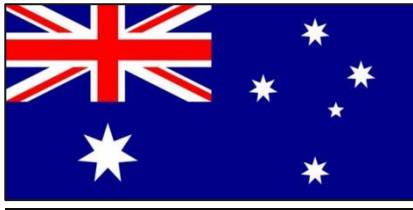
Email: [liberator@b24australia.org.au](mailto:liberator@b24australia.org.au)

### Treasurer

Graham Collis  
Box 156, Werribee, Vic, 3030  
Ph: 0418546192

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

## LEST WE FORGET



## MEMBERS MATTER

### President's Message

When I receive reports from the three aircraft restoration projects at Committee meetings and when I walk around the hangar and observe our volunteers working, I am struck by their care and thoroughness. They do not take shortcuts and, if a fault is detected, they put it right before working further on that component. They are also inventive and immensely helpful, and they are willing to assist other sections if the need arises (see below re our new mobile tool board and also re the assembly of cupboards for the heritage collection).

We received the good news that work on Hangar 1 should start soon after spring commences in September. It has been a long road getting to this point, so we look forward to seeing progress soon.

Please note that the hangar 'phone number has changed. We moved to a new system, and wifi is now available in the hangar. If you wish to 'phone the shop or leave a message for someone in the hangar, the number to call now is 0473 567 146.

Lyn Gorman, President

### Liberator, hangar activities

Progress continues with the restoration, including the readjustment of the flying transition control box and reinstatement of some items in the bomb bay. There has also been discussion of the fitting of the nose wheel.

### Oxford, hangar activities

Now that the team has more material on hand, the construction of the rear fuselage is proceeding more swiftly. The rudder fin parts are nearing completion and await assembly.

### Anson, hangar activities

Work on the nose cone is progressing, and the turret mechanism is almost ready for sandblasting. The timbers for the windows were not quite right, so the windows need to be removed and the wood underneath them replaced before the windows are refitted.

### **Electrical section activities**

The Navigator's Radio Compass Indicator mounting frame has been completed, the compass fitted to it and the assembly installed in the aircraft. The Navigator's Radio Compass Control Panel mounting plate has been manufactured and mounted in the aircraft. The team is now searching for the actual control panel so that it can also be fitted.

The bomb bay bell is complete and will be installed when an exact mounting position has been decided on and the holes drilled.

The battery charger for the engine starting batteries has been repaired and put back into service.

Components are gradually being added to the forward compartment so that it can be an easily accessible viewing area for visitors.

Fuse Box No. 4 had heavily corroded fuse connections, and work on these is continuing. Once it is ready, along with the installed refurbished bulkhead 4 terminal strips, the team will be able to finalise the wiring for the bomb bay lights.

Meanwhile, one member of the team is spending most of his time on a Cheetah IX engine (for the Anson or Oxford, not for the B-24 Liberator).



### **Hangar 1 Project progress**

At a meeting of Stakeholders at the hangar on 6 August the Melbourne Water representative reported that they have a preferred contractor, that the contracts will be signed within about a month and, once that is done, work on Hangar 1 should begin within two weeks. This is good news for us: there should be visible progress soon! Certainly, road work has been progressing on Dutchelm Avenue behind the hangar, and we expect the entrance to the expanded museum precinct will eventually be from there.

### **Heritage Collection**

Following a Committee decision to approve the purchase of new storage cupboards for items in our Heritage Collection, we now have two of three cupboards assembled, and the Acquisition Committee has established a careful labelling of all storage areas. Thank you to volunteers who assisted in assembling the cupboards.

### **Marketing**

One of our volunteers continues to work with the Institute of Engineers Australia Heritage Victoria to have the badly weathered marker from outside the hangar replaced. It seems that a solution to the problem of producing a display that will withstand the elements has almost been solved.

The enclosed Hangar Shop Product List is the second list designed to inform you of the merchandise we have for sale and how to order. You may also notice if you purchase, e.g., a new beanie, that some products have a slightly different logo; we considered it apt to update our branding to reflect our museum status and location. We shall move to this for all relevant items in the shop as we need to order new stock.

## **Updated Five-Year Plan 2024-28**

Committee recently approved an amended forward plan for the B-24 Liberator Memorial Museum. We agreed that we should limit it to five years (rather than the previous ten), because that seemed more realistic and in line with the planning needed for our museum precinct expansion once we have Hangar 1 in 2027. If you would like further information on the Five-Year Plan 2024-28, please contact Graham Collis.

## **Other Hangar Activities**

Volunteers are continuing to clean up in and around the hangar, and there are now regular working bees. The emphasis is on disposing of non-aircraft parts.

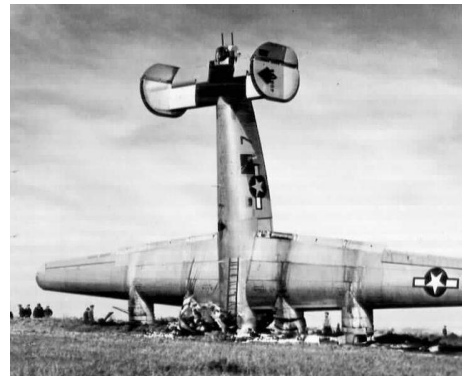
If you happen to live locally and would like to get rid of some scrap metal, feel free to 'call us on 0437 567 146, as we might be able to add your scrap to ours and sell it to a scrap metal dealer, with the money going to assist our work at the hangar.

One of our volunteers has constructed a most useful mobile tool board. This provides an excellent means of keeping track of tools and making them readily accessible to volunteers as they need them. Many thanks for this!

## **Veteran's News**

One of our veterans, Vern Roberts, was featured in an article in the *Herald Sun Weekend Magazine*, 13-14 July 2024 and on *A Current Affair* on Channel 9 shortly after that. At almost 100, Vern is a marvellous subject of such media coverage, and we congratulate him.

## **Strange, but true**



**Liberator nose-dive**

## **The Incredible Story of How India Acquired its First Bomber Squadron from Aircraft Graveyard**

<https://www.outlookindia.com/national/air-force-day-the-incredible-story-of-how-india-acquired-its-first-bomber-squadron-from-aircraft-graveyard-news-228423>

## **For Gabrielle**

I went into my local newsagency and there was a sign saying "No reading in this shop".

I picked up four bars of chocolate, took them up to the counter and said – "Which one of these is dairy milk?".

Compiled by Cathy Gutierrez

Edited by Lyn Gorman

Packaged and distributed by Paul Rourke

Membership Secretary, Graham Collis

[b24lma.graham@gmail.com](mailto:b24lma.graham@gmail.com)