

“Liberator Relives”

Grp Capt Carl Schiller (Ret) OAM CSM

B-24 Liberator Memorial Australia Incorporated

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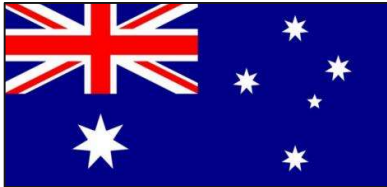
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LEST WE FORGET



Vale

We send our condolences to the family of Greg Wood, who passed away recently.

Greg very kindly donated the tug that will be invaluable when we need to tow the B-24 Liberator from Hangar 1 onto the adjacent concrete apron.



*Greg Wood at our hangar when he delivered the tug he kindly donated
(Photo courtesy of Paul Rourke)*



*Greg Wood with the tug (and several of our volunteers) at the hangar
(Photo courtesy of Paul Rourke)*

President's Message

In this Newsletter we have many positive developments to relate, some to do with our aircraft restoration projects, others associated with the Hangar 1 project, and others include new volunteers joining us and successful car club visits.

Visually the most striking is the change in Hangar 1. It has been dismantled and the trusses protected from the weather in giant plastic covers. The concrete base for the relocated and restored Hangar 1 has been poured. This project is moving at quite a pace!

In July I called our two World War II veterans and had interesting conversations with them. Vern Roberts is now 102 and Merv Schneider 101. Vern and Merv were very interested in developments with our aircraft restoration projects and with the wonderful progress by SFP-JV with the Hangar 1 project. It is always a delight to talk with them and to be aware of their continuing interest in developments near and far.

Aircraft Restoration Projects

B-24 Liberator

Volunteers are focusing on fitting parts and sub-assemblies for restoration to a state based on photos of B-24 Liberator aircraft as restored and on information in various manuals.

In the bomb bay they are remaking and fitting pipe components associated with the fuel system, installing lock system cables for rudder, elevator and aileron flight surfaces, replacing a temporary rudder cable with new cable, replacing fairlead's temporary fittings with screws and nuts.

They are installing and relocating flight deck instrument panels and display and relocating instruments to the correct locations.

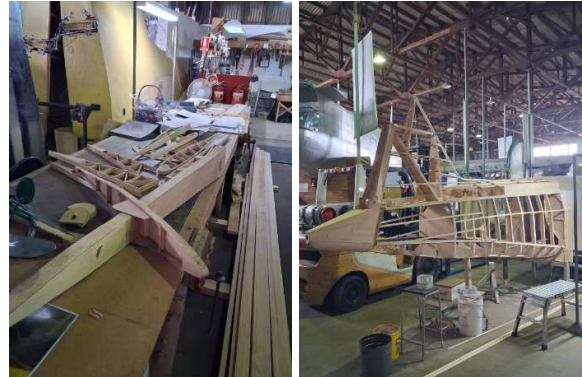
On the port wing the throttle and mixture cables for Nos 1 and 2 engines and cable pulley brackets are being installed.



*One of our volunteers working on the B-24 Liberator
(Photo courtesy of Paul Rourke)*

Airspeed Oxford

Volunteers have been working on the Oxford rudder post and rudder components.



*Airspeed Oxford rudder post and rudder components
(Photos courtesy of Paul Rourke)*

Avro Anson

New timber was purchased for repairing the fin and rudder assemblies with work commencing on all parts that comprise the fin and rudder, together with a small number of metal parts. They will be fitted once all the preparations have been completed. Further work has been finished on parts of the engine / firewall assemblies, with the oil tanks having been media blasted and prepared for paint. Once complete, they will be positioned onto the engine frames.

Blasting and preparation of many smaller engine components has been completed, and these are ready to be installed.

Work on the mid-upper turret has progressed, and a weapon has been decided on for fitment to the turret. The Vickers K gun is the weapon of choice because Ansons that arrived in Australia around the time of LT710 were all fitted with the Vickers K gun. The weapon is being sourced from model makers to try to make a replica of the K gun, and we are awaiting advice from the Vickers heritage people on drawings, etc. for the gun.



*Volunteers working on the Avro Anson
(Photo courtesy of John Phillips)*

Hangar 1 Project

There has been very visible progress by SFP-JV with the Hangar 1 Project.

The dismantling of H1 is complete and the timber trusses covered to protect them from the weather.

The concrete slab and apron have been completed with door rails and caulking of joints.

Timbers are being inspected, and necessary remediation is ongoing.



*Hangar 1 being dismantled
(Photos courtesy of Colin Gutierrez)*



*Hangar 1 trusses covered in plastic to protect them from the weather
(Photo courtesy of John Phillips)*

Visits by Car Clubs

There was recently an impressive collection of British Jaguar, Jensen, Alvis and Bristol cars visiting our museum.





*Visit by owners of British cars
(Photos courtesy of Paul Rourke)*



(Photo courtesy of Colin Gutierrez)

New Volunteers

We have recently welcomed new volunteers to our museum. We are very pleased that volunteer recruitment is not a problem for us at present.

Hangar 2 Maintenance

Our Vice-President is working with four other volunteers to ensure that necessary maintenance of Hangar 2 is being undertaken, especially so that the move of the B-24 Liberator aircraft from Hangar 2 to Hangar 1 will go smoothly.

Four new volunteers with the necessary skills are working with our Vice-President, and we are very fortunate that these volunteers joined us just when we needed them!

Assistance Needed

We are very fortunate that Melbourne Water is organising the H1 project that should deliver the restored, larger World War II hangar to us by the end of 2027. However, we need to arrange the interior fit out (in accordance with Heritage Victoria requirements) so that there is a Heritage and Archives Room, a meeting room, etc.

The sub-committee planning our move into H1 has recommended the use of repurposed shipping

containers to minimise the impact on the heritage-listed hangar. They will be carefully designed to fit between the upright beams along the internal edge of the hangar and tastefully modified in-house to have all the amenities needed.

We are seeking financial support for this project. Sponsorship opportunities include a plaque and naming rights. Each room will cost approximately \$8000, and we are seeking donations of \$2000 or more towards each room.

While we cannot offer tax deductibility because that only applies to donations for aircraft restoration, this offers you an opportunity to make a lasting contribution and a meaningful difference to our efforts to preserve Australia's military aviation heritage.

Volunteer Needed

We are seeking a volunteer with a mechanical engineering background to assist with work on our engines. If you, or someone you know, is able to do this, please contact our Secretary Graham Collis (see contact number at the beginning of this Newsletter).

Membership

If you have not already renewed your membership, we do hope you will do so very soon. Also, if you know anyone who might be interested in joining our association, please encourage them to do so.

For Gabrielle

What do lawyers wear to court?

Lawsuits

Compiled by Cathy Gutierrez

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