



“Liberator Relives”

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B-24 Liberator Memorial Australia Incorporated

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LEST WE FORGET



MEMBERS MATTER

An invitation to all members to attend the B-24 Liberator Memorial Australia Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held at our hangar in Werribee on Saturday, 8 November 2025 at 11.00am.

Nominations for membership of the B-24 Liberator Committee of Management for 2026

Nominations for the 2026 committee are as follows.

President

Lyn Gorman

I am standing for re-election as President for 2025-26 as I believe I can continue to provide leadership at a critical time now that Safety Focused Performance Joint Venture (SFP JV) has been contracted to deliver the Hangar 1 project. I have a deep understanding of the B-24 Liberator Memorial Australia, and I am well acquainted with the Australian museums' context and the Aircraft Museums National Network (AMNN), whose conference I am attending in Port Adelaide in October 2025.

We have already had several meetings with SFP JV to discuss matters such as the first stages of their work and the temporary fencing required early in the project. The communication between SFP JV and ourselves is good, as it continues to be with Melbourne Water. I have continued to chair the very useful quarterly meetings of stakeholders in the Hangar 1 project. Attendees come from Melbourne Water, the Department of Transport and Planning, Wyndham City Council and most recently SFP JV. Development Victoria is no longer involved, and the National Trust no longer considers it necessary to send a representative.

With Ron Gretton's help, I have ensured that the right people have been brought together to plan the move of A72-176 from Hangar 2 to Hangar 1 in

the second half of 2027. I continue to lead our Committee of Management and, after each meeting, to inform volunteers of matters of interest at toolbox meetings. I have supported our Vice-President's consistent efforts to tidy up and dispose of unwanted items in and around the hangar and to ensure that OH&S requirements are scrupulously observed by volunteers. I have a very good working relationship with the local State Member of Parliament, John Lister, who is most supportive of our projects.

At this important time for us, I believe I can continue to lead successful negotiations regarding the Hangar 1 project and the grant of additional land to our organisation. I can also prepare the B-24 Liberator Memorial Australia for reaccreditation now that we have been notified by AMA GA that this is scheduled for 2027. I am confident that I will continue to work productively with the project directors of our three aircraft restoration/rebuilding projects.

I believe I can lead the Committee of Management so that its contribution to the organisation is optimal; I shall again organise our annual commemorative service at the Shrine of Remembrance on 23 March 2026; I shall assist in ensuring that new volunteers are well integrated with existing teams; and I will continue to liaise with the company that maintains our website to ensure that content is current and accurate.

I request the support of all members as I nominate for another term as President of the B-24 Liberator Memorial Australia.

Vice-President

John Phillips

I have submitted a nomination form for re-election to the B24 committee and submit here a brief bio of why I would like to be elected to the committee for 2026. My past employment was with the Fire Brigade and the Country Fire Authority where I became Station Chief, this position gave me skills in understanding people and how to work with them, I have developed skills in organizing layouts of operational equipment and fitting people into

positions where they can develop their skills and work proficiently under guidance where required.

During the last year I have been able to reorganize the hangar into a safer and cleaner workplace and look forward to continuing this work over the next few years with the redevelopment of the relocation of Hangar 1 into its new position.

Secretary

Graham Collis

I have been actively involved with the B-24 Liberator Memorial Australia since the 1990s and have served on the committee since 2015. Over the years, I've held several key roles including Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary, and contributed across various areas such as security, marketing, disaster management, and membership coordination.

This year, I wish to renominate for the position of Secretary. It's an exciting time for the committee, with the Hangar H1 relocation project now in full swing. Having recently retired from full-time employment in the marine service industry, I am now able to dedicate more time to committee responsibilities and hands-on work – particularly with the Liberator's hydraulic systems.

Treasurer

Gary Singline

Formerly worked as a Certified Practicing Accountant, working in industries such as Food, Fibre Containers, Stock Feed, and Retail Clothing, and now retired.

Personal interests include Vintage Motor Vehicles, Western Bulldogs AFL team, and travel.

Have held the position of Treasurer at the B-24 Liberator Memorial Australia Inc since 2019 and am pleased to continue in this role.

Committee Members

Ron Gillis

I currently hold the position of 'Marketing' on the committee of management of the B-24 Liberator Memorial Inc for the last financial year. During that time, I have been involved with committee management decisions, the Wyndham Volunteers Expo, Seniors Festival open days in the hangar, negotiating the replacement of the faded hangar IEA Marker Board, numerous visitor tour guides and recruiting of volunteers to the hangar. I enjoy the opportunity to be involved with such a worthwhile museum and wish to continue to be on the committee.

Roger Duncan

Proposal - continue serving on the Liberator committee 2025-6.

I believe I can contribute positively to the continued success of the project by bringing both trade and leadership skills to the table.

I wish to continue to help improve and grow the working museum by making the existing building safer, workable and improve workshop equipment and facilities.

Paul Rourke

As many would be aware, I have served on the Committee in various capacities from 2016, including Secretary, Hangar Manager and General Committee. I wish to nominate for the General Committee for the coming year to assist with the relocation of Hangar 1 and general running of Committee.

Peter Perryman

I retired Oct 2015 after a 40 year career in the IT industry. Just a couple of months after retiring, I joined the B-24 group and settled into the engine department under the guidance of Tony Muller and Tony Maher.

Although I live an hour away, I generally enjoy my Tuesdays here at Werribee.

My skills are quite general. I spent three years (in my late 60s) as a general mechanic and fuel truck driver in a family garage in the country. So, I suppose that's why I gravitated towards engines when I started her at B-24.

In the early days of our efforts to seek Museum Accreditation (in 2017), I took it upon myself to kickstart our IT connections with Museums Victoria and put some structure in our cataloguing processes.

Nathan Shea

I wish to nominate myself for a position on the General Committee at this year's Annual General Meeting.

Over the past 13 years, I have proudly served as a hangar volunteer with the B-24 LMA, focusing on the restoration of the Liberators oxygen and hydraulic system album to support the accurate restoration of fittings and components.

It was an honour to work under the guidance of Ron Platt, whose mentorship greatly influenced my approach. Since then, I have contributed to significantly preserving the legacy of the B-24 Liberator.

I would be grateful for the opportunity to contribute further as a General Committee member and support the ongoing mission of the B-24 LMA.

John Keevins

I began my involvement with the B-24 in 1996 and I have served several times on the Committee. My role has been as a representative of the Acquisition Subcommittee.

I have been responsible for convening acquisition meetings and participating in the assessment of artefacts donated to the B-24 Liberator Memorial Australia. The efficiency of this process has been greatly improved with the recent installation of several cupboards for the systematic storage of donations.

I have also been doing ongoing work restoring and refurbishing small oxygen, hydraulic, structural and electrical subcomponents of the B-24.

I would like to continue in these roles in the coming year.

Visitors driving to attend the AGM are cautioned regarding entering and exiting the hangar area. When entering, please ensure you do not drive across double white lines. When you exit, please do not turn right. There may still be temporary fencing around our hangar. If so, please follow the signs and drive carefully.

For information

Hangar update and projects update will be included in the next edition of the Newsletter.



CONGRATULATIONS MERV SCHNEIDER

We congratulate Merv Schneider on turning 100 in 2025. Merv was a radio navigator on Liberators, and he is now a very sprightly centenarian! He came from Nhill to the hangar a couple of times recently and it was wonderful to see him as well as colleagues from Nhill.

For Gabrielle

I'm so good at sleeping that I do it with my eyes closed.

Compiled by Cathy Gutierrez

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Membership Secretary, Graham Collis

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