

## “Liberator Relives”

*Grp Capt Carl Schiller (Ret) OAM CSM*

B-24 Liberator Memorial Australia Incorporated

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## LEST WE FORGET



### Anzac Day 2026

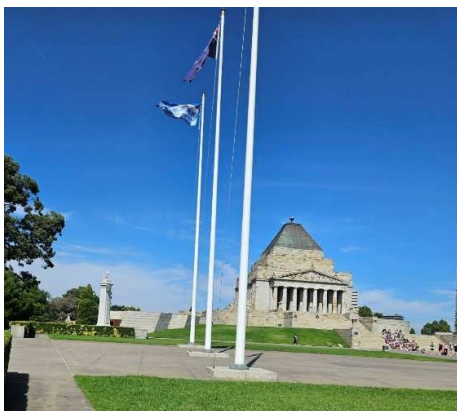
The Committee of Management decided, reluctantly, that we would not have our usual Anzac Day reunion at Hangar 2 this year because of the construction work for the Hangar 1 project, the temporary fencing around our current hangar and fewer easily accessible parking spaces. However, several of our volunteers will participate in the Anzac Day March in Melbourne, carrying our No. 24 Sqn banner. Lest we forget.

### President's Message

We continue to be impressed by the progress with the Hangar 1 project. Also, the reports on our three aircraft restoration projects in this issue are very encouraging: the B-24 Liberator is very close to completion (although not all components can be fitted due to space constraints in Hangar 2); and consistent progress continues on the Avro Anson and the Airspeed Oxford, volunteers on each of these projects ensuring any defects are remedied as rapidly as possible.

As I write, my thoughts turn to Anzac Day and to the involvement in world wars of several members of my family. Others who read this will be in a similar situation, so I hope you will have an opportunity to participate in, or to observe, services on Anzac Day 2026 at a time when there is more conflict in the world than there has been for some time.

Our annual service at the Shrine of Remembrance on 23 March provided an opportunity for reflection on these matters too. Our service was very well attended, with quite a few visitors to the Shrine, as well as our invited guests, staying for the service.



*The large flag we had specially made to be flown at the Shrine of Remembrance on 23 March each year can be seen in this photo.*

*(Photo courtesy of Paul Bourke)*

## **Aircraft Restoration Projects**

### **B-24 Liberator**

The tailplane is now essentially complete, with the fins, control surfaces and operating components installed.

The fabrication of an elevator trim tab, access panels and control lock system cables is ongoing.

The bomb bay has been cleaned and painted. The under-wing fuel drain system, along with electrical

components, is being installed. The fuel system hose layout connecting pumps to the transfer-selector control panel will be completed when possible.

Hydraulic system pipe assemblies for the landing gear and flaps have been fabricated and installed and connected to the right-hand side assembly piping. Selection of aileron pulley bracket connected to left-hand side wing assemblies will be made based on Ford drawings.

With respect to the surface control system (fuselage), recovered cables were assessed as serviceable for the rudder and elevator control and have been installed. The aileron pulley bracket has been installed for a right-hand aileron tab, but without a lock assembly. Some of the cable assemblies required for the aileron to outer wing and flap operation have been installed, while others need to be made.

### **Avro Anson**

With respect to the engine and undercarriage, significant work has been completed on the firewall fittings which have been overhauled, restored and prepared for installation.

Regarding the airframe fit out, work has focused on the rear access areas and the weapon turret complex. Surfaces were sanded, treated for rust and primed for painting.

The forward nose cone and cockpit are undergoing alignment corrections. These are slow due to interdependent structural adjustments.

The mobile stand required alterations to meet construction needs.



Two volunteers working on nose cone of Anson.  
(Photo courtesy of Paul Bourke)



Oxford components retrieved from South Australian  
Aviation Museum  
(Photo courtesy of Paul Rourke)



Part of the turret  
(Photo courtesy of John Phillips)



The gun mount  
(Photo courtesy of John Phillips)

## Airspeed Oxford

Realignment of the rear fuselage was completed. The landing gear is being constructed for the main fuselage and rear fuselage, and the tail cone is being strengthened.

## Electrical Division

The equipment panel over the radio operator's desk has been made, and the radio operator's panel and starboard side fuse panel in the bomb bay completed.

## Hangar 1 Project

The contractor's work on Hangar 1 (H1) continues to progress well. Pouring of the new concrete slab and apron for H1 has begun, including associated footings.

The methodology for the cladding removal from H1 is being finalised, and early preparatory work has started. The cladding removal is likely to commence before the end of April.

Installation of new in-ground services for H1 is in progress.





(Photos courtesy of Graham Collis)

### **Request to Members**

If you have a used laptop, video monitor, TV or any sound equipment, please contact our IT&T specialist on support@b24australia.org.au to discuss if they are suitable for use at the hangar. Thank you in advance for your help.

### **Members**

It is that time of year again when we invite you – and encourage you strongly! – to renew your membership. We would love to increase membership numbers, so if you know anyone who might be interested in joining our association, please encourage them to do so.

### **Forthcoming Events**

Our association will once again have a booth at the Wyndham Volunteer Expo on 16 May. If you know of anyone with relevant skills who might be interested in volunteering to work with us on aircraft restoration and related tasks at our hangar in Werribee, please encourage them to visit our representatives at the Expo or to contact our Secretary, Graham Collis.

### **B-24 Liberator Matters**

Thanks to our indefatigable Treasurer, here are articles of historical interest and a quiz about the B-24 Liberator:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lady\\_Be\\_Good\\_\(aircraft\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lady_Be_Good_(aircraft))

<https://aircraftvibes.com/collections/bombers/products/copy-of-b-70-silhouette-metal-wall-art-1>

<https://www.funtrivia.com/trivia-quiz/History/The-B-24-Liberator-341261.html>

### **Avro Anson Matters**

Thanks to another volunteer, here is the link to a YouTube video on Avro Ansons that includes coverage of Australian use of them.

<https://youtu.be/y2wVFh8hpkM?si=mb9z3Nd6P9F6Ky4u>

*For Gabrielle*

*When you dream in colour it is a pigment of your imagination.*

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