

B-24 Liberator Memorial Restoration Fund No. A0019983M

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10<sup>th</sup> October 2013

My name is Judith Gilbert and I am the Secretary of the B-24 Liberator Memorial Restoration Fund located at Werribee in Victoria.

The Fund is restoring a WW2 bomber, the Liberator. All work is done by volunteers who are working to keep a valuable part of Australia's wartime aviation history accessible to the public.

The Fund is in the process of negotiation with the State Government, Places Victoria and Melbourne Water for a permanent home for the restoration and needs help to show these parties the value of maintaining the restoration at its present location: in Hangar 2, a heritage hangar in situ on the heritage land surrounding it.

## **Facts about the project:**

Hangar is open to the public 3 days a week and averages just over 3000 visitors a year mostly from Victoria but also large interstate numbers and several from overseas.

Some 40 volunteers work regularly on the restoration.

This is the only Liberator left in the Southern Hemisphere, one of only 7 worldwide. The Liberator was the aircraft that helped prevent invasion of Australia during WW2.

The Fund has a high public profile and recently won the Wyndham Tourism Business of the Year Award.

The hangar is seen as focal point for Liberator veterans and annually hosts the combined Liberator Squadrons' Reunion for veterans & their families.

The Fund operates with no outside financial assistance, has never overspent its budget and has managed to put aside some funds in an investment account for future expenditure.

Liberator pilots trained at Tocumwal NSW but initial flight training was carried out at places like Werribee Field where the young recruits were taught to fly. There is Heritage listing on our site. We feel that this connection between the various aspects of training is of value and the link should be maintained.

Your support would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Judith Gilbert (Secretary)