



DINGLEY VILLAGE MEN'S SHED

JULY 2015

So what do you do on a cold wintery day - write a newsletter to keep everyone up to date with what's going on and also look back on some of the recent activities.

The QANTAS flight simulator was a fun day giving many members a look at just how difficult it really is to fly, and more importantly, to land an aircraft.



CONTROL TOWER TO PILOT

"What is your height and position?"

FLIGHT CAPTAIN JIM GENTLE TO CONTROL TOWER

"I'm five foot nine and sitting in the front seat".



You asked for the window seat..

(the view wasn't much but the acting was even worse!)



Just another gentle reminder to everyone before our Park Manager tells us again: there is to be no car parking in front of the shed unless you are using your vehicle and tools for work activities or you have a walking disability - this applies to all shed open days. If you are collecting fire wood, then do so and move to our designated car park area.



Liberator B24 Visit

The 9th June saw 21 Shedders travel down to Werribee to visit the Aviation Museum. The Centre is based in an old military hanger built during the Second World War, on an RAAF training airfield. The property was eventually taken over by the Board of Works, with the B24 Liberator Memorial Restoration Group was established at the site 1992 with the aim of providing a Liberator for public display.

On arrival our group was greeted by Judy Gilbert and after an initial induction briefing we were served morning tea before being divided into groups for a tour of the hanger. The first thing that strikes you is that the hanger is huge, but it is dominated by the Liberator. The airframe is positioned on an angle, due to the wingspan being too large to allow it to sit straight, with the various work areas being fitted in around it. To move it out of the hanger will be a major exercise, as the hanger has been braced with temporary supports due its age and structural integrity. The liberator's outer wings will have to be removed to allow it to move out through the hanger doors.

The B24 was built by the Consolidated Aircraft Company, USA in December 1944, and was allocated to the RAAF in January 1944, with the registration A72-176. In the RAAF its primary role was that of a training aircraft operating out of Tocumwal, NSW and as a result it did not serve combat role during the War.

At the end of the war it was used for geographic surveying ending its service life as instructional air frame.

The fuselage was stripped of instrumentation and furnishings and was sold to a farmer, George Toye from Moe, whilst the wings and tail were scrapped. The fuselage was relocated to his farm and converted into living quarters, whilst he was building his house. Once the house was constructed the fuselage was used for storing wool and eventually left, forgotten and decaying. After 47 years out of service it was salvaged by the Restoration Group and moved to its present location at Werribee. The restoration has been carried out by a dedicated team of volunteers who have taken the aircraft from scrap yard material to the point where 98% of the airframe and 70% of the furniture and fittings are complete. Many of the parts have been sourced from all over the world, for example the wings and tailplane were recovered from a B24 shoot down in Papua, New Guinea, during the Second World War. It is estimated that the restoration will take another five years to complete and it will become the only remaining Liberator in the Southern Hemisphere. The museum has a number of other aircraft under restoration and during our tour we were shown parts being restored for a Link Trainer, a RAAF Airspeed Oxford and a CAC Boomerang.

At the conclusion of the extensive tour we were treated to an excellent BBQ lunch and desert provided by the volunteers. We then departed on the long trek home. The band of volunteers have to be admired for their skills and dedication in bring the wreckage back to the point where it will be capable of taxiing under its own power and preserving a shiny example of a B24 for future generations to admire.



"OK... and just how do you expect me to fly it from down here?"

"Now let's all sing along together.... we all live in a yellow submarine, a yellow submarine....."





And to top off another great shed day ... a good BBQ lunch with MKR chief chef Bob.

Thanks' to Geoff for the article and the great photo collection.... if you want to see the full set or get copies of the photos, see Geoff and he can make them available to you.

WHAT'S COMING UP

Jayco Caravan Factory tour on Tuesday July 14th - see the notice board for full details.

Golf day on Thursday July 30th - a great day is planned to get tips on how to improve your game. Thanks Derek for arranging this activity.

Desalination Plant tour Sept. 3rd - we have a full bus (57 seats) and more on the reserve list so if you need to cancel please confirm this ASAP and advise the next person on the reserve list.



Trivia night Sept. 19th - make up a table of your friends and enjoy a fun night with great prizes and fellowship. Please confirm your booking before Sept 12th.

Show and tell

Thank you Kevin for sharing those wonderful photos of early Melbourne, we look forward to seeing some more. So what about some more contributions from other members, on a Friday you have a captive audience of 50+ members so bring along your passion (*within moral reasoning*) and share it with us.

DID YOU KNOW?



On the notice board recently an article has been displayed warning visitors to South Aust. that in Sept 2014 they introduced a road law that requires you to slow down to **25km/h** when in the vicinity of any emergency vehicle that has stopped and is displaying a flashing red or blue light - failure to do so results in horrendous consequences of massive fines and penalty, so be aware and check interstate road rules before you travel.



Thank you to all the members that so promptly volunteered for the cleaning roster but there is still plenty of spaces available for the weeks to come..... we need to keep this as an ongoing commitment.

EVERYONE MAKES THE MESS SO IT IS UP TO EVERYONE TO HELP WITH THE SHED CLEANING.

That's Spin

Remus Reid was a horse thief who was sent to Montana Territorial Prison in 1885.

He escaped in 1887 and robbed the Montana Flyer six times.

He was caught, sent to trial, convicted and hanged in 1889.

A journalist discovered that United Senator Harry Reid was related to the famous outlaw and wrote seeking information about his great-great uncle.

The Senator's PR man sent the following reply:

"Remus Reid was a famous cowboy in the Montana Territory.

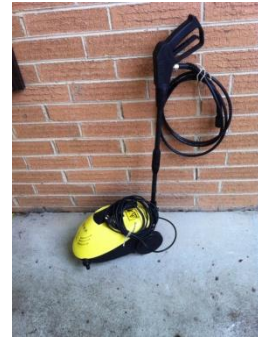
His business empire grew to include several valuable equestrian assets and he had intimate dealings with the Montana railroad.

Beginning in 1885, he devoted several years of his life to government service.

In 1889, Mr Reid passed away during an important civic function held in his honour when the platform upon which he was standing collapsed."

Do you have an item **FOR SALE** that might be of interest to shed members, then why not make up a notice of your own and advertise it on our noticeboard or even have it included in the next newsletter. Pay the shed a modest commission and everyone's a winner. "One man's junk is another man's gold".

FOR SALE



G.A.F. Model: PCG11
water pressure cleaner -
as new.
\$40.00 see notice board
for full details.



Hay, how about contributing an article for the next newsletter. A photo, written article, good idea that works for you, tell us about your latest holiday, something you've made, give us some new ideas for activities even a good yarn.

The members of the Dingley Village Men's Shed again wish express their appreciation to our wonderful local sponsors and generous donors.

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These local businesses have generously supported our fundraising efforts. We ask that you support them in return



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