



Liberator Visit - Sunday 26 June 2011

Well the day dawned a fine sunny day that probably caught many people by surprise especially considering the weather over the previous week. Had we known the weather was going to be so good we would have made the effort to get the 14/40 out of its garage, the only thing that had stopped us was the forecast of rain in the afternoon. It was good to see that at least some members made the effort and came in their Humbers



The tour of the Liberator started with a morning tea and catch up with each other then a guided tour. Our group was so large that we were split into two smaller groups. A wireless operator who flew in Liberators during WW2 led the group that Judy and I were in. It was great to hear his stories and get a first hand insight into what it must have been like to fly in these mighty aircraft during wartime. Our tour guide said that the longest trip that he did was 13 hours in the air a great achievement even by today's standards. However some of these aircraft were reputedly aloft for up to 22 hours flying the Atlantic from UK bases.



Nineteen members attended on the day and it was good to see some new faces amongst them who had come to see the Liberator. Neil and Kathleen Hiho would have had to have taken the prize for the longest distance travelled coming from Hedley in South Gippsland. It must be something about all those early starts with milking cows that enables them to get organised and travel the distance. We hope we will see a lot more faces on a regular basis, after all that is what the club is about.



After giving the Liberator a good going over it was decided that we would descend on a nearby Service Station for lunch. In all 10 members joined us and we all had a good natter on various aspects of past events. Neil and Kathleen brought a book that was published on the Golden Oldies tour that was sponsored by the RACV. It was a great pictorial reminder of this event. Neil and Kathleen both said that the event was very well run and organised. It would appear that this event is going to have to go on my bucket list

Many thanks to Anne Anderson for organising this thoroughly enjoyable visit to the Liberator.

Cheers for now and hopefully we will see even more members coming to future club outings.

Reported by John Washbourne

