

Thursday, 17 April 2025

MEDIA RELEASE



DC-3 Warbird Returns to Lions Park After Major Restoration

Bland Shire's much-loved DC-3 (C-47) Dakota aircraft has returned to its home in West Wyalong Lions Park following the completion of an extensive refurbishment, proudly preserving this historic warbird for future generations.

After several months of restoration work carried out by local business West Wyalong Service and Repairs, the iconic aircraft has been carefully repositioned in the park, where it has stood as a proud landmark since 1983.

The refurbishment, made possible through funding from the NSW Government, included detailed restoration works such as paint removal, re-coating, structural repairs, and improvements to the display site including concrete works and upgrades to enhance public viewing.

Mayor Brian Monaghan said the return of the aircraft is a proud moment for the Shire.

"The DC-3 is a unique drawcard for West Wyalong and a valuable tourism asset for the region," said Mayor Brian Monaghan. "Its restoration enhances the visitor experience at Lions Park and helps preserve a significant piece of aviation history that sets our Shire apart."

The DC-3 has long served as a tangible link to Australia's wartime and aviation history, and its refurbishment ensures it will continue to be admired by generations to come.

Bland Shire Council thanks all those involved in the restoration project, especially the skilled team at West Wyalong Service and Repairs and acknowledges the support of the NSW Government in helping bring this local treasure back to life.

Minister for Regional NSW Tara Moriarty praised council's restoration effort.

"The NSW Government is pleased to support this iconic project, bringing this much-loved local landmark back to its former glory," Minister Moriarty said.

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“I’d encourage visitors to the region to take a moment to pause at Lion’s Park and reflect on the DC-3’s history and proud service.”

“This Anzac Day I encourage everyone to take a moment to reflect on the spirit of service and sacrifice it represents.”

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