

NEW ZEALAND WARBIRDS ASSOCIATION (INC.)

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UPDATE #9

1 December 2021

At long last ...Fully dressed!

The last update – No 8 15 October – gave details of progress to the point where WT346 had its complete camouflage and about to undergo an identity change. We're pleased to report that she is now outwardly representative of RNZAF Canberra B(I)12 NZ6102.

We settled on NZ6102 as she was the first new B12 manufactured specifically to the RNZAF specifications (NZ6101 was a B8 converted to B12 requirements)

All of the various yellow, black and red markings have been placed and painted from stencils made for us by Nathan Boshier, Surface and Spray Technician at the Air Force Museum, Wigram. This has required a great deal of research by Nathan as some of the markings in the official records didn't seem 'quite right'! To cap it all, he also provided us with the intricate and very impressive Silver Fern emblems to complete the fuselage roundels.

For this phase special thanks to Gwynn Avenell – well known in the model aircraft sphere- and Dave Smith, a dedicated plastic scale model man, for their input and expertise! The comment that was uttered – “this is real modelling on a 1:1 scale!” And of course to the AFM team, Nathan for his research and supply of stencils and to Marty for technical assistance.

Last Sunday saw NZ6102 make a brief trip from The Olde Hangar to Hangar 1 where it will reside temporarily until final preparations are completed for its move to the Visitor Centre In the New Year.

The team at Classic Flyers have now completed the fin restoration and rudder repairs and our plan is to have these in place for the transfer to the display position as part of the Ardmore Collection in the Visitor Centre

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Next Step

We still plan to get the wings to Ardmore as soon as we have settled on a work area:

They require 14m X10m to work on the flat and options for transport and restoration are being considered. In any event we are now planning for the first quarter of 2022.

Facebook Link

A reminder that the new NZ Warbirds website does carry a Canberra specific Facebook page; please use this link for further information:
<https://nzwarbirds.org.nz/association/canberra-restoration/>

Farewell aka Good Riddance 2021!

Although the prolonged Covid shutdown has been a hurdle for everyone we would like to thank you and the project volunteers for your support. Despite the strange circumstances of the past 3 months in particular, may we wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and look forward to restoring contact in 2022!

Gavin Trethewey/Tony Miller
Canberra Support Group

Donor Update #9