

WINGS

SPRING 2022
VOLUME 74 NO.3

X-PLANES
BREAKING THE SOUND BARRIER

ZOOT
SUITS

PREVENTING PILOT
BLACKOUTS

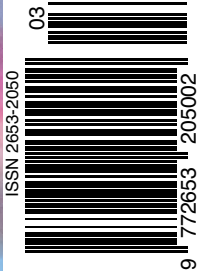
THE RED
ARROWS

RAF AEROBATIC TEAM

GOING TO
EXTREMES

RADICAL DESIGNS FROM
SKUNK WORKS

AUS \$14.95 (Incl. GST)



AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION MAGAZINE
- ESTABLISHED 1943 -

MANAGING EDITOR'S MESSAGE



THE SPRING 2022 EDITION of *Wings* magazine is the 13th produced by RAAFANSW Publications Pty Ltd. From the outset we aimed to deliver an informative and entertaining magazine to engage the aviation minded and to lift the Air Force Association profile with retired and serving veterans alike. Feedback indicates we are achieving both objectives.

In this edition we feature The Red Arrows, the Royal Air Force's formation display team, and continue to delve into early space exploration and some of the unusual aircraft concepts considered during the early surge of air power evolution. We also present an intriguing story on the Australian influence on early anti-g suit development. Defence Science and Technology Group outlines a research program to explore a process to enable military combatants to become battlefield 'prosumers', customers directly involved in the production of equipment and tools to be used in the battle taking place.

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Ron Haack,
Wings managing editor

WINGS EDITORIAL DEADLINES 2022/23

Wings welcomes editorial submissions and letters to the editor. Please note the following deadlines for submissions.

EDITION	DEADLINE
Summer (December)	14 October 2022
Autumn (March)	20 February 2023
Winter (June)	17 April 2023

Please send submissions and letters to: managing.editor@raafapublications.org.au, including your name and details. Submissions may be edited for length and clarity. We cannot guarantee all material will be published.



air force association

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In the Spring 22 edition of Wings we continue our series on Formation Display Teams featuring the Red Arrows, the RAF team. We delve into early space exploration and some of the unusual aircraft concepts considered during the early surge of air power evolution. We also present an intriguing story on the Australian influence on early anti-g suit development. DSTG outlines a research program to explore a process to enable military combatants to become battlefield 'prosumers', customers directly involved in the production of equipment and tools to be used in the battle taking place. We look back at the effort applied to provide airfields and radar sites around Australia following the attack on Darwin in 1942. For the youngsters we describe a virtual reality space simulation environment, SpaceCRAFT, designed by NASA Astronauts to enable users to actively play with and experience the technology for future operations in space. To promote an interest in STEM studies, teams of students from around the world are invited to participate in the Space Teams: International SpaceCRAFT Exploration Challenge (ISEC) to design and validate a complete space mission with tutelage by experience space practitioners. The Queensland Air Museum feature aptly illustrates the effort involved in recovering and preserving our aviation heritage.