

WINGS

WINTER 2022
VOLUME 74 NO.2

FINAL FRONTIER

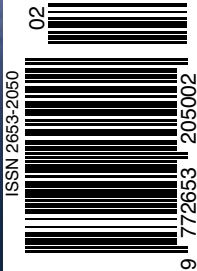
OPTIMISING AUSTRALIA'S
ADVANTAGES IN SPACE

LIGHTNING STRIKERS
CUTTING-EDGE FIGHTERS

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AEROBATIC MIRAGES
FLYING WITH THE DELTAS

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AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION MAGAZINE
- ESTABLISHED 1943 -

MANAGING EDITOR'S MESSAGE



WELCOME TO THE WINTER 2022

edition of the Air Force Association magazine, *Wings*. In this edition we begin two new series that we hope you will enjoy, together with the regular features and a couple of intriguing stories from military history.

One series traces the world's endeavours to explore and utilise space, and begins with an introduction to the recently established Defence Space Command and a pertinent forward by Australia's inaugural Space Commander, Air Vice Marshal Catherine Roberts.

The second new series features the formation display teams of the Western world, fittingly opening with a personal account of our very own Deltas, the first team in the world to enthral spectators with a front-line fighter aircraft presentation – the spirited, elegant and noisy Mirage III.

Visit our website, wingsmagazine.org, to arrange a personal or gift subscription to receive a regular copy in the mail and to read previous issues.

Ron Haack,
Wings managing editor

WINGS EDITORIAL DEADLINES 2022

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

EDITION	DEADLINE
Spring (September)	15 July 2022
Summer (December)	30 September 2022

Please send submissions and letters to: 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 Winter 22 edition of Wings magazine, we initiate two new series, one tracing the exploration and utilization of space beginning with an introduction of the recently established Defence Space Command and the other featuring the formation display teams of the Western world opening with a personal account of our very own *Deltas*, a Mirage III team formed to celebrate the RAAF golden jubilee. There is an intriguing account of the Chinese disposition of HMAS Melbourne and a fascinating story of research effort by Defence Science and Technology Group to develop a sovereign 'unspoofable', position, navigation and timing system (Aussie GPS) exploiting the properties of photons. We showcase RAAF Base Pearce and the WA Bulls Creek aviation museum and resurrect an exclusive club that celebrated fortunate escapes from the inherent risks of aviation.