

WINGS

SPRING 2024
VOLUME 76 NO. 3

LONG-RANGE

MISSILE DEFENCE

INTERVIEW

AIRMSHL
LEON PHILLIPS OAM,
CHIEF OF GWEO

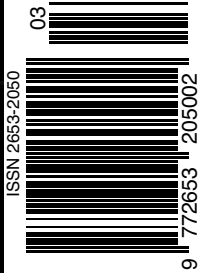
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AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION MAGAZINE
-ESTABLISHED 1943-

MANAGING EDITOR'S MESSAGE



ON BEHALF OF *WINGS*, I would firstly like to congratulate recently retired AVM Joe Iervasi AM, CSC on his appointment as the National President of the Air Force Association and the newly appointed Vice President, Deanna Nott. *Wings* looks forward to a long association with both, and also wishes the former President Carl Schiller and Vice President Peter McDermott all the very best.

In this edition, our cover story focuses on RAAF's F-35 JSF aircraft in the first of a three-part series. We also introduce an interview series, beginning with the Chief of Guided Missile and Explosive Ordnance, Air Marshal Leon Phillips in the first half of a two-part interview – a must read covering a wide range of topics. There are also articles on developments in long-range missile defence, C4ISREW, common EW architecture, battlespace spheres and Exercise Pitch Black.

Visit wingsmagazine.org to arrange a personal or gift subscription to receive a regular copy in the mail and to access the magazine online. Alternatively, become a member of the RAAF Association (AFA) and receive a copy of each issue of *Wings* magazine.

Also, your thoughts are welcome – please contribute any feedback regarding *Wings* via managing.editor@wingsmagazine.org

Enjoy this edition of *Wings*.
Rob Amos, Wings managing editor

EDITORIAL DEADLINES

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

EDITION	DEADLINE
Summer 2024 (December)	7 October
Autumn 2025 (March)	13 January



AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION



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The Wings Spring 2024 Edition continues to present our regular features whilst introducing some new features. The cover story in this edition focuses on the RAAF's F-35 JSF aircraft which is the first part of a three part series.

In this edition we also introduce an Interview series with the inaugural Interview being with the Chief of Guided Missile and Explosive Ordnance (CGWEO), Air Marshal Leon Phillips OAM in what will be a two part interview – a must read covering a wide range of topics.

Wings also includes articles focusing on developments in long range missile defence, C4ISREW, common EW architecture, securing our C3 networks and battlespace spheres. The articles highlight the relationships and interdependence of the developments.

We continue our series on the RAAF involvement in the Vietnam War with a story on rebuilding an Iroquois (Huey) helicopter along with a further article from the Australian War Memorial (AWM) on Bomber Command and War Brides. We also continue our focus on history with a story on the fate of a

RAAF Catalina crew in WWII along with a focus on the 70th Anniversary of RAAF Edinburgh and its history.

The Women in Aerospace article highlights the life and achievements of Nancy Bird Walton, an Australian aviation pioneer and our youngest female commercial pilot.

Wings also focuses on the recently completed Exercise Pitch Black, the Royal Australian Air Force's premier international engagement activity. The exercise involved 20 nations and was the biggest Pitch Black in the exercise's 43-year history.

We also continue our series on Resilience in support of Veterans.

The Events Calendar identifies key aviation events over the next three months. It is aimed at those involved in aviation, aviation enthusiasts and those interested in specific events.