

# WINGS

WINTER 2024  
VOLUME 76 NO. 2

SUPER  
BOMBER

XB-70 VALKYRIE

**BACK TO THE  
FUTURE**

**THE ABC OF ADF  
HELICOPTERS**

TOWARDS ZERO

DEVELOPING EMISSION-FREE AIRCRAFT

DRONES

DRIVING A MILITARY  
REVOLUTION

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AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION MAGAZINE  
- ESTABLISHED 1943 -

# MANAGING EDITOR'S MESSAGE



## THE WINGS WINTER 2024 EDITION

continues to present our regular features while introducing a new range of articles. The cover story focuses on the ADF's rotary platforms while a story on drones recognises that something significant has changed in warfare. We also continue our X-plane series, as well as looking at technology developments and highlighting STEM.

The first in a range of articles on the Vietnam War highlights the commitment and achievements of the RAAF. An article from the Australian War Memorial (AWM) offers an insight into the memorial's current redevelopment, and is the first of a number of planned articles from the AWM.

We continue our focus on history with follow-ups to both the Del Badgery and Doctor in the Sky stories, and an article on B-17 operations in Australia during WWII.

A new segment, Women in Aerospace, highlights the life and achievements of the first woman to train as an astronaut under the Australian flag.

Visit our website, [wingsmagazine.org](http://wingsmagazine.org) and 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. Enjoy this edition.

*Rob Amos, Wings managing editor*

## EDITORIAL DEADLINES

*Wings* welcomes submissions and letters to the editor. Please send submissions to: [managing.editor@wingsmagazine.org](mailto: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
Spring 2024 (September)	17 July
Summer 2024 (December)	7 October



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## Wings Winter 2024 Edition – Synopsis

The Wings Winter 2024 Edition continues to present our regular features, including: Military Aviation News, Air Force Association News, Industry News, Civil Aviation News, Cadets and Australian Air League News, along with Personal Finance, Book Reviews and Last Flight articles.

The cover story in this edition focuses on Rotary Platforms (The ABC of Helicopters in the ADF), which highlights the background and future direction of the ADF's rotary fleet. This is complemented by an article on Drones – Warfare Revolution.

The article relating to Andrew Delfosse Badgery follows on from last edition's article "Off You Go – Good Luck", and highlights the early efforts and endeavours of one of Australia's aviation pioneers. This story is complemented by a story of the recent restoration of the Southern Cross replica aircraft.

Our X-Plane story is the XB-70 Valkyrie, a high altitude, long range bomber designed to fly at Mach3+.

Technical developments are highlighted in articles on an innovative hydrogen-electric propulsion system aiming at carbon free air travel and on the next generation of video telecommunications in Defence.

The RAAF in Vietnam article lays the foundation for a series of future articles on the RAAF's involvement in Vietnam, as does an article on the Australian War Memorial (AWM) - Leading Remembrance and Understanding.

The impact of WWII is highlighted in an article on the loss in Queensland of a US B-17 whilst the story of Two Lancaster's Down from the RAAF's 460 Squadron links to the Bomber Command Commemorative Day on 02 June.

A new segment, Women in Aerospace, features Australia's first female astronaut, Katherine Bennell-Pegg who has just graduated from training at the European Space Agency (ESA).

We also introduce a four-part series on Resilience in support of Veterans.

The Events Calendar identifies key aviation events over the next 12 months. It is aimed at those involved in aviation, aviation enthusiasts and those interested in specific events.

Enjoy the Wings Winter 2024 Edition.

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**RAAFA PUBLICATIONS**

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