

WINGS

SPRING 2026
VOLUME 78 NO. 3

ON TARGET

LOCAL MISSILE PRODUCTION

SPEED TO CAPABILITY

DEFENCE DELIVERY AGENCY

DESIGN INNOVATION

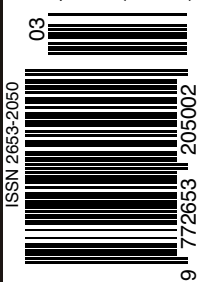
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AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION MAGAZINE
-ESTABLISHED 1943-

MANAGING EDITOR'S MESSAGE

IN THIS EDITION we review the world of drones and counter-drones, and provide an insight into ADF efforts in seeking a medium-range air defence system. There's also an update on the Guided Weapons and Explosive Ordnance focus and achievements.

The government's first steps in establishing an independent Defence Delivery Agency is outlined as part of the Rebuilding Defence Capability Reforms.

We take a look at the ground-breaking design and efficiency of the new Western Sydney International Airport.

The story of Pat Hughes, the top-scoring Australian pilot in the Battle of Britain, highlights his achievements and the sacrifices of the times. The son of a WWII No 76 Squadron pilot tells the story of the squadron during and after the war, while an article on Operation Thoroughfare tells the story of No 3 Squadron's deployment to RAAF Butterworth, Malaysia, in 1969.

Women in Aerospace celebrates Robin Miller who flew hope across the outback.

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Enjoy this edition of *WINGS*.

Rob Amos, WINGS Managing Editor

EDITORIAL DEADLINES

Please send submissions and letters 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 (November)	15 September
Autumn (March 2027)	11 December



AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION

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The Spring 2026 edition continues to present our regular features whilst introducing some new perspectives and insights.

We review the world of drones and counter-drones and also provide an insight into ADF efforts in seeking a medium-range air defence system. Also included is an update on the Guided Weapons and Explosive Ordnance focus and achievements.

The government's first steps in establishing a new independent Defence Delivery Agency is outlined as part of the Rebuilding Defence Capability Reforms.

The new Western Sydney International Airport – a ground-breaking approach to

airport design and operational efficiency is outlined.

The focus on the Western Australian RAAFA Aviation Heritage Museum highlights one of Australia's finest collections of military and civilian aircraft.

The story of Pat Hughes, the top scoring Australian pilot in the Battle of Britain, highlights his achievements and also the sacrifice of the times.

The article on Operation Thoroughfare tells the story of No 3 Squadron's deployment to RAAF Butterworth in 1969.

The son of a No 76 Squadron pilot during WWII tells the story of the squadron during and after the war. The focus on our history and preserving our history is outlined in an overview of History and Heritage Branch – Air Force.

Women in Aerospace tells the story of Robin Miller, pilot and nurse, who flew hope across the outback.