WINGS

AUTUMN 2023
VOLUME 75 NO.1



2023 AVALON
A SHOW OF STRENGTH

SILENT WATCHER
PASSIVE RADAR

AUSSIE WINGS
HOMEGROWN AIRCRAFT FOR THE RAAF

NEXT GENERATION
SOVEREIGN MILITARY SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS

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AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION MAGAZINE
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MANAGING EDITOR'S MESSAGE

WELCOME TO another bumper edition of *Wings*; we had a number of contributions that required a few extra pages and I thank the authors for their commitment.

Avalon 2023 was a roaring success, with record attendance from both exhibiters and the aerospace interested community. Our report on the air show outlines a few of the innovative technologies developed by industry in recent years and illustrates a sample of the enthralling flying demonstrations.

Our roaming technology editor, Gregor Ferguson, has presented a detailed account of the contenders for Joint Project 9102, an ambitious aspiration by the ADF to acquire and operate a sovereign, space-based communications network. Lockheed Martin Australia has been awarded the contract to develop and build the network, with a number of Australian enterprises, some global leaders in their field, embedded in the LM team.

Once again, we have used QR codes to link to selected short video presentations to add a little dynamics to our features; please scan the codes as you progress through the magazine to add another element of appreciation to the associated story.

The *Wings* team hopes you again enjoy the magazine.

Ron Haack*, Wings *managing editor

WINGS EDITORIAL DEADLINES 2023

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

EDITION	DEADLINE
Winter (June)	17 April
Spring (September)	17 July
Summer (December)	16 October

Please send submissions and letters to: managing.editor@wingsmagazine.org, includingyour name and details. Submissions maybe edited for length and clarity. We cannot guarantee all material will be published.

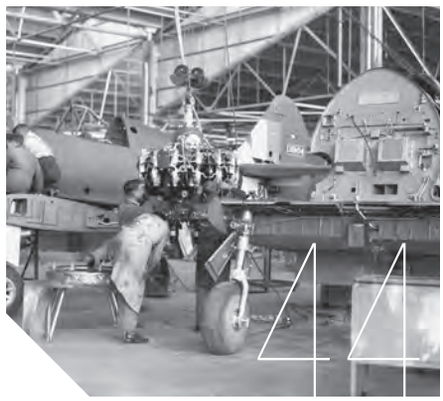
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The Autumn 23 edition of Wings is packed with a range of features and together with our regular contributions; military and industry news, leadership and management, cadets, book reviews and last flights should be an interesting read.

We report on Avalon 2023 and highlight some of the innovations unmasked at the show, continue our series on X-Planes, present an insight into the contenders and the capabilities to be acquired through JP9102 – the future ADF communications network, introduce an emerging surveillance technique – passive radar, describe the development of RAAF Station Nowra and provide a brief look at the Fleet Air Arm Museum.

There is a first-hand account of the Search and Rescue effort to recover survivors from a RAAF Caribou accident in the PNG highlands just over 50 years ago and a summary of Australia's military aircraft production efforts.

We have again embedded QR codes to add short video illustrations to some feature articles and encourage all to take advantage of that function.