WINGS

WINTER 2023
VOLUME 75 NO.2

HYPERSONIC FLIGHT
FROM THE X-15 TO AN AUSSIE SCRAMJET

GUINEA PIG CLUB
WWII ADVANCES IN BURNS TREATMENT

THE RAAF'S FIRST PEACEKEEPERS



FINETUNING THE TYPHOON

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MANAGING EDITOR'S MESSAGE

IN THIS EDITION, we present a couple of personal accounts of the development effort and events associated with introducing advanced technology aircraft to service. As you can imagine, platforms designed to operate at the edge of practical boundaries expose those involved to a range of unknows.

The X-Planes feature deals with the X-15, probably the most popular and well-known aircraft of the experimental series. We introduce readers to an innovative Australian company, Hypersonix, advancing toward launching satellites into low earth orbit using a reusable hypersonic vehicle powered by the company-developed scramjet engine; inspiring home-grown technology.

We have noticed a typographical error in the 'Home-made wings' story in the autumn edition; the Jet era table on page 49 indicated 7,110 Vampires had been built for the RAAF. The correct number was 110 trainer variants and a total of 184 including fighter and fighter-bomber versions.

We hope you enjoy the winter 2023 edition of *Wings*.

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
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.

AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION



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In the Winter 23 edition of Wings we introduce a little known Australian company, Hypersonix, that is leading the world in the fields of hypersonics and scramjet development and our X Planes series chronicles the most famous research aircraft to date, the X-15.

The magazine features two personal accounts of the effort and contingencies associated with introducing new aircraft to service, the Mirage 3 for the RAAF and the Typhoon for the RAF and European Air Forces.

Our history section recounts the chequered history of one of the leased F-4E Phantoms during its brief RAAF service and its ongoing contribution to USAF operations and we review RAAF involvement in the first worldwide peace keeping operation in Indonesia some 76 years ago.

There’s some good advice in the Finance article and please scan the QR codes to compliment the associated stories.