



ADF Aerobatic Teams

by Greg Hyde



RAAF Official Image No: 000-146-871-2 Katrina Johnson

Team	Formed Date	Disband Date	ADF Unit	Aircraft Type	Aircraft No's	Crews/ Comments
The	1958		RAAF 20CU	DeHavilland	A79-111, A79-409, A79-433,	

Red Devils			Williamtown NSW	Vampire	A79-901	
The Meteorites	1958	1958	RAAF 77 Sqn. Williamtown NSW	Gloster Meteor F.8	A77-870, A77-871,A77-874, A77-875, A77-882	Several aircraft still survive.
The Red Eagles	1959	02/04/60	RAAF 21 Sqn. Laverton Vic.	DeHavilland T.35 Vampire		Sqn Ldr CG Thomas (CO)
Ramjets	1959		RAN 724 Sqn. Nowra NSW	De Havilland DH.112 Sea Venom	4 aircraft	
The Black Diamonds	10/1961	1964	RAAF 75 Sqn. Williamtown NSW	CAC CA-27 Sabre	A94-352,A94-353, A94-359, A94-363, A94-365, A94-369	Several aircraft still survive Sqn Ldr V. Drummond (CO)
The Red Sales	19/11/1961	1962	RAAF CFS East Sale Vic.	DeHavilland T.35 Vampire	A79-607, A79-628, A79-629, A79-650	16/08/1962 entire team was lost during a training accident
The Black Panthers	1961	1965	RAAF 76 Sqn. Williamtown NSW	CAC CA-27 Sabre	A94-352,A94-356,A94-359, A94-363,A94-370, A94-901, A94-939,A94-942, A94-947, A94-959	Several aircraft still survive
Yellow Streaks	1962		RAAF 1AFTS Pearce WA	DeHavilland T.35 Vampire		
Checkmates	1962	1962	RAN 805 Sqn. Nowra NSW	De Havilland DH.112 Sea Venom	4 aircraft including WZ893, WZ940	1. Lt. R. Waddle-Wood 2. Lt. B. Orr 3. Lt. A. Riley 4. Lt. B. Roberts Collision over Sydney Harbour 02/10/1962
The Red Diamonds	1963	1966	RAAF 76 Sqn. Williamtown NSW	CAC CA-27 Sabre	A94-352, A94-356,A94-359, A94-363,A94-370, A94-901, A94-939,A94-942, A94-959	Same aircraft as the Black Panthers Excl: A94-947
The Telstars	08/09/1966	1967	RAAF CFS East Sale Vic.	DeHavilland T.35 Vampire	A79-616, A79-626, A79-637, A79-654	
The Telstars	12/1967	1970	RAAF CFS East Sale Vic.	GAF (Aermacchi) MB.326H	A7-001, A7-002, A7-004, A7-008, A7-010, A7-011	
The Marksmen	1968	1968	RAAF 2 OCU Williamtown NSW	CAC CA-27 Sabre	A94-365. A94-369,A94-371, A94-901,A94-915,A94-922	
The Roulettes	08/1970	1989	RAAF CFS East Sale Vic.	GAF (Aermacchi) MB.326H	A7-026,A7-057, A7-067, A7-068	

The Deltas	11/1970	1971	RAAF 77 Sqn. Williamtown NSW	GAF Mirage		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Sqn Ldr Grayson Fly Off Archer Flt. Lt. Robson Pil Off Allen Fly Off Ford
Checkmates	1974	1982	RAN 724 Sqn. Nowra NSW	McDonnell Douglas A-4G Skyhawk	N13-155052/871 N13-154908/887	
The Miracles	04/03/1976	1976	RAAF 77 Sqn.	GAF Mirage	Six aircraft incl. A3-14	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> WgCdr A. Taylor (Solo Lead) Capt J. Fauske (Solo Two & USAF exchange) Sqn Ldr G. Gent (Formation Lead) Flg Off A. Begg (Right Wing) Flt Lt. I. Wilkie (Left Wing) Flt. Lt. G. Kubank (slot) <p>(See 16/03/1976 below)</p>
Diamond Jubilee Display Team	1981	1981	RAAF 77 Sqn. Williamtown NSW	GAF Mirage	A3-15, A3-17, A3-48	White livery
The Roulettes	1981		RAAF CFS East Sale Vic.	GAF (Aermacchi) MB.326H	A7-014, A7-026, A7-027, A7-046, A7-057, A7-078, A7-083, A7-090	
The Roulettes	1982		RAAF CFS East Sale Vic.	GAF (Aermacchi) MB.326H	A7-027, A7-032, A7-067, A7-082,A7-0??	<p>Sqn Ldr Ric Seager (Ldr)</p> <p>Flt. Lt. Mike Wood (RAF)</p> <p>Capt. Ross Jenney (USAF)</p>
The Roulettes	1983		RAAF CFS East Sale Vic.	GAF (Aermacchi) MB.326H	A7-046, A7-093	On 15/12/83 A7-046 & A7-093 collided during practice
The Roulettes	1986		RAAF CFS East Sale Vic.	GAF (Aermacchi) MB.326H	A7-021, A7-025, A7-049, A7-057, A7-068, A7-090	<p>Sqn Ldr John Simmonds (Ldr),</p> <p>Capt Rick Reus USAF,</p> <p>Flt Lt. Bob Fisher,</p> <p>Sqn Ldr Mark Wilson,</p> <p>Flt. Lt. Dave Marshall</p>
The Roulettes	1987		RAAF CFS East Sale Vic.	GAF (Aermacchi) MB.326H	A7-068	1. Sqn Ldr Jeff Trappett
The	1988		RAAF CFS	GAF	A7-015, A7-021, A7-025,	On 10/03/88 A7-049 &

Roulettes			East Sale Vic.	(Aermacchi) MB.326H	A7-027, A7-028, A7-049, A7-054, A7-092,A7-096, A7-097	A7-054 collided during practice 1. Sqn Ldr J. Trappett 4. Flt Lt. Dick Crispin
The Roulettes	1989		RAAF CFS East Sale Vic.	GAF (Aermacchi) MB.326H	A7-025, A7-027,A7-028	Synchro pair
The Roulettes	1989		RAAF CFS East Sale Vic.	Pilatus PC-9	A23-002, A23-005	Synchro pair 1. Sqn Ldr Peter Barrett 2. Flt Lt. Tony Fitzgerald
The Roulettes	03/1990		RAAF CFS East Sale Vic.	Pilatus PC-9		1. Sqn Ldr Peter Barrett 2. Sqn. Ldr Glen Steed 3. Flt Lt. Peter Clements 4. Flt Lt. Mark Scott 5. Flt Lt. Geoff Roberts 6. Lt. Mark Morey-Hype (RAN) 7. Flt. Lt. Tony Grady
The Roulettes	1991		RAAF CFS East Sale Vic.	Pilatus PC-9	A23-032, A23-033, A23-034, A23-038, A23-039, A23-042, A23-043	1. Sqn. Ldr Glen Steed
The Roulettes	1992		RAAF CFS East Sale Vic.	Pilatus PC-9		1. Sqn. Ldr Glen Steed 2. Sqn Ldr Tim Shaw 3. 4. 5. Flt. Lt. Mark Cumming
The Roulettes	1993		RAAF CFS East Sale Vic.	Pilatus PC-9		1. Sqn Ldr Tim Shaw
The Roulettes	1994		RAAF CFS East Sale Vic.	Pilatus PC-9		1. Sqn Ldr Tim Shaw 5. Flt Lt. Steve Thomas 7. FLTLT Paul Knellwolf
The Roulettes	1995		RAAF CFS East Sale Vic.	Pilatus PC-9		1. Sqn Ldr Tim Shaw 2. Flt Lt. Tim Borella 3. Flt Lt. Rob Williams

						4. Fit Lt. Steve Thomas
The Roulettes	1996		RAAF CFS East Sale Vic.	Pilatus PC-9	A23-031, A23-036, A23-037, A23-039, A23-041, A23-042, A23-065, A23-066	1. Sqn Ldr Tim Shaw 2. Fit Lt. Tim Borella 3. Fit Lt. Rob Williams 4. Fit Lt. Marshall Paterson 5. Fit Lt. Steve Thomas 6. Fit Lt. Dick Dalton (RAF)
The Roulettes	1997		RAAF CFS East Sale Vic.	Pilatus PC-9	A23-057 (1), A23-029 (2), A23-041 (3), A23-040 (4), A23-050 (5), A23-056 (6) A23-034 (7)	1. Sqn Ldr Tim Shaw, 2. Fit Lt. Tim Borella 3. Fit Lt. Rob Williams 4. Fit Lt. Marshall Paterson 5. Fit Lt. Steve Thomas 6. Fit Lt. Dick Dalton (RAF) 7. Fly Off Paul Cooley
The Roulettes	1998		RAAF CFS East Sale Vic.	Pilatus PC-9		Sqn Ldr Gareth Neilsen (Ldr) FLTLT Paul Knellwolf FLTLT Sascha Bihrenbrodt Fit Lt Mark Turnbull
The Roulettes	1999		RAAF CFS East Sale Vic.	Pilatus PC-9		1. Sqn Ldr Gareth Neilsen (Ldr) 2. Fit Lt Alan Peacock/ 3. Fit Lt. Joanne Mein 4. Fit Lt Sean Bellenger 5. Fit Lt Paul Knellwolf 6. Fit Lt Sascha Bihrenbrodt 7. Fit Lt Mark Turnbull 8. Fly Off Marty Cram
The Roulettes	2000		RAAF CFS East Sale Vic.	Pilatus PC-9	A23-029, A23-051, A23-052, A23-062, A23-066, A23-067,	1. Fit Lt Sean Bellenger 2. Ft Lt Marty McFarlane 3. Ft Lt Greg Frisina 4. Sqn Ldr Gareth Neilsen 5. Fit Lt Al Peacock 6. Fit Lt Joanne Mein

						7. Ft Lt Trevor Wright
The Roulettes	2002		RAAF CFS East Sale Vic.	Pilatus PC-9	A23-029, A23-050, A23-051, A23-052, A23-062, A23-064, A23-066	1. Ft Lt Greg Frisina 2. Flt Lt. Rick Reid 3. Flt. Lt. Ian Wilson 4. Flt. Lt. Andrew Greaves 5. Flt Lt. Colin Wells 6. Flt Lt. Michael Briggs 7. Flt. Lt. Michael Wijnberg
The Roulettes	2003		RAAF CFS East Sale Vic.	Pilatus PC-9		1. Sqn. Ldr Peter Robinson 2. Flt Lt Paul Bryan 3. Flt Lt. Chris Tulk 4. 5. Flt Lt Mark Broadbridge 6.
The Roulettes	2004		RAAF CFS East Sale Vic.	Pilatus PC-9		1. Sqn. Ldr Peter Robinson 2. Flt Lt. Pat Watts 3. Flt Lt. Chris Tulk 4. LCDR David Walker 5. Flt Lt Mark Broadbridge 6. Flt Lt Paul Bryan Flt Lt Pete Geddes (Backup & Commentary)
The Roulettes	2005		RAAF CFS East Sale Vic.	Pilatus PC-9	A23-046, A23-058, A23-059, A23-060, A23-061, A23-064	1. Sqn Ldr Dennis Tan 2. Flt. Lt. Shane Rowe 3. Flt. Lt. John Tausschke 4. Flt. Lt. Mark Ellis 5. Flt Lt. Steve Bekker 6. Flt Lt. Steve Baker 7. Flt. Lt. Ben Cartwright (Backup & Commentary)

Major ADF Aerobatic Team Incidents



Date	Incident
16/08/1962	Thursday 16 August 1962 was a black day for the RAAF when six pilots and four aircraft from the Red Sales aerobatic team were lost at RAAF East Sale, Vic. while training for Air Force week celebrations. Reports indicated that the team were performing a low level barrel roll in diamond formation when they impacted the ground. Killed were Flt Lt R.H. Jones (Leader), Flt Lt P.A. Young & Flt Lt M. Dunbar (left), Flt Lt Hearnden (right) and Flt Lt Burke & Fly Off Goss (Tail).
16/03/1976	At about 1300 the "Miracle" aerobatic team that were conducting formation practice over RAAF Williamstown when A3-14 suffered an engine compressor stall forcing Flt Lt G Kubank to eject. Kubank ejected at 400 ft and 230 kts with only minor injuries. The aircraft was totally destroyed when it impacted the ground just south of the airstrip. The event was well documented with both TV (NBN Newcastle) & Newspaper journalists witnessing & recording the incident.
15/12/1983	The Roulettes suffered their first accident when Roulette 2 and Roulette 3 collided at 2,000 feet over the training area new East Sale. The aircraft involved were GAF (Aermacchi) MB.326H A7-046 and A7-093. Flt Lt. Steve Carter (Roulette 2) was believed to have been killed instantly while Flt. Lt. Graeme "Blue" Brooks (Roulette 3) fell from his aircraft as it disintegrated around the pilot. He was able to parachute into a tea tree swamp on the "Lakeview" property. An Esso helicopter medivaced Flt. Lt. Brooks to the Base Medical Flight but unfortunately during treatment he suffered a cardiac arrest and later died in the Gippsland Base Hospital.

10/03/1988	The Roulettes were practising for the Canberra Bicentennial Airshow which was scheduled for Sunday 13 th March 1988 when Roulette 1 (A7-054) piloted by Sqn. Ldr Jeff Trappett collided with Roulette 4 (A7-049) piloted by Flt. Lt. Dick Crispin.. Flt Lt. Crispin was able to successfully eject while Sqn. Ldr Trappett managed to perform a wheels up landing at East Sale Vic. Trappett was praised for his ability to perform an emergency land a badly damaged aircraft. Trappett's aircraft (A7-054) was later used by CAC for fatigue testing.
19/07/1995	The Roulette's were practising over East Sale Vic. flying Pilatus PC-9's when an aircraft propeller clipped the tail of another inverted aircraft. Both aircraft landed safely.
21/01/2005	Two Roulettes A23-029 and A23-039 collided while training for Australia Day displays over East Sale.. Roulette 5 (A23-029) crashed into the ground after the pilot, Flt Lt Arnie Moorscheck, successfully ejected while A23-039 piloted by Flt Lt Mark Ellis landed safely.



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