

Ruth E Wilson - Aviation Background:

Commercial Balloon Pilot since 1975.

- World First in Aviation – First night skydive from a balloon. In 1989 dropped Ron Llewellyn, a skydiver, from her balloon at night at Box Hill, hinterland of Byron Bay.
- Awarded the Australian Women's Pilot Assn Mrs. Harry Bonney Trophy, May 2000, for long distance gas ballooning from New Mexico to Oklahoma while representing Australia in the prestigious Gordon Bennett Gas Balloon Race.
- Competition Ballooning –
Former National Champion.
Third in World Ladies Championships.
Balloon Director at Hamilton International Balloon Meet in New Zealand.
Balloon Director Narromine Air Show October 2002.
Jury member at Alberta State Championships, Canada.
Jury member at National Championships, Australia.
- Held various executive positions with the sport's governing body, the Australian Ballooning Federation. Past ABF President. Current Australian Alternate Delegate for CIA Ballooning Commission, the World body governing ballooning. Founding Executive member of the NSW/ACT Balloon Association. Established Code of Conduct, rules for balloon retrieval.
- Past Vice President of sport aviation's industry body, the Australian Sports Aviation Confederation (ASAC). Have established a respected working relationship with the various sporting bodies and their appropriate personnel. Developed skills in negotiating with groups with conflicting interests.
- Instructor & Examiner of Airmen for Balloons.
- Industry representative from 1996 on Aviation Review Committees.
Chairman of the Certification Committee. Attended regular meetings with CASA personnel covering regulations for Experimental and Sport Aviation.
- ABF representative on the National Airspace Users Council for four years early 80's, to educate General Aviation Airspace users on the capability of balloons as safe aircraft in controlled airspace.
- Liaison with Civil Aviation Authority in early 80's for greater freedom for balloons to fly in controlled airspace. Contributed to preparation of Rules for Commercial Balloon Operations.