



FOKKER DR1 TRIPLANE

Made famous by the leading air ace of WWI Manfred Von Richthofen, commonly known as the "Red Baron"

History

The Fokker Dr1 was perhaps one of the most famous aircraft of WWI. It was not however, one of the best aircraft of that era. While it did have a good climb rate and excellent manoeuvrability, the Dr1 was renowned for shedding its wings at speed and was grounded soon after entering service to undergo wing modifications.

Only 230 Dr1 Scouts were built, the type having entered service in August 1917. By December the Fokker DVII was being issued to units to replace it and production of the Dr1 ceased in May 1918.

The fame of the Dr1 is probably due to the pilots who flew it in combat. Baron Manfred Von Richthofen, as leading ace of the German Air Force, scored a number of his successes while flying a Dr1 (serial number 425/17) that was painted bright red with a white tail. The aircraft on display at the Museum of Australian Army Flying is a replica of the aircraft flown in combat by the "Red Baron".