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MEDIA RELEASE

Brisbane Open House comes to Archerfield Airport

Archerfield Airport's distinctive art deco terminal building will be featured for the first time next month in the Brisbane Open House program.

Held annually to coincide with World Architecture Day, Brisbane Open House is a free event offering guided and self-guided tours of the city's 'hidden' wealth of architecture.

Open House visitors to Archerfield Airport on **Saturday October 10** (from 10am to 4pm) will have the chance to inspect the terminal building which was built in 1941 and served as the passenger lounge for Brisbane's original airport.

The terminal is one of Australia's most recognisable aviation landmarks, reflecting the 'glamour' days of air travel. Progressive refurbishment of the building in recent years has seen restoration of the elegant passenger lounge with its large observation windows and original clock.

Airport General Manager, Heather Mattes, said Brisbane Open House was an ideal opportunity for local residents to learn about the rich history of Archerfield Airport. Visitors will also be able to view other interesting aspects of the airport including God's Acre cemetery, a tribute to the area's pioneer families with graves dating back to 1859; and two recently refurbished igloo-style hangars. Hangar 5 was built in 1931 and was the starting point for the first scheduled passenger-carrying flight from Australia to England; while Hangar 6 was built in 1939 and used to operate a courier service to Papua Guinea during World War 11.

In 1933, Lores Bonney made her historic 20,000km solo flight to England from Archerfield Airport – the first woman to achieve this feat. Together with fellow aviators, Sir Charles Kingsford-Smith and Bert Hinkler, Bonney was a member of the Royal Queensland Aero Club, which continues to operate at Archerfield Airport as one of the world's oldest flying schools.

During World War 11, Archerfield Airport was a key military airfield for Australian, American and Dutch forces involved in the Pacific Campaign. Today, the airport carries the largest number of general aviation movement of any Queensland airport and is the State's centre for flight training.

For more information about Brisbane Open House, visit www.brisbaneopenhouse.com.au.

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