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MEDIA RELEASE / ADVISORY NOTE

RAAF flypast a highlight of *Brisbane Open House* at Archerfield Airport

A RAAF C-130J Hercules flypast of Archerfield Airport will be a dramatic highlight of *Brisbane Open House* this **Saturday, October 8**.

This will be the second consecutive year that the airport has featured in the free *Brisbane Open House* event – and RAAF involvement will add to the colour and aviation-rich atmosphere as visitors explore one of Australia's most architecturally significant airports. It will also be an opportunity for the RAAF to showcase its aircraft and will serve as a reminder to visitors of the airport's military past.

The aircraft is one of 12 C-130J Hercules from RAAF Base Richmond, NSW, however its role as a medium-sized tactical air lifter takes it all over Australia and the world. The Hercules is capable of carrying 120 passengers or seven pallets or cargo, and can land on short or unsurfaced airstrips.

The flypast will occur at 12 noon and will involve the Hercules flying over the airfield from West to East at an altitude of approximately 200m. *The flypast is subject to operational availability and weather, and may be cancelled at short notice.

Brisbane Open House is held annually to coincide with World Architecture Day. From 10am until 4pm on Saturday, October 8, visitors will be able to self-tour the airport terminal building and God's Acre cemetery, take an airside bus tour, view the new Cirrus aircraft and other aviation displays, and see behind the scenes at several airport operations including LifeFlight, Basair College and the newly opened Archerfield Jet Base.

Archerfield Airport's repeat inclusion in the program follows the popularity of last year's event, attended by some 700 people. The airport's distinctive restored terminal building is one of Australia's most recognisable aviation landmarks that served as the passenger lounge for Brisbane's original airport. God's Acre pioneer cemetery near the airport gates is one of only a handful of graveyards within an Australian airport. The igloo-shaped Hangar 5 made history in 1931 as the Qantas departure point for the first passenger-carrying flights to England.

In 1933, Lores Bonney made her historic 20,000km solo flight to England from Archerfield Airport – the first woman to achieve this feat. Archerfield Airport was also a key military airfield for Australian, American and Dutch forces involved in the Pacific Campaign of World War Two. Hangar 6 was used to operate a vital courier service to Papua New Guinea during the war. Today, the modern metropolitan 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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