



Archerfield Airport Corporation

ABN 31 081 619 123

ACN 081 619 123

PO Box 747
Archerfield Qld 4108
Top floor Terminal building
Grenier Drive Archerfield Airport

p (07) 3275 8000

f (07) 3275 8001

MEDIA RELEASE

C-17 flypast for ‘Brisbane Open House’ at Archerfield Airport

A massive Boeing C-17 Globemaster III transport aircraft will perform a flypast on **Saturday, October 13**, as a highlight of Brisbane Open House at Archerfield Airport.

The flypast, scheduled for some time around 12 noon*, is a rare opportunity for visitors to see this type of aircraft, one of eight operated by the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF). The Globemaster has extraordinary lift and range, and plays a key role in Defence activities by allowing the rapid deployment of troops, artillery and heavy equipment such as tanks and helicopters. It is 53m in length with a wingspan of almost 53m and a cruising speed of 830kph.

The flypast complements the aviation-themed day at Archerfield Airport. Brisbane Open House coincides with World Architecture Day to showcase the city’s interesting architecture including the airport’s distinctive restored terminal building (the passenger lounge for Brisbane’s original airport) and the igloo-shaped Hangar 5 (the Qantas departure point for the first passenger-carrying flights to England in 1931).

The theme for Brisbane Open House at the airport is *A rich past, an exciting future* – and tenants and visitors are encouraged to ‘dress up’ in aviation-related gear for the occasion.

The free event runs from 10am to 4pm and features hangar and static aircraft displays, free airside coach tours plus self-guided tours of God’s Acre (a pioneer cemetery near the main gates) and the ground floor level terminal building. The day also includes discounted helicopter and aircraft joy flights (pre-booking is essential), children’s activities, entertainment, and food and refreshments.

Archerfield Airport’s architectural heritage reflects a rich history. In 1933, Lores Bonney became the first woman to fly solo on a 20,000km flight from Archerfield Airport to England. The airport was also a key military airfield for Australian, American and Dutch forces during the Pacific Campaign of World War II. After playing a long and distinguished role in the history of Brisbane and surrounding areas, Archerfield Airport is now the heart of the city’s corporate, emergency services and general aviation communities.

(*time subject to RAAF operational requirements)

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