Archerfield Airport will host a record field of 43 aircraft for the start of the 2018 Outback Air Race in August.

This unique and fun 12 day event is a GPS-based navigation time trial over 4,000km of remote Australia. It’s held every three years to raise funds for the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) – and this year’s race has special significance as the RFDS celebrates the 90th anniversary of its first flight from Cloncurry in 1928.

The staggered start on Sunday August 19 will be preceded by social activities for the event’s 100 competitors and their families. Members of the public will be encouraged to view departing aircraft from vantage points outside the airport boundary. The aircraft lineup includes Cessna, Piper, Trinidad, Glasair, Bristell and Tobago, while competitors are from varied backgrounds. 2018 race entrants include a prominent Brisbane business leader and the great grand-nephew of Sir Charles Kingsford-Smith (see page 3).

After leaving Archerfield Airport, competitors will fly to Bundaberg, Longreach, Mount Isa, Adels Grove, Daly Waters, Katherine/ Tindal and Kununurra before finishing the event in Broome, Western Australia on August 31.

The race has been held since 1996 and tests pilots’ basic navigational and planning skills. As well as offering a once-in-a-lifetime experience, it has so far raised more than $2 million for the RFDS.

Although team nominations have closed, sponsorship is still available. For more information, visit www.outbackairrace.com.au or email sponsorship@outbackairrace.com.au.
The grass keeps growing and the 1931 airport looks terrific for its age. I have had numerous people ring me over the last three years as General Manager complimenting Archerfield Airport on how well maintained and spruce the airport is. We are very proud of the airport and the great work that Head Foreman/Groundsman Don Foy and his hardworking team of David, Dan, Col, Jaimie, Rick, Corey and Geoff do every day; mowing, cleaning and repairing 257ha. It’s a huge job, so a big thank you team.

The growth of General Aviation (GA) is high on our agenda and we are continually contributing in some way. We work with the Gateway to Industry Schools Project for Aerospace, and in the past few months have led school tours including University of Southern Queensland and Indooroopilly State High School. Community tours of the airport include the Jubilee Community Centre.

I recently spoke at the Women in Aviation Leadership Conference in Sydney about the continuing support for women in aviation and aerospace and the growth of female training pilots at Archerfield Airport. GA has twice been a topic at the Probus Club of Centenary Suburbs with myself and Queensland Government Air Rotary speaking to a large audience.

Once again this year, we will open the airport for Brisbane Open House on Saturday October 13 with airside and hangar tours. We are also working with State Government’s Industry Attraction Team to identify Archerfield as a prime opportunity in the aviation and aerospace sector.

Safe landings.

Heather Mattes
General Manager

NBN upgrade

Archerfield Airport tenants and surrounding businesses will soon have access to high speed broadband internet connection following NBN’s infrastructure upgrade scheduled this year. To track work progress, visit: www.nbnco.com.au/learn-about-the-nbn/rollour-map.html#

New corporate tenant

Australian Country Choice is the latest business to join a growing number of corporate operations at Archerfield Airport, using a corporate King Air 350i for private operations.

Archerfield Airport film set

Archerfield Airport was transformed into a fictional North Queensland airport recently for the filming of an episode of the new television crime drama, Harrow.

The 10 part series now screening is a ‘home grown’ thriller involving the ABC, Hoodlum Productions and Screen Queensland. Welsh actor, Ioan Gruffudd, plays Dr Daniel Harrow, a forensic pathologist with a total disregard for authority and an unorthodox approach to solving a mystery case.

It seems that Archerfield Airport is becoming a popular film location. Last year, a short film was filmed at Archerfield Jet Base; and the movie San Andreas, featuring Dwayne ‘The Rock’ Johnson, shot scenes at the airport just a few years ago.

Above: Actors and crew take a break on set during the filming of Harrow.

Flight training continues to expand

Pilot training at Archerfield Airport continues to expand with the recent introduction of Brisbane Aviators.

Brisbane Aviators is based on the highly successful Sydney Aviators, and is an arm of Basair Aviation College, Australia’s largest flying school.

Basair increased its presence at the airport last year when it occupied the former RQAC premises – and Brisbane Aviators offers its world class facilities and instructors to prospective pilots who prefer training flexibility and self-paced learning rather than committing to full-time study. People who are not eligible to access the government VET Fee Help program are also taking advantage of this new training division.

Services include a trial introductory flight which allows a client to experience control of the aircraft for much of the flight, with associated basic instruction. A trial flight is a great gift for someone who is considering obtaining their pilot’s licence for recreational up to commercial use.

Brisbane Aviators also conducts scenic flights (ranging from 20 minute flights west of the city around Mt Coot-tha to 70 minute coastal flights); charter services for passengers and freight; specialist aerial photography flights (with the cockpit door removed for better quality shots); and social events such as Sunday barbecues and fly-aways.

AAC welcomes the staff of Brisbane Aviators to Hangar 1: Aljon (Base Manager/Flight Instructor), Leka (Receptionist), and Flight Instructors Reuben, Martin, Brad and Mike.

Above: A Brisbane Aviators’ Piper Warrior just after take-off.
God’s Acre Remembrance Day

The annual God’s Acre Remembrance Day will be held at 10am on **Sunday June 24**. All airport tenants and interested community members are welcome to attend this free event at the pioneer cemetery near the airport entrance. Guest speakers include Airport GM, Heather Mattes, who will outline the airport Master Plan, and historian Angus Lilley who will talk about the agitation for separation of Queensland from NSW in the years before the cemetery was established.

ENVIRONMENT NEWS:

Biosecurity Queensland (Department of Agriculture and Fisheries) will continue both aerial and ground Fire Ant baiting across Archerfield Airport this year. If you suspect a Fire Ant nest, please notify AAC.

Nests are dome-shaped mounds up to 40cm high, with no clear entrance. They are usually in open areas, but can also be next to, or under, timber, logs, rocks or bricks.

---

Outback Air Race 2018

Aviation events attract people from many walks of life. Here are two of the 100 competitors who will fly out of Archerfield Airport in August for the start of the 2018 Outback Air Race...

**Keeping alive a flying tradition**

Keeping alive his family’s flying tradition is competitor, Alex Kingsford-Smith, the great grand-nephew of Australian aviator, Sir Charles Kingsford-Smith.

Alex and a fellow student/co-pilot from Melbourne-based Soar Aviation plan to cover 4,000km in the event’s first east to west coast air race. Their team is Soar Aviation 3, and their aircraft is a yellow Bristell.

Alex, 23, is training for his Commercial Pilots’ Licence. Flying across Australia is one of his goals – he just didn’t expect it to happen in only the second year of his aviation career.

Alex’s great grand-uncle, Sir Charles, made history in 1928 when he achieved the first trans-Pacific flight from the USA to Australia. Sir Charles held strong links with Archerfield Airport as a member of the Royal Queensland Aero Club.

Alex is the first of his family to fly since his grandfather (John Kingsford-Smith) and his two uncles (Rollo and Peter) were World War II pilots. John flew Kitty Hawks and trained Australian pilots. He also set a national altitude record in a Tiger Moth in the 1930s. After the war, uncle Rollo became Managing Director of Hawker de Havilland in Melbourne.

Alex’s interest in aviation is relatively recent and represents a new career direction. He previously worked in the motorcycle industry, including time in the USA where he worked in motocross vacations. While Alex aims to work as a commercial pilot, his ultimate goal is aerobatic flying.

**Riding ‘shotgun’ for a great cause**

High profile Brisbane businessman, Tony Joseph, jumped at the opportunity to be navigator aboard his good friend’s Beechcraft Bonanza for this year’s Outback Air Race. And although Tony has experience navigating on water, the race will be his first air navigational challenge.

The race will fly over some of Australia’s most remote country from Brisbane to Broome – and for 12 days will take Tony far from the city and his many corporate responsibilities. Tony is Managing Director of Alfred E. Chave Pty Ltd, Chairman of Brisbane Markets, Director of the Brisbane Broncos, and Director of Men of League. Until recently, he was a Board Member of 40 years for Brismark.

For the race, Tony has teamed up with pilot and Goondiwindi businessman David Tait to form the Tait Auto Group team. David is a long-time mate, and he and Tony have flown together on several flights to outback Queensland. The pair also enjoyed a long road trip to central Australia last year.

“About 12 months ago, David mentioned the race to me and thought it would be a great idea if we entered to help support the work of the Royal Flying Doctor Service,” Tony explains. “We do things together from time to time, so I agreed to ride ‘shotgun’. The RFDS is a great cause.”

“David is an experienced light aircraft pilot while my flying has generally been as an airline passenger for business reasons. The race will be a totally new experience for me, and one I’m looking forward to.”
Like most Metro Class D airports, Archerfield Airport is quite complex with two sets of parallel runways and a corresponding network of taxiways. To successfully negotiate the airfield requires a degree of situational awareness by pilots.

All pilots should spend time familiarising themselves with airfield maps, ERSA and NOTAMS. ATC may require you to vacate the runway via a specific taxiway or proceed by a certain taxiway to the runway. Always carry the appropriate airport diagram in the cockpit. In addition, a knowledge of read-back requirements is important. AIP can give you the correct format of phraseologies to read back when passed an instruction by the tower.

Until next time, stay safe.

George Lane
Manager, Archerfield Control Tower

Runway 04R/22L will soon reopen following significant maintenance works.

Stage one of the project started in the latter part of last year and involved removing old cement stabilised deco which had reached the end of its practical life, importing 105 cubic metres of new deco, and spreading and levelling the area. Stage two early this year saw specialised equipment brought to the airport to mix a new product (PolyCom) with the deco before rolling it. By using PolyCom, AAC expects less impact from rain on the unsealed runway.

Life-saving role remembered

It’s seven years since the tragedy of the Lockyer Valley floods which claimed 12 lives and devastated several townships, including Grantham. However the life-saving role played by QAir’s helicopter Rescue 500 crew based at Archerfield Airport has not been forgotten.

The Probus Club of Centenary Suburbs recently invited QAir’s Director of Operations (Rotary), Bill Mattes, to be a guest speaker and outline the vital helicopter-rescue services provided by the State Government. The crew of Rescue 500 saved several lives during the unprecedented flash flooding of 2011, winching survivors to safety in extremely dangerous conditions. Bill is pictured with Guest Speaker Coordinator, Margot Finn.

FOR LEASE

The following is a selection of airport premises now available for lease.

**Building 20:** Recently refurbished stand-alone offices (229sq.m.) just off Beatty Rd near the Terminal Building. Highly suitable corporate location for up to 15 staff. Access to major arterial roads and close to aviation and training related businesses.

**Building 025:** Direct access to the airside apron, featuring six large and small offices, a boardroom, large reception and deck. 1058sq.m.

**Hangar 235A:** Modern hangar with airside access only. Concrete end partition walls and double sliding doors each side, with personnel access door. 15m x 12.4m x 3.6m. Hangarage and own maintenance only.

**Building 030:** 60sq.m. air-conditioned demountable office (including bathroom) with parking close by in common carpark.

**Hangar 604:** A 15.3m x 12.36m steel and Colorbond hangar on a 357sq.m. site, featuring bi-fold sliding hangar doors from centre. Situated airside south of the airport with airside access only.

**Offices 028A:** 131sq.m. air-conditioned offices with kitchenette located on the ground floor of the Terminal Building.

For more details, visit [www.archerfieldairport.com.au](http://www.archerfieldairport.com.au) or call AAC Property Manager, Claudia Birnbreier on 07 3275 8000.