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PRESS RELEASE

## AVIATION CLUB UK SUPPORTS ORBIS FLYING EYE HOSPITAL

The Aviation Club UK has chosen Orbis, the 'Flying Eye Hospital' dedicated to treating and preventing avoidable blindness, as its charity for the next twelve months.

Orbis recently launched its third-generation Flying Eye Hospital, a unique mobile medical training facility in a MD-10 aircraft. Supported by a global team of volunteers, it takes training courses across the world, and funds thousands of medical and optical treatments every year. Aboard the aircraft, complete with operating theatre and classroom, Orbis's medical volunteers train eye care teams across Africa, Asia and Latin America in the latest ophthalmic techniques.

Some Aviation Club members will have the chance to visit the aircraft themselves when it visits the UK next month for the first time in eight years.

Jane Johnston, Chairman of Aviation Club UK said: "The Flying Eye Hospital is a unique facility and I hope through the Club's support we can make more people aware of the fantastic work it does. In our industry, vision is so important, and it's easy to take for granted. So this is a cause which has particular meaning for us."

Kathryn Sweet, Head of Corporate Partnerships at Orbis UK said: "Partnering with Aviation Club UK is a fantastic opportunity for Orbis, and I am so thankful to the Club for selecting our cause. I am looking forward to working with the Committee and members to provide an interesting insight into the role of aviation in the fight against avoidable blindness, and easy ways in which they can support our work."

**-ends-**

### Notes to Editors:

The Aviation Club, which was founded 26 years ago, aims to provide a forum for its 500 members to discuss, promote and develop all aspects of civil aviation. More information and membership details for the Aviation Club of the UK can be found at [www.aviationclub.org.uk](http://www.aviationclub.org.uk)

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### About Orbis:

Orbis brings the world's ophthalmic community together on the Flying Eye Hospital  
<http://gbr.orbis.org/preview/pages/find-out-more-flying-eye-hospital>. Twitter @UKORBIS

- Since 1982, Orbis has been working to prevent avoidable blindness in areas of need. In 2015, Orbis UK funded 3.7 million medical and optical treatments and trained 21,469 medical professionals.
- Orbis runs over 40 long-term programmes across the world in countries including: Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana, South Africa, Zambia, Bangladesh, China, India, Mongolia, Nepal, Indonesia, Vietnam, Peru. Discover more about Orbis at [www.orbis.org.uk](http://www.orbis.org.uk)

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**Committee:** Jane Johnston (Chairman) / Donna Ager / Jonathan Bailey  
Michael Blunt / Mike Carrivick / Nick Fadugba / Jeremy Green  
Richard Greener / Scott Greig / Victoria Hartley / Richard Hedges  
Jason Holt / Dale Keller / Jane Middleton / Francis Morgan / Alina Nosek  
John Strickland / Nick West / Tony Whitty / Allan Winn