



On Sunday 30th October, the Open Day, Annual General Meeting and Barbeque attracted well over 40 members and visitors. With plenty of time to enjoy the exhibits, as the weather prevented the flying program, visitors enjoyed a social and informative interlude. The Museum development continues at a rapid pace, with 58 gliders, a covered enlarged paintshop completed and continued progress towards the ultimate aim of a public museum. The Committee thanked all volunteers and members for their continued efforts in the many facets of development of the museum. A delicious barbeque and salad lunch followed, with more socialising in the delightful and stimulating museum environment through the afternoon.



The prototype Phonix, the world's first fibreglass glider, flew in November 1957, almost 60 years ago. Eight were built, with the prototype now in the Deutsches Museum in Munich - see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Akaflieg_Stuttgart_FS-24_Phonix number three, fitted with a T tail and retractable undercarriage, was purchased some years ago from Hans Disma in Holland by John Ashford. This has now passed to the Australian Gliding Museum and was recently assembled for display as the featured aircraft for 2016/17. It is positioned beside the delightful gull-winged Golden Eagle from 1937, stark contrast and emphasising the remarkable development of gliding over the intervening twenty years. It is hoped to return the Phonix to flying condition in the coming year, to be flown by Museum members.