

## 1947-1948 Bert Mundy

In 1947, the most popular film was Forever Amber, starring Linda Darnell and Cornel Wilde. It was described as an adventure, drama, romance film. The film is about a young woman from the country who enters into nobility in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century, but loses her true love in the transition. The most popular song for the year was Near You by Francis Craig.



During President Mundy's year, the Axedale Camp dominated discussion at Board meetings.

Not only did the Youth Camp require lots of formal paperwork to be completed, but also the camp required lots of work to be undertaken. Large amounts of money needed to be spent to ensure it would meet all government accommodation and safety requirements.

Furthermore, another issue that would of caused President Mundy much concern was the official opening of the

Youth Camp was only 6 months away and everything had to be completed by that date.



With the opening of the Camp planned for April 3, 1948, tight targets were in place to ensure everything would be ready. A special, Youth Camp committee was formed from members of the Club and 4 representatives from the National Fitness Organization. They immediately set about

completing the paperwork and purchasing furnishings and other necessities.

### **Constitution**

The writing of the Constitution of the Axedale Youth Camp was undertaken by members Vic Smyth (Chair) and Charley Baker (Secretary). They were told to confer with the National Fitness Organization and to co-opt Rotarian Jonathan Smalley to assist them. Later, they wrote to Hobart Rotary Club to obtain a copy of the constitution governing their Youth Camp to assist them produce the document.

### **Name**

At a Board meeting, a motion was passed to call the Youth Camp: Rotary's Campaspe Camp. At another Board meeting, Past President Biggs and Secretary Smyth moved a new motion that the camp be called: Rotary Youth Camp, Axedale.

### **Lease**

The land at the Youth Camp was Leased in Trusteeship from the Lands Board. The Club wanted a 21 year Lease on the Youth Camp.

### **Safety, insurance, furnishings and maintenance**

With respect to safety, a Fire Break had to be made around the buildings. Furthermore, an engine and pump needed to be installed.

Furnishings, for the Youth Camp, were purchased from the Disposal Commission. Extensive Insurance Cover was paid and a working bee was organized to ensure the whole Youth Camp was thoroughly

cleaned. The Club conferred with W. Lienhop that grazing would be undertaken on the camp site.

A fireplace was also built and trees were planted at the Youth Camp.

### **Kitchen**

The Army allowed the committee to purchase an Army kitchen no longer in use and it was transported to the Youth Camp.

### **Money**

Since the idea came up to have a Youth Camp, members were constantly asked to commit more money to ensure the Youth Camp became a reality. For example, the Club was initially appealing for 200 Pounds from members, later 300 Pounds, 500 Pounds, etc. Inner Wheel were also asked and one donation they gave was 50 Pounds, a considerable sum of money at the time.

### **Flag Pole**

The PPP Society erected a flag pole and donated a flag for the Youth Camp.



**President Bert Mundy addressing the crowd at the opening.**

The Club hired 3 buses to assist guests attend the opening of the Youth Camp.

Vic. Smyth was especially mentioned for his magnificent work along with many others in District 65 ensuring the Youth Camp was completed on time.

The first campers to use the Axedale camp were 50 members of the Young Farmers Club.

The Viking Club and Girl Guides were two of the first organisations to apply to use the new Camp facilities.



D.G John Edgar at microphone, President Bert Mundy at table.



Chapel at Youth Camp

*It is a real credit to all the Rotarians and Inner Wheel members for their generosity with establishing a Youth Camp. Without the considerable funds they provided, there would have been no Rotary Youth Camp built at Axedale.*

### **Club Meetings**



The Club looked at purchasing a picture of the King for when members undertook a Royal Toast at the beginning of meetings.

The number system used from 1-50 to ensure members at meetings mixed with others and stopped cliques was abolished during the year.

Board Meetings changed from the

customary Wednesday night to Friday night.

Lady Baden Powel was a guest speaker on December 4.

On July 8, members undertook an Industry Visit to the Ordnance Factory.

### **Pennants**

The Club looked at purchasing pennants to distribute to members that visited other Clubs.

### **Echuca Rotary Club**

The Rotary Club of Bendigo was to act as the official sponsor of the Rotary Club of Echuca. A Rotary Bell, made by Rotarian Herb Holland, delighted the new Rotarians in Echuca when it was presented to them as a gift. Many other members of our Club were there to witness the event.

### **Father Xmas**

Rotarian Owen Williams surprised residents of Bendigo Benevolent Home and Bendigo Base Hospital when he came as Santa Claus to bring cheer to all during Xmas.



Some of the donations given this year involved The Bendigo Base Hospital, The Benevolent Home, Rotarian Clarnette Appeal, Syd Mellis Appeal, The Salvation Army, Bendigo Home for the Blind and The Returned Soldiers Xmas Treat.



CAMP SITE AND BUILDING COMMITTEE.

(To decide position of the buildings and the lay-out of the camp and surroundings, and to supervise the construction of all camp buildings.)

G. Mills (Chairman) J. L. Howard, D. McCauley, V. Smyth,  
J. Perrow, C. W. Baker, E. Sandner, S. Proud, E. Cambridge,  
H. Jones, J. Schenck, J. Barton, M. Spencer, N. Oliver, F. Smith.

CAMP TRANSPORT COMMITTEE.

(To arrange all transport of men and material as required for construction of camp.)

H. S. Catling (Chairman) G. Pethard, S. Armstrong, H. Fraser,  
F. Stevenson, J. Conn, F. Oldfield, W. Pain.

CAMP LEGAL COMMITTEE.

T. Williams (Chairman) J. Smalley.

CAMP FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A. Davies (Chairman) E. Granger, J. Tredinnick, P. McKean,  
W. Rickards.

CAMP PUBLICITY COMMITTEE.

B. Mundy, T. Haynes.