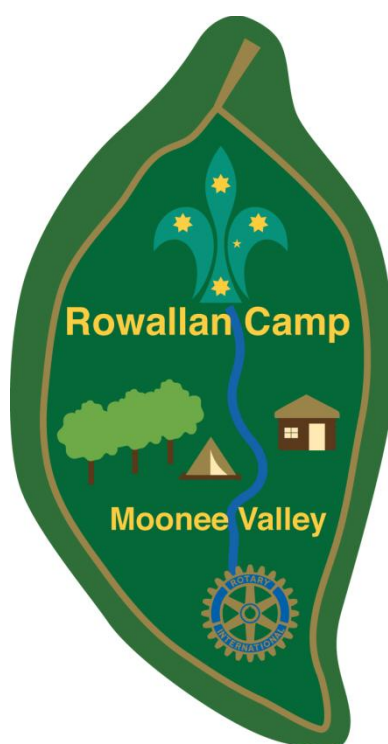


# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP

## HISTORY 1946 TO 2019



This document is based on the Rotary Club of Essendon notes received on 10/12/2002, from the Essendon District Scouts Archives/Minutes and notes from Essendon District Guides.

The research, compilation and typing was carried out, and completed in April 2015 by Mr. J. Paterson OAM, Mr. R. T. P. Arends & Mrs. L. Benton.

Proofing, formatting and finalisation completed by Mr. R. A. Arends.

Subsequent updates by Rudolf Arends & Robert Arends



# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

## CONTENTS

The Development Of the Scout Camp At Rowallan. ....	5
The Development Of The Guide Camp At Rowallan. ....	11
APPENDIX A – Significant People Involved In The Camp.....	14
APPENDIX B – Glossary Of Names At The Rowallan Rotary Camp.....	20
APPENDIX C – Honour Roll Of Assistant Wardens Of Rowallan Camp.....	23
APPENDIX D – A Timeline Of Significant Events In The Camp.....	24
APPENDIX E – Photos At Rowallan. ....	67
APPENDIX F – Maps At Rowallan.....	80



# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

## THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCOUT CAMP AT ROWALLAN.

This is the story of Rowallan Rotary Scout Camp a wonderful gift to the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides of the Essendon District from the Rotary Club of Essendon.

The camp began as a Rotary Youth project by the Youth Service Committee of the Rotary Club of Essendon at the instigation of Jack Cahill. On the 10<sup>th</sup> September 1946 eleven Rotarians contributed £50.00 each and purchased 183 acres in the Catherine Valley at Riddells Creek for a youth Forestry camp. The purpose of the camp was for city boys and girls to plant and tend to trees in an atmosphere of camp life and to obtain an appreciation of water and forests in Australia. The property became known as the Riddells Youth Camp.

In 1947 the Shire of Romsey constructed a road over the existing track to the Camp Site. Rotarians held fortnightly working bees at the camp and in 1948 huts were erected on the site. These huts were purchased from the Prisoner-of war camp at Nathalia and transported to the camp in sections. They were delivered free of charge by Mr. Lou Arthur. In spite of his protestations a china cabinet was presented to Mrs. Arthur by the Rotarians as a token of their appreciation. In lieu of the usual Christmas party the Rotarians and their families visited the Riddell Rotary Youth camp and spent an enjoyable day there. The fruit of their labour was evident in the buildings erected, trees planted and the road formations to the main hill top camp.

To secure water for the camp it was proposed to pump water from the main Creek up 400 feet to the HQ Camp at the top of the hill. While discussions about the pumping house were being held on site the Past President Mr. J. Bradbury, while crossing a natural bridge of a fallen tree trunk, over the creek, slipped and fell head first into the pool. The small waterfall which drops about 4 feet into the pool was therefore named Bradbury's fall and was so labelled by the Boy Scouts.

In 1949 a diesel pumping unit capable of raising water the required 400 feet was purchased, at a cost of £126, and installed. This brought the Camp to the half completed stage. Negotiations were then held with the Education Department with a view to handing over the camp to the youth of Essendon. Rotarian President, Mr. Eric Stinton, visited the site with the Director of Education on the 1<sup>st</sup> September 1949. The Education Department declined the offer of the camp as the stipulation by the Rotary Club of Essendon was for use by the Youth of Essendon only and not state wide.

From 1947 the Essendon District Scout Association was looking at various sites in Keilor, Arundel and Broadmeadows for a suitable property to purchase and turn into a District Scout Camp. A building development fund was started and discussions held with the relevant authorities to determine whether a Scout Camp with appropriate buildings would be approved at these sites. By late 1949 approval was almost in place

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 To 2019

for a 1½ acre campsite off Arundel Road near the Keilor Bridge on the Maribyrnong River within Keilor Shire.

The Arundel camp proposal came to an abrupt end with the offer by the Club of Essendon of the current Rowallan Camp site, at Riddells Creek, in early 1950 to the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides of Essendon and after an inspection on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1950 the offer was gladly accepted.

At that stage the main camp on the hill consisted of Dining and Kitchen facilities, a dormitory [with mattresses on the floor], ablution block, sanitation block, hot water service, a 32v Electric light battery plant and a diesel water pumping station at the creek. It had cost the Rotary Club of Essendon £4,000 (not including labour costs) on top of the original land purchase price of £550.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> December 1950, at Rowallan Camp, there was a handing over ceremony of the management of the Rotary Youth Camp to the Scouts and Guides of Essendon District by the President of the Rotary Club of Essendon Mr. E. Shortland. The Chief Scout of Victoria G.W.S. Anderson accepted the handover of the camp on behalf of the Essendon District Scouts. The camp was to be run by a management committee comprising of 3 Rotarians (Mr. Francis Desmond Nunan, Mr. Allan Field Showers, and Mr. John Francis Cahill), 3 Scouters and 2 Guide representatives and to be run until such time as the Rotary Club was satisfied with the management of the camp by the Scouts.

The Camp was then officially named Rowallan Rotary Camp after Lord Rowallan who had succeeded Lord Baden-Powell as Chief Scout.

In 1952 it was estimated by the Management Committee that the maintenance of the camp would amount to £200 per annum and it was agreed that this would be funded by a District fee of 10/- per youth member per year (which sum remained unchanged until it was doubled to \$2.00 in 1988) and that the maintenance would be carried out by the Scout Groups of Essendon District. Mr. Ron Horne was appointed the first Camp Warden in 1950.

In March 1952 a parlour coach was bought for £400 by the district to transport the Essendon Scouts to the Camp. All Scout Groups were invited to select an area on which they could erect their Group's hut many of which were dotted throughout the forest area.

In May 1952 a Guide Hut was erected on the flat area of the old homestead.

A field Day was held at the camp on the 16<sup>th</sup> November 1952 and a plaque reading "This Camp was established by the Rotary Club of Essendon for the Benefit of Youth" was unveiled in the dining room of the main camp called HQ Camp by the Chief Commissioner of Scouts in Victoria, Mr. C. Roy Nicholls. A presentation was also made by the Essendon Commissioner of Girl Guides, Mrs. T. A. Alston, to the Rotary Club of

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

Essendon via its President Mr. R. K. Morgan of a "Thanks Badge". This, Mrs. Alston explained, entitled the holders [Rotary Club] to call on the Guides at any time for assistance.

The camp improvements continued with new roads and culverts in the forest and new beds (21 for £21) and mattresses (21 for £15) to the HQ Camp.

On 8<sup>th</sup> August 1953 the Rotary Club of Essendon decided to hand over the control of the Camp to the Local Association of Boys Scouts and Girl guides on their Rotary day, 15<sup>th</sup> November.

At about this time Broadmeadows District joined Essendon District at the camp.

The transfer of the deeds and title of the Rotary Youth camp, which consisted of six legal documents and which was approved on 18<sup>th</sup> August 1954, took place at the camp on 13<sup>th</sup> March 1955. The formal ceremony was performed in a beautiful Australian Bush setting in a tree shaded vale at the camp. Lt. Colonel Keith Farquhar, District Commissioner of Scouts in Essendon received the official guests. The official party was seated facing the Scouts and Guides and the Visitors seated on the hillside.

After singing the national anthem Lt. Colonel Keith Farquhar referred to the death on 26<sup>th</sup> October 1954 of Ron Horne the 1<sup>st</sup> camp warden who had worked so hard for the improvement of the Camp since its occupation. He proposed a Chapel be built on a suitable site to Ron Horne's memory.

The handing over ceremony of the Deeds and title was formally carried out by the President of the Rotary Club of Essendon, Mr. Syd Mills to Mr. F.R.G. Sanderson [General Secretary], who accepted the documents on behalf of the Boy Scouts Association of Victoria. Mr. Sanderson expressed grateful thanks for all that Rotary had done for Youth and made a presentation of a large Scouts Honour Badge, being the highest form of Scout Thanks, for the gift of the property. Similar badges were presented to the Rotarians Mr. F. Des Nunan, Mr. Alan Showers and Mr. Jack F. Cahill who were the original trustees of the camp and who were prominently associated with the camp's acquisition and establishment.

In 1956 the Ron Horne memorial Chapel, which was to be built from Kilmore Stone, from a disused railway cutting, was started to a design by Architect Mr. Des Smith, a 7<sup>th</sup> Essendon parent, and drawn by draughtsman Mr. Keith Walter, Scout Master of 2<sup>nd</sup> Glenroy. It was completed in early 1959 at a cost of £488 and was dedicated by the Reverend D. Macrae on the 19<sup>th</sup> April 1959. Ron Horne's ashes are in the wall behind a plaque donated by his old Group 1<sup>st</sup> Moonee Ponds. The Tallowood Cross was donated by the 7<sup>th</sup> Essendon Scout Group and it was remarkable that in the 1983 Bush fires, that destroyed the Camp, the Cross remained unscathed.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

After the disastrous floods of 1957 the main access bridge and road, which had been destroyed, were repaired by a local man Mr. Jack Poulton under the supervision of Romsey Shire Council engineer Mr. Liston.

The original planning scheme for the camp, which had been presented to Rotary in September 1950 by the Essendon District, included a swimming pool. This was expected to cost about £5,000 but the determined efforts of Mr. Albert Anderson and Mr. Fred Warnock, Secretary and Treasurer of the District Association respectively, resulted in the contract for its construction being let in 1961 for £1,176 and the pool was opened on the 9<sup>th</sup> December 1961 by Maj. General R. J. H. Risson, Chief Scout of Victoria. A Flying Fox from the nearby trees across the water gave heaps of fun.

In the late 1950's a 2" water line was laid from the Hill tanks to the forest camping areas with plans for 7 spur lines. By 1964 most of the water supply lines to the forest had been completed. The SEC installed electrical power to the HQ Camp at a cost of £640 which was a great improvement on the 32volt generator/battery system. Reticulation of the SEC power throughout the camp would cost a further £250.

In 1959, 16<sup>th</sup> Essendon was given a Nissan hut which they erected at Rowallan Camp and named it Farquhar Lodge. It burnt down in 1976.

In 1964 a bridge was built across the creek near the pool to the camping grounds at Angel's Flight. It was a simple affair, 2 poles across the creek and a decking. This bridge was destroyed in the 1983 bushfire and floods afterwards. In 1965 a swing bridge was proposed across the gully near the chapel and was designed by Mr. Alan Stokes, a Queen's Scout at 17<sup>th</sup> Essendon. It was built by the Burke and Wills Rover Crew. The bridge was partly destroyed by the 1983 bushfire. A new "Swing" bridge was designed by Mr. Rudolf Arends, of 15<sup>th</sup> Essendon, and constructed with the help of members of his and the Marks family in 1992.

In 1967 a classroom from the Bank St School in Ascot Vale was donated and moved to Rowallan HQ Camp for £600.

Because of the continuous problems with the lack of water in the creek a permanent unfiltered water supply was obtained from the Riddells Creek storage dam in 1968.

In 1968 the Scouts started the planting of Pine trees on the western slopes of the HQ Camp site as this was part of the original Rotary intention for the camp.

By 1969 a 6 pan ablutions block had been constructed in the forest with 2 septic tanks for about £800, The creek was flowing, the pool was full, the perimeter fence completed and at HQ Camp 2 electric and 2 wood stoves were installed. The only shadow in this utopia is the increasing reference to vandalism and theft. Rocks and bottles were thrown in the pool. A hot water service and lots of copper piping, mattresses and fire extinguishers were stolen and the new ablutions block damaged as



# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

were the HQ Camp buildings. All this because there was no resident warden on site hence plans were mooted for a House to be built for a Warden to live on site.

Throughout the 1970's roads were cut and repaired, trees planted, constant painting and plastering upgrades to HQ Camp buildings, along with an extension to the ablutions block and annual repairs to the pool to try to fix leaks are all evidence of a lot of work and all carried out by voluntary labour. It is interesting to note that by the late 1970's as a prelude to drought and the 1983 bushfires, wood is scarce for fires and needed to be brought in.

By 1980 after many years of maintenance it was time for an upgrade and so a new commercial style kitchen extension, designed by Mr. Rudolf Arends, was built to the HQ Camp to replace the old dilapidated one at a cost of \$16,502 and the following year the dining room and leader's sleeping area were bricked in. A large LPG gas tank was installed to supply gas to a new hot water service in the ablutions block and gas heaters in the dining room. Prior to this, a daily task was to stoke the fire in the Boiler Room for hot water, and open fires in the fireplaces in the Dining Room and Dormitory.

In 1982 a new 24 bed dormitory, designed by Mr. Rudolf Arends, was also constructed at a cost of \$13,700.

In 1983 the Mt. Macedon Ranges bushfires destroyed the Dormitory, the School Room and a number of small sheds of the HQ Camp and damaged the roofs of the kitchen/dining complex and the ablutions block, but left the recently built 24 bed dormitory with only some paint damage. The forest ablutions block and Warnock Lodge were only slightly damaged. The camp management committee used this rebuilding opportunity to design a better camp. The design and drawings were completed by Mr. Rudolf Arends and the rebuilding was completed by early 1984 [including an Assistant Warden's cottage] and opened on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 1984. The rebuilding could not have occurred without the work of Mr. Wes Lee in achieving the maximum insurance payout of \$94,380.

In 1989 further improvements were made with the extending and renovation of the HQ Camp ablutions block.

In 1989 Lt. Col K. Farquhar [the first District Commissioner (DC) of Rowallan] died and his ashes were placed in the Chapel's Harcourt Granite lectern, [which was organised by Mr. Rudolf Arends], on 12 December 1991.

To provide more activities for the youth who use the camp, in 1993 a forest Initiative Course and in 1995 an amphitheatre were built. In 1999 a basketball and volley ball court were also built at the HQ Camp.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 To 2019

A redistribution of Council boundaries in 1997 saw the City of Essendon become part of the new City of Moonee Valley and the Scout District boundary and name followed suit.

The accreditation of the camp with the Camping Association of Victoria in 2000 was a landmark and the result of much research and effort by the Committee. A new booking and information system by booking officers Mr. Robert and Mrs. Helen Arends enabled the camp to be run more efficiently since 2000.

Robert established a website which has made the camp information accessible to many more organisations and hence increased the patronage of the camp.

The result of running the camp more effectively and efficiently and being accredited meant that more youth were using the camp and from a wider source such as schools and church groups. It also meant that the camp no longer needed any subsidies from the District.

It also meant that the management committee were able to upgrade the camp further with the additional monies received and to implement further one of the original Rotary principles of environmental sustainability. This has been achieved with the installation of a 2kV solar (PV) power system, rainwater tanks with a capacity of 130kL and sediment and UV water filtration system. The water filtration system was made possible with the help of a \$16,000 grant from the Strathmore Bendigo Bank.

The Rotary Club of Essendon is thanked again for their great gift to the Essendon District Scouts and Guides of the camp in 1950 and for their continuous involvement and monetary grants over the years since the Scouts have been running and managing the Rowallan Rotary Scout Camp. An open day and Presentation to the Club of Essendon were held on the 14<sup>th</sup> October 2001 at the HQ Camp, celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the handing over of the Deeds and Title.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

## THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE GUIDE CAMP AT ROWALLAN.

On the 25<sup>th</sup> May 1952, at a working bee, a hut was erected for the Guides on the old homestead site.

In November 1955, a meeting was held at Guide Headquarters, with Mrs. S. Long presiding, to reorganise Guide outdoor camping. The Western Suburbs Division camp Committee was formed and equipment which belonged to Essendon District was to be transferred to the Division and administered by the Division Camp Committee.

The Rowallan Camp buildings, which were the property of the Scouts, could be booked by Guides for indoor camping through the normal Scout channels.

In 1958 the Sheila Cameron Camp Committee was formed and assumed management of the Guides area. Working bees were organised from time to time, trees planted, fencing attended to and general tidying up of the camp site. Further equipment was purchased in 1959 and was sorted and marked by the Committee.

At a meeting in August 1961 Miss Joan McNab outlined the history of the Sheila Cameron Camp which, as part of the Rowallan Rotary Camp, was also given to the Essendon District Guides for their use and improvement. Essendon District Guides, other Sections of the Division and now other Districts were to share in the Development of the site and the camping facilities at Rowallan Camp. To this end improved indoor camping facilities were needed. Plans for a proposed building were produced and enabled the start for generating funds towards the beginning of indoor camp building.

A special Open day was held in May 1964 for the start of the building project and it was agreed to name the building "Minda Killara" after Miss Joan McNab who had done so much for Guiding in the District. Minda meaning house and Killara, Miss McNab's camp name, meaning "Always Here".

The building was opened on 28<sup>th</sup> March 1965 and attended by Guiding personnel, Councillors, Rotarians and their families. It was still not finished so working bees continued until the end of 1965. Trees were planted through the "Plant Evergreen" project and in December of that year the Toilet block was completed.

In February 1966 a new Camp committee was formed with Mrs. H. C. Curwen-Walker as convenor. The building of the extension to Minda Killara commenced while fund raising projects were planned and carried out successfully. The committee decided to approach Guide headquarters for a loan to complete the house. This was granted in August 1966 and drawn upon in February 1967 when Mr. Bruce Keam offered to organise the extensions and sub contract the work.

In 1966 SEC power was extended to the Guide camp.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

The Girl Guide opportunity shop was opened in Napier Street Essendon in 1969. Voluntary helpers were plentiful as were donated items to stock the shop. In 1970 the shop moved to Russell St. Essendon where it remains a constant source of income for the maintenance of the camp. Because of the work of the opportunity shop, extensions to Minda Killara were able to be started.

The house was finally complete and officially opened on 9<sup>th</sup> April 1967 by Mrs. Joyce Price, State Commissioner for Victoria. The drive in to Minda Killara was officially named Showers Drive after Rotarian Mr. Alan Showers, one of the original purchasers of the land by the Rotary Club of Essendon. Members of the Guide and Scout Movements, Rotarians, Councillors and their families attended.

Thanks Badges were presented to Mr. Bruce Keam and Mrs. Curwen-Walker for their tremendous efforts in the completion of the building. Trees were planted by the State Guide Commissioner, the Camp Warden Lt. Colonel Walter Murphy, Sister Cecilia and Commissioners of the Essendon Division. The now completed camp was officially named "Sheila Cameron Camp".

Since 1967, with the help of many Districts, Local Associations, camp fees and opportunity shop takings it has been able to complete the furnishing of the house and carry out the continuous maintenance. Minda Killara House is booked throughout the year, including school holidays, and hundreds of Rangers, Guides and Brownies have spent happy times there. Lt. Colonel Walter Murphy, the Camp Warden has been a source of strength and inspiration to all. He was presented with a Thanks Badge for all the help and guidance he had given over many years

Outdoor camping had been the goal to which the Sheila Cameron Camp Committee and the Region have been aiming at for some time. In March 1974 the first steps were taken to construct an ablution block under the guidance of Lt. Colonel W. Murphy. Work was delayed by the weather and the hoped for target of September was not achieved. The ablution block was completed in October 1975. Now the camp was able to introduce outdoor camping to all Guiding personnel throughout the State. This outdoor camping area is named the Walter Murphy Campsite as a fitting tribute to the man who did so much for all of Rowallan Camp and Guiding and Scouting generally.

By 1976 The Guide outdoor toilet complex was fully completed.

Unfortunately the 22 February 1983 Mt. Macedon bushfires destroyed Minda Killara but not the outdoor ablutions block nor the Aerie. With insurance and the help of various organisations plans were drawn up for a new and better Minda Killara. Construction started in late 1983 with the official opening being held on 14th October 1984.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

There was a lot of damage caused by a large electrical storm in 1986.

In 1991 roads within the campsite were bituminised with the help of Mr. Rudolf Arends and in addition the Yvonne Drake shelter was built and opened.

In 1994 a Haynes Bushfire protection sprinkler system was installed to the roofs of all the buildings with the help of a very generous \$30,000 donation by the Rotary Club of Essendon.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

## APPENDIX A – SIGNIFICANT PEOPLE INVOLVED IN THE CAMP.

A List of the significant people who helped make the camp what it is today.

### ALBERT E ANDERSON.

Born 28/4/1901 – Died 21/12/1981.

Albert started as a Parent at 2<sup>nd</sup> Essendon in 1948. He and his wife joined the Group committee and she became Group secretary. He became a delegate to the District Association (DA) becoming an Executive Committee member in 1950 and later District Secretary, which position he held for 20 years. In 1954 he proposed a scheme for the future development of the camp which enabled the DA to finance the project to develop the Camp.

In 1959 he became a member of the Joint Camp Control Committee which, with Broadmeadows District, operated to develop the camp. He became Booking Secretary and later one of the 3 Trustees for the camp.

Albert was awarded the Gold Thanks Badge and later the 15 year Long service award. By 1979 Albert had given 24 years of service to Scouting and Rowallan Rotary Camp.

### FRED WARNOCK.

Treasurer to Essendon District Scout Association 1955 - 1966.

With Albert Anderson he maintained the lighting and water pumping plants at the camp. Fred organised the financing of the swimming pool, which originally was estimated at about £5,000, but was finally built for £1,176 with the combined expertise of Albert Anderson.

In 1968 they arranged for a new water supply scheme bringing water 2 miles from the Riddells Creek storage dam at Mt. Teneriffe and eliminating the need for the creek pumping system.

### LT. COLONEL KEITH FARQUHAR-OAM.

Born 25/1/1903 – Died 9/9/1989.

Essendon District Commissioner – 1947-1971.

He became a Scout in 1913 at the age of 10 at 1<sup>st</sup> Adelaide Sea Scouts. The family moved to Hawthorn in Adelaide (Sth. Aust.) and in 1918 Keith earned his Kings Scout award. Eventually he became the founding Scout Master there. In 1930 Keith became the District Scout Master and then after moving to Melbourne, the District Commissioner of Essendon District.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

In 1937 Keith received the Medal of Merit for his services to Scouting and in 1965 a Bar to his Medal. Keith had also joined the Army Reserve rising to the level of Lt. Colonel. In 1947 Keith and his young family moved to Essendon (Victoria) and became its District Commissioner.

He received the gift of the Rowallan Rotary Camp from Rotary in 1950 and later the Deeds and Title on the 13<sup>th</sup> March 1955. Keith was a great organiser of people and through his efforts, the Rowallan Rotary Camp grew steadily until he retired in 1971. In 1981 Keith received an OAM for his services to Scouting. Keith's ashes were placed in the lectern in the Ron Horne Memorial Chapel on the 1/12/1991.

## MAJOR GENERAL R.R. GORDON, CBE; DSC; ED.

Born 13/3/1907 – Died.

Roy Gordon after having had a distinguished WW2 career, in 1956 became a Vice President of the Essendon District Scouting Association. A position he held for 6 years.

In 1962 Roy Gordon became Chairman of the District Association. A position he held for 11 years finishing in 1970.

Roy then became Vice President of the Hoadley Area till 1973 and then became President of the Hoadley Area.

## LIEUTENANT COLONEL WALTER VIVIAN MURPHY

Born 16/3/1907 – Died 29/2/1984

Walter came to Victoria from NSW where he served and became the Regimental Sergeant Major to the 30<sup>th</sup> Battalion Scottish Regiment.

In 1964 Walter started the 2<sup>nd</sup> Keilor Scout group and became its first Scout Master. From 1968-1976 he was the camp warden at Rowallan Camp and it was in this capacity that Walter is mostly remembered for the many hours of work he spent there maintaining and upgrading the camp.

After the 1983 "Ash Wednesday" bushfires, Walter gathered all his Masonic friends and organised the removal of all the fallen and dangerous trees at the camp including arranging for a bulldozer to level part of the top of the hill for the new HQ Camp.

Walter was also heavily involved in the rebuilding of the Girl Guide camp and the rebuilding of Minda Killara.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

## WESLEY LEE

Born 1925 – Died.

In 1963 Wes joined the 9<sup>th</sup> Essendon Scout Group as a member on the parent's committee because his son John had joined as a Cub.

In 1969 Wes was asked to join the Essendon District Scout Association (DA) as a committee member on which he stayed till 1994 in the capacity of either secretary or treasurer. It was during his time as secretary of the DA that his skills came to the fore in his capacity to negotiate and view problems very clearly.

Wes was heavily involved with Rowallan Camp in organising the funding and the contracts for the building of the new kitchen in 1981 and the 24 bed dormitory in 1982.

In 1983 after the bushfires, Wes and Mr. Rudolf Arends negotiated with the insurance company to achieve the maximum payout thus enabling the rebuilding of the Rowallan Camp to the great standard that it is today. Presidents Award 1997.

## JACK PATERSON OAM

Born 19/5/1930.

Jack joined 2<sup>nd</sup> Essendon as a Cub in 1940 and as a Scout till 1948. Then later he continued with 2<sup>nd</sup> Essendon as an ASM and Scout Master till 1972. In that year Jack moved to 17<sup>th</sup> Essendon where he became Scout Leader and acting Group Leader till 1982. He was then asked to become the District SL till 1987 when he became the District Commissioner (DC) till 1995.

During his time as SL and DSL, Jack collected bottles to increase the income for the camp. When Jack finished as DC he came onto the Rowallan Management Committee in August 1995 and is still a very active member helping out at working bees and lots of maintenance work such as painting, which is his trade. Jack is also a member of the Scout Fellowship and the Scout Heritage centre. Jack received an OAM for his services to Scouting in 2002.

## RUDOLF T. P. ARENDS

Born 8/11/1945.

Rudolf started his Scouting career as President of the 15<sup>th</sup> Essendon Sea Scouts parent's committee in 1978 after his eldest son Robert became a Cub Scout there in 1975. In 1987 he became the Group Leader there till 1995, then returned as Group Leader from 2006 to 2011. During that time he also gave his time to the Essendon District Scout Association (DA) and hence his architectural expertise was used to design the new kitchen and a 24 bed dormitory at Rowallan Camp in 1981 and 1982 respectively.



# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

Rudolf was still on the DA committee when the 1983 bushfires ravaged the Rowallan Camp. Again his architectural expertise came to the fore in redesigning the camp layout and then to organise the documentation and the construction of all the new buildings.

Once the camp and cottage had been built and re-opened in 1984, Rudolf was then heavily involved on the management committee with maintenance and working bees and designing and organising replacement infrastructure such as the Swing bridge, the Swimming pool bridge, and a new second bridge across the creek to Angel's Flight, including additional activities such as the Initiative, Low Ropes and Orienteering courses.

Rudolf continues being on the Rowallan Camp management committee after many years and is still giving of his valuable time and expertise.

## DECLON O'FARRELL

Born 4/4/1966

In 1975 Declon started his Scouting career at 15<sup>th</sup> Essendon Sea Scouts as a Cub Scout progressing through to Venturers where he achieved his Queen Scout award in 1982 and then onto Rovers.

While still a venturer he became an assistant Cub Scout leader with 5<sup>th</sup> Essendon for 1.5 years [till it closed] and also helped out at the 6<sup>th</sup> Melbourne Cub Scout pack.

Declon assisted on most weekends carrying out maintenance work and gardening at the Rowallan Scout camp.

It was from these many visits that Declon's love for the camp grew. Consequently after the 1983 bushfires you would find Declon there most weekends helping out with the clearing of rubbish and with the many rebuilding projects such as carpark retaining walls.

In 1987 he joined 15<sup>th</sup> Essendon Sea Scouts as the assistant Cub Scout leader for three years, then Akela for the next five years after which he stopped being a Leader to start a family.

In 1993 Declon joined the Rowallan Management committee and helped out with maintenance and working bees. His expertise in painting meant that a lot of painting works were either carried out or organised by him. His knowledge in trade matters has been invaluable in the continual maintenance and upgrading of the camp.

Declon currently serves as the Chairman of the Rowallan Camp management committee.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

## ROBERT. ARENDS

Born 21/2/1967.

Robert (Rob) has been in Scouting since 1975, when he started as a Cub Scout at 15<sup>th</sup> Essendon Sea Scouts. He continued through Scouts, Venturers, obtained his Queen's Scout Award at Monash Venturer Unit, and Rovers at Evans Rover Crew and later at Keith Farquhar Rover Crew. In late 1991 he became a Scout Leader at 15<sup>th</sup> Essendon Sea Scouts till 1993. From time to time he would help at camp working bees.

Rob left Scouting but still helped his father Rudolf Arends around the camp.

In 2000, Rob and his wife Helen, joined the Rowallan Committee as Booking Officers and modernised the booking processes.

Rob is an I.T. professional, and used his skill to create a web presence and email addresses for the camp. In 2013-2016 he supported successive new treasurers learn the ropes as they transitioned in to their role. In 2016 he took on the additional role of Treasurer after the last Treasurer left, whilst still handling bookings.

Rob's I.T. experience has shown through in many areas, notably creating a "Cloud" archive of the camp's records; assisting in creating and formatting the documentation required for accreditation; building a Cellular Internet link with directional antenna; and a solar PV system for lighting the Forest Toilet block.

Rob currently serves as the Treasurer and Booking Officer of the Rowallan Scout Camp management committee.

## ELIZABETH BENTON

Mrs. Elizabeth "Liz" Benton, first became involved with Scouts in 1984 when her elder son joined 17th Essendon Scout Group. She served as secretary on the Group committee before becoming Group Leader in 1987, five years later she became the group's Scout Leader. In 1995 she went on to Assistant District Commissioner Leader Training and then District Commissioner in 1999, a position she held for two years, before taking on the role of Rowallan Scout Camp Committee Honorary Secretary in 2002 and continues serving to this day. Her Scout awards include; 1998 - Certificate of Merit; 2004 - Silver Wattle; 2014 - Distinguished Service Award; 2018 - 30 Year Service Award.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 To 2019

## STEPHEN RAHILL

Steve started his Scouting in Cub Scouts in March 1991 at 1st/10th Essendon. He progressed through all the sections of Scouting, he was a Venturer at Strathmore Venturers and a Rover at Keith Farquhar Rover Crew, whilst still registered with his home group. In 2008 he went on to be a Venturer Leader at 2nd Footscray. In 2009 he took on an extra role as part of the Rowallan Scout Camp Committee, this became his focus from 2012 to this day. His Scout awards include; 2008 - WF Waters Rover Service Award; 2018 - Special Service Award; 2018 - 10 year Service Award.

## GARY HOWARD

Gary first Joined Cubs in 1967 at 3rd Essendon after Cubs he moved to Scouts at 2nd Essendon in 1971, he continues his scouting with that group, in 1979 he became a Venturer Leader and then in 1983 became the VL at Monash Venturer Unit and then in 1999 a Rover Advisor at Keith Farquhar Rover Crew, a position he currently holds, also he is a member of Scout Heritage Victoria. Over the years Gary has helped at Rowallan Scout Camp with building maintenance, projects and the cutting up of downed trees. His Scout awards include; 1995 - Certificate of Merit; 2000 - Silver Wattle; 2006 - WF Waters Rover Service Award; 2010 - Silver Koala; 2017 - Silver Emu; 2019 - 40 year Service Award.

## JASON TROY

Jason started his Scouting in 1983 as a Cub Scout at 15th Essendon Sea Scouts and he progressed through all the sections; he was a Venturer with Monash Venturer Unit and a Rover at Keith Farquhar Rover Crew, whilst remaining registered to his home group. In 2013 he took on the role of Assistant Group Leader at 15th Essendon and became the Group Leader in 2015, a position he currently holds. Jason has been involved in numerous projects at Rowallan. His Scout awards include; 2000 - Baden Powell Scout Award; 2000 - WF Waters Rover Service Award; 2017 - 10 year Service Award

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

## APPENDIX B – GLOSSARY OF NAMES AT THE ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP

A list and description of the names of the roads and buildings in the Rowallan Rotary Scout Camp and who they were named after.

### ANDERSON DRIVE.

Mr. G. W. S. Anderson, Chief Commissioner Boys Scouts Association of Victoria.

### ANGEL'S FLIGHT.

Mr. Ernest Angel, Councillor of Broadmeadows City Council and active member and helper at Rowallan Rotary Camp when Broadmeadows District joined Essendon District Scouts.

### BADEN-POWELL DRIVE

Lord Robert Baden-Powell, (February 22, 1857 - January 8, 1941) was a soldier, writer and founder of the world Scouting movement (1907).

### BENTON WALK

Mrs. Elizabeth (Liz) Benton, Rowallan Scout Camp Secretary 2002 – current.

### CAHILL TRAIL.

Mr. "Jack" John Francis Cahill, one of 11 Rotarians from Rotary Club of Essendon who each donated £50 to buy the land which became Rowallan Rotary Scout Camp. He was also one of the first 3 trustees of the camp. Jack Cahill had the original idea of creating a forestry camp for youth.

### FARQUHAR CRESCENT.

Lt. Col. K. Farquhar OAM. Essendon District Commissioner from 1947-1971.

### GORDON'S WALK.

Major General R. R. Gordon CBE DSO ED. Senior Vice President and Chairman of Essendon District Scout Association.

### HOADLEY DRIVE.

Mr. Arch Hoadley, a Scout in the Footscray District who went to Antarctica with Douglas Mawson and later became Chief Scout Commissioner of Victoria. Hoadley County, then Hoadley Area and later Hoadley Region was named after him, Essendon District is within this Region.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

## HOWARD TRACK

Mr. Gary Howard, long time supporter of Scouting in Moonee Valley District and beyond.

## LEE TRACK

Mr. Wesley (Wes) Lee. Essendon District Scout Association from 1969 to 1994 as either secretary or treasurer.

## NUNAN'S ROAD.

Mr. "Des" Francis Desmond Nunan, one of 11 Rotarians from Rotary Club of Essendon who each donated £50 to buy the land which became Rowallan Rotary Scout Camp. He was also one of the first 3 trustees of the camp.

## O'FARRELL ROAD

Mr. Declon O'Farrell. Rowallan Scout Camp committee member since 1993, became Chairman 2003 - current.

## PATERSON LANE.

Mr. "Jack" John Paterson [OAM]. Essendon District Scout Association 1987 and then the Rowallan Scout Camp sub-committee.

## RON HORNE MEMORIAL CHAPEL.

Mr. Ron Horne, Scout master at 1<sup>st</sup> Moonee Ponds and ADC Scouts Essendon District. Ron kept Scouts going during the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War and was First warden of Rowallan Camp. Ron died in 1954 and the Rowallan chapel is named after him.

## ROWALLAN SCOUT CAMP

Lord Rowallan, second Baron (1895–1977)

Sir Thomas Godfrey Polson Corbett, 2nd Baron Rowallan (1895-77), dairy farmer, army officer (Lieutenant colonel), Governor of Tasmania (1959-63), and Chief Scout of the British Commonwealth and Empire (1945-59)

## RUDOLF'S WAY

Mr. Rudolf Arends, a parent at 15<sup>th</sup> Essendon Sea Scouts in 1978, and since 1981, on the Essendon District Association and Rowallan Camp management committee.

Rudolf is currently on the Rowallan Camp management committee.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 To 2019

## SHOWERS ROAD.

Mr. Alan Field Showers, one of 11 Rotarians from Rotary Club of Essendon who each donated £50 to buy the land which became Rowallan Rotary Scout Camp. He was also one of the first 3 trustees of the camp.

## SWING BRIDGE.

The original suspension bridge was designed by Mr. Alan Stokes, a Queen Scout from 17<sup>th</sup> Essendon and constructed by the Burke and Wills Rovers in 1965. This bridge was damaged in the 1983 bushfires and was repaired. Some years later it had become unsafe and was demolished to make way for the current suspension bridge [a mini Golden Gate]. The new Swing Bridge was designed and organised by Mr. Rudolf Arends and together with his good friend Mr. Alex Mark and his son Chris Mark, and Rudolf's sons Robert Arends, Steven Arends and Chris Arends, built the new "Swing Bridge" in 1991.

## TROY TRACK

Mr. Jason Troy, long time supporter of Scouting in Moonee Valley District and at the Camp.

## WARNOCK LODGE.

Mr. Fred Warnock. Essendon District Scout Association treasurer from 1955 - 1966.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

## APPENDIX C – HONOUR ROLL OF ASSISTANT WARDENS OF ROWALLAN CAMP.

A list of the Assistant Warden's for the Rowallan Rotary Camp.

Note that the District Commissioner for Moonee Valley is the Warden for Rowallan.

1950 -1954	Ron Horne	SM 1 <sup>st</sup> Moonee Ponds
1955-1959	Albert Wilson	ASM 3 <sup>rd</sup> Strathmore
1959-1968	Ian Wheeler	1 <sup>st</sup> Moonee Ponds, Gordon Rover
1968-1976	Lt. Col. Walter Murphy	ASM 2 <sup>nd</sup> Keilor, ADC Essendon
1976-1980	Steven Richards	SM 2 <sup>nd</sup> Essendon, DSM Essendon
1980-1982	Raymond Stead	17 <sup>th</sup> Essendon parent
1982-1986	William (Bill) Wynn	
1987-1989	David Doolan	
1989-1991	Eli Harris	
1991-1992	Bill Fuller	
1992-1994	Stephen Stafford	
1994-1995	Ray Badger	
1995-2000	John Van Alphen	
2000-2008	David Quarrell	
2008-2016	Leonhard Krois	
2016-	Shane Rider	

\* Since 1982 the Assistant Warden's position was not necessarily filled by Scout members of the Essendon / Moonee Valley District, and was often advertised as volunteer position vacant.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

## APPENDIX D – A TIMELINE OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN THE CAMP

Generally, in each year there are lots of other maintenance activities and working bees carried out but which have not been listed below as they are too numerous.

Below is a comprehensive time line, listing the major activities carried out at the Camp.

### 1946

On the 10th September 1946 eleven Rotarians contributed £50.00 each and purchased 183 acres in the Catherine Valley at Riddells Creek for a youth Forestry camp

### 1948

The current Rowallan Scout Camp had its geneses as a proposed camp by the Essendon District in 1948 when the District started looking for a property to lease in the nearby outer Melbourne suburbs of Keilor, Broadmeadows and Oaklands Junction.

In December a property at Arundel [Keilor] on Taylors Road North West of the bridge over the Maribyrnong river and near the 101 Barrage was inspected with a view to purchase for freehold.

### 1949

During this year discussions were held with Keilor Council and the Lands department who gave an in principle agreement to a camp.

### 1950

In May, the Rotary Club of Essendon advised that a possible camp was available in Romsey. This was inspected and dismissed as the roads were too rough and there was no permanent water available.

In June the Rotary Club of Essendon offered their property at Riddells Creek for a Youth camp to the Scouts and Guides of Essendon. The 183 acre property was heavily wooded and had on it a large amenities building [including a kitchen], dormitories, ablution and sanitation buildings, electric light generator/battery plant and a pumping plant at the creek [Main creek] to raise water up 400 feet to the Hill Tanks.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> June the site was inspected by Essendon District Scouts and accepted.

In September, the Rotary Club of Essendon terms and conditions were accepted subject to acceptance by Scout Association of Australia, Victoria Branch. The Essendon District Scouts were to provide a future planning scheme and to help Rotary on working bees to prove their worth.

On 10<sup>th</sup> December the property was officially handed over to Essendon District Scouts for the use by the Scouts and Guides of Essendon and to be managed by them and was



# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 To 2019

received by District Commissioner Lt. Col. K. Farquhar. The camp was to be called the Rowallan Rotary Scout Camp.

The Rotary Club of Essendon appointed 3 trustees under an Indenture Contract to oversee the Essendon District Scout's management of the camp for the next 3 years prior to legally handing over the title to the property.

## 1951

Essendon Council donated £100 to the camp.

The Essendon Guides received a site at the camp for their use, being the area from the entrance gate to the camp, up to the old homestead site.

The Scouts of Essendon started to use the camp.

The Romsey shire upgraded the entry road from Mt. Charlie Road.

## 1952

The Essendon District Scouts purchased a bus for £400 for the transport of Scouts to the camp. The TRB approved a license for transporting children. The driver of the bus was paid £1 per round trip.

Ron Horne was appointed the 1<sup>st</sup> Warden of the Rowallan Rotary Camp.

In May, a 1927 Chevrolet utility was donated to the camp by Mrs. T. Alston of Oaklands Junction and the first training camp was held.

Also by this stage a hut had been constructed on the Girl Guide area of the Rowallan Rotary Camp.

By the end of the year a new road and bridge had been commenced and a Rotary field day had been well attended.

In November, all Scout groups in Essendon District were invited to select an area for them to erect their group's hut on. Refer to camp map.

200 Pine trees were planted on the west side of the HQ Camp hill.

## 1953

On 8<sup>th</sup> August, the Rotary Club of Essendon notified Essendon District Scouts that they were satisfied with their management of the camp and consequently were prepared to hand over the title to the camp.

The above was accepted by Essendon District Scouts and a 10 year plan with financing attached was presented. The financing consisted of 10 shillings per scout per year.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

## 1954

The Social committee presented a cheque for £91/6/- towards a future swimming pool.

The Rotary agreements were forwarded to Scout Association of Australia, Victoria Branch for approval.

New roads were cut through the forest camping area for the groups.

20 horsehair mattresses were purchased for the dormitory for £15 to go onto the 21 bunks that were purchased for £21.

The first camp warden, Ron Horne died on the 26<sup>th</sup> October. The new camp warden was Steven Richards.

In December the access bridge across the creek was destroyed by floods.

## 1955

On the 13<sup>th</sup> March, at the camp handing over ceremony the Title Deeds and transfer contracts were handed over to Scout Association of Australia, Victorian Branch on behalf of Essendon District Scouts and received by the General Secretary of the Scout Association, F. R. G. Sanderson.

## 1956

The Ron Horne memorial chapel was started and built from Kilmore stone to the design by Architect Des Smith and drawn by Keith Walter.

## 1957

The repair to the access road and bridge over the creek, which had been destroyed by the '56 floods, was organised by Romsey Shire engineer Mr. Liston and carried out by local Jack Poulton.

## 1959

The chapel was completed for a cost of £488 and consecrated by the Rev. D. Macrae on 19<sup>th</sup> April. The current Tallowwood cross was donated by the 7<sup>th</sup> Essendon Scout Group.

Mr. Ian Wheeler was appointed the new camp warden

The Rotary Club of Essendon donated £242/1/6 to Essendon District Scouts from the 1957 October Gala night.

Somewhere in the late 1950's the main 2" water line was laid from the Hill water tanks to the forest camping area with 5 branch lines.

16<sup>th</sup> Essendon erected a Nissan hut which became known as Farquhar Lodge.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

1961

A contract for the construction of a swimming pool was let for £1,176 in March after approval had been received from the State Rivers and Water Commission to allow removal of water from the creek. The pool was officially opened on the 9<sup>th</sup> December by the Chief Scout Commissioner of Victoria, Major General R. J. H. Risson.

Pool excavation done by local Jack Poulton.

1962

A toilet block was built at the pool by voluntary labour.

1964

Bridge across Main creek to the 'A' camping sites on Angel's Flight was completed.

A £200 grant received from Essendon Council.

5 of the 7 spur lines to the forest water lines were completed.

The dormitory sustained major damage due to a fallen tree.

Pool is becoming a problem as Scouts are throwing in rocks and bottles.

A dispute arose between the Essendon District Scouts and the Broadmeadows District Scouts over the control of the camp. This was due to the fact that Scout Association of Australia, Victorian Branch had combined the 2 districts.

SEC installed 240v power to the camp with a 10kVA transformer at the main pole for a cost of £640. The installation of power and lighting throughout the camp would cost another £250.

1965

The 32v generator power plant was sold off.

On the 28<sup>th</sup> March the Guides' Minda Killara Camp was officially opened.

A concrete apron was laid around the pool.

Lino was laid in the main hut and kitchen.

Pencil pines were planted around the chapel.

2 Electric fridges were bought for the kitchen at a cost of £17/10 each.

Water was connected to the chapel area.

The "Swing" bridge was built by the Burke and Wills Rovers across the ravine at a cost of £40.

2 wash basins and 2 stoves were installed at the HQ Camp kitchen.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 To 2019

## 1966

Multiple wood burning stoves were installed in Warnock Lodge.

Telephone was installed at HQ Camp.

A hut was purchased from the Housing Commission at Laverton and placed at HQ Camp for the storage of tools etc.

Water problems as taps have been left on.

Road to HQ Camp repaired for £120.

A new Hot water service was installed at HQ Camp for £120.

An incinerator was installed at HQ Camp.

The Guides camp installed SEC power to Minda Killara without Scout (landlord) approval.

Dispute with Broadmeadows District went to Arbitration.

Hoadley Masonic Lodge presented a bible to HQ Camp.

Retirement of Fred Warnoch, trustee and treasurer since 1955.

25 additional mattresses bought.

## 1967

No water in the creek hence camp is closed over summer.

N. Ferris donated a Bradford van to Rowallan Camp for its use.

9<sup>th</sup> April official opening of the extension to Minda Killara.

A classroom from Bank Street School Ascot Vale was donated and moved to Rowallan HQ Camp for £600.

Problems with the pool and lots of stones and bottles in it.

Problems with theft of Hot water service and lots of copper piping.

Scout Association of Australia, Victorian Branch has resolved the camp dispute between Essendon and Broadmeadows districts.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

## 1968

HQ Camp fire extinguishers stolen and replaced with steel ones.

The HQ Camp Hot Water Service in the kitchen was replaced.

The HQ Camp school room was wired for 240v power.

A permanent 1" PVC water supply from the Riddells Creek reservoir was organised by A. Anderson for £500 through the adjacent Mr. Miller's and Mr. Dalrymple's properties.

## 1969

230 trees planted.

4 mattresses stolen.

6 pan toilet block with 2 septic tanks was constructed in the forest for approx. £800.

## 1970

More copper piping stolen from HQ Camp.

Perimeter fencing is now completed.

More trees planted.

Creek flowing again and pool is now full.

More vandalism to forest toilet.

2 electric stoves and 2 wood stoves installed at HQ Camp.

## 1971

District Commissioner Lt. Col. K. Farquhar has retired and Ray Alford became the new District Commissioner.

Baden-Powell Drive up to HQ Camp was bituminized.

Trailer was donated to the camp by Mr. Johnston and a tow bar from Duhig Ford.

Storm damage has destroyed the bridge over the creek and damaged the pump housing. Also a number of trees were blown down over the creek.

More vandalism to HQ Camp building.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 To 2019

## 1972

Signs stolen from HQ Camp.

Pool drained, repaired, cleaned and refilled.

Weatherboards fitted to end of school room.

More trees planted.

A filter was installed onto the pool inlet at the weir.

## 1973

Pool needs repairing again as there is a leak.

A pole shed was erected in the forest for the Scouts.

Firewood ordered, tanks filled and lights replaced.

Agreed to an SEC easement for Mr. K. Kent's power line.

## 1974

A tap was left on in the forest and most of the water was lost.

More vandalism to camp.

Pool repaired again and more bottles in the pool.

Stainless Steel sinks have been installed into the HQ Camp kitchen.

200 construction poles donated to Forest Camp for Scouts.

New HQ Camp toilet block extension completed.

## 1975

Venturers completed drainage around the new HQ Camp toilet block.

Forest roads are very soft due to heavy rains. Cars are getting bogged.

More trees planted in the Chapel by Mr. Hawker.

October creek flood did little damage.

Cattle wandering into camp through broken fence.

Swing Bridge has been raised and cables tightened.

Swimming pool, drained, repaired and filled again.

HQ Camp dormitory plastering completed.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

## 1976

Farquhar Lodge was broken into and vandalized.

The Guide toilet complex completed.

Approval received from the State Rivers and Water Commission for 5 septic tanks at Rowallan Camp. Licence No. SW003211/7.

HQ Camp dormitory floor covered with hardboard.

HQ Camp dormitory bunks painted by 15<sup>th</sup> Essendon Sea Scout Group.

Leaking HQ Camp water tank repaired.

Farquhar Lodge destroyed by fire.

## 1977

HQ Camp bunk mattresses have been stolen

Swing Bridge decking replaced.

2 new steel water tanks installed at HQ Camp.

Venturers have repainted the inside of the dormitories.

## 1978

No water in creek to fill the pool.

55 pine trees planted in HQ Camp area.

Skylight and 2<sup>nd</sup> door installed to HQ Camp dormitory.

A multi slice toaster has been procured for the HQ Camp kitchen.

HQ Camp dormitory chimney extended to eliminate smoking inside.

Swimming pool again repaired and refilled and ladder added

HQ Camp school room lined, Lino and flywire added.

Water supply line problems have been fixed.

## 1979

Wood is scarce and needs buying in.

Problems with drainage and water supply to forest showers.

Bunks to dorm have been completed by Ray Buckingham.

A Forest water line was damaged by digging and repaired by Lt. Col. W. Murphy.

Water supply stopped because of broken valve which was replaced.

Swimming pool cleared and refilled.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 To 2019

## 1980

New flagpole and gardens surrounding it erected at HQ Camp.

Ray Stead appointed Assistant Warden of Rowallan Camp.

New kitchen to HQ Camp designed by Rudolf Arends and built by Wymer and Boyle for \$16,502 including all new equipment & a Waldorf M24 LPG stove.

Wall, archway and seats to the chapel repaired.

Drainage pipe and valve to pool and wall leak repaired.

Doug Knight resigned as camp trustee.

A warden's hut and full time warden was proposed.

The school room and toilet block were repainted.

Gate 4 post replaced.

A memorial archway was proposed for the camp entry.

New stairs to the dormitory completed by Ray Buckingham.

Received a \$1,000 cheque from Essendon Police youth section.

Drafts of information, application and report forms received.

A McDonald's incinerette installed into the HQ ladies toilet for \$252.

Installed and leased a 500gal. LPG tank for HQ Camp and installed gas lines to dining and kitchen for \$1,200.

2 LPG wall furnaces to be installed into the HQ Camp dining room for \$576.

Dining room was replastered by Ralph Smith

## 1981

New curtains to HQ Camp leader's quarters were made by Mrs M. O'Farrell.

New HQ Camp kitchen officially opened on 29<sup>th</sup> March by Mayor of Essendon, Cr. G. McFarlane.

Second hand mobile bain-marie purchased.

Incinerator built outside HQ kitchen.

Brick fireplace removed from the HQ dormitory.

Pine timber archway to the chapel built by Ray Stead

Forest pool has been repaired and is being used again.

Camp Sub-Committee of Management formed and is responsible to Essendon District Scout Association.



# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 To 2019

Dormitories were repainted.

Master Development Plan was produced for the whole camp site.

HQ Camp [old army huts] was used for the filming of the TV series "The Sullivans".

Dining room and leader's quarters were extended by Cassidy Improvements for \$9,412.

The new kitchen brick wall was extended to cover the dining room old fireplace after its removal and the installation of the LPG heaters for \$3,530.

40 new mattresses were purchased.

HQ Camp car park was duplicated and levelled.

## 1982

Large gas tank at HQ Camp was leased from Gas & Fuel and a Cyclone fence from Standrite was erected around it.

New LPG hot water service installed to HQ Camp toilet block.

Bricking-in of the HQ Camp dining room and leader's dormitory was carried out by Cassidy Home Improvements for \$13,500.

The new small dormitory was designed & drawn by Rudolf Arends and quotes received to build. Completed in October by RA McConnell for \$13,700 from the sale of 8<sup>th</sup> Essendon property.

Bates, Smart & McCutcheon donated a new hot water service. Thanks to Rudolf Arends.

260 shrubs and trees planted by Mr and Mrs Robinson of 15th Essendon Sea Scout Group.

New curtains for HQ Camp dining room made by Mrs M. O'Farrell.

New water pump was installed under the new small dormitory on the 2" water line to the HQ Camp toilet block.

SEC transformer on the pole was upgraded.

## 1983

Rowallan Camp burnt in Macedon fires – Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February.  
(AKA, Ash Wednesday Fires.)

Only small dormitory untouched, kitchen, dining and toilet block need roof repairs.

Dormitory and School Room lost. The forest toilets, Warnock Lodge [only a corner post was burned] and the Chapel cross were untouched. Camp was closed for 1 year.

Repairs to all partly damaged buildings were finalised in June by the insurance contractors.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

The rebuilding of the HQ Camp was achieved through insurance and donations from The Mayoress of Essendon Committee Fund, The Jack Brockhoff Trust, H.V. McKay Charitable Trust, Hillview Quarries, Masonic No.7 Group, the Rotary Club of Essendon, and Essendon District Seeonee.

New Assistant Warden's house was completed in October to lock up stage by Frontier Homes.

Top of hill flattened ready for new HQ Camp arrangement & buildings.

Wes Lee and Rudolf Arends organised the insurance claim after the February fires, the drawing up of all the destroyed buildings and the repair to the roofs of the HQ Camp toilet block and kitchen/dining block.

The designing, drawing up and costing of all the new HQ Camp buildings was organized by Rudolf Arends.

The construction of the new HQ Camp dormitory and Recreation Hall was started in October 1983 by Harrison builders for \$64,447.

Plans for a disabled toilet to HQ Camp toilet block were drawn up by Rudolf Arends.

The Assistant Warden's cottage and HQ Camp buildings were inspected and finalized ready for the opening on 1 April 1984.

Contracts between the Scout Association and the Girl Guide Association re: the Assistant Warden's cottage and the Assistant Warden's duties were written because the Girl Guide Association contributed \$10,000 towards the cost of the Assistant Warden's cottage. The contract was essentially for a 1/3 Guides to 2/3 Scouts for the Assistant Warden's duties and building maintenance of the cottage.

Hoadley Region was proposing to relocate "Treetops Camp" from Mt. Macedon to Rowallan but not agreed to by the Rotary Trustees.

Bill Wynn appointed the first Assistant Warden and to live in the cottage.

## 1984

Concrete crib walling installed to the HQ carpark and carpark leveled.

Constructed playground retaining wall from SEC poles and pine logs.

Assistant Warden's cottage completed by volunteers in March at a total cost of nearly \$40,000 and garage for \$1,700 [by Wes Lee in 1985].

The new HQ Camp was completed in March & opened on 1<sup>st</sup> April.

HQ Camp parade ground covered with white pebbles.

Repaired the 'Swing' bridge by Rudolf Arends & Monash Venturers.

The resurveying of the camp boundary was carried out by Dennis Kearney, a Rotarian.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 To 2019

A commercial range hood was procured and installed to HQ Camp kitchen.

Official opening of the Guides' Minda Killara building on 14<sup>th</sup> October.

Brown railway lino laid to part of the HQ Camp dining and leaders quarters for \$750.

At the same time, part of the rotten dining room floor [in front of the old fireplace] was replaced at a cost of \$650

## 1985

Forest toilet block repaired, door and basin fitted to ladies toilet.

Water Board proposed to remove all private water lines from Riddells Creek Dam – the Camp's only water source.

North and east boundary fences were repaired by our neighbour Mr Vereker for \$2,274.

Portable LPG gas heater installed in the Assistant Warden's cottage.

Received a \$2,000 grant from the Essendon Mayoress' Fund.

2 new sets of timber bunks installed to HQ Camp leaders quarters.

Clothes hoist installed at Assistant Warden's cottage and crushed rock laid to the Assistant Warden's driveway by Scouts.

Cut (dug) out Cub camping area to side of hill and enlarged playground by Agscape for \$2,460.

Garage erection at the Assistant Warden's cottage and crushed rock to be laid to the driveway was organized by Wes Lee.

Arranged for loan of equipment from Essendon Council for working bee.

Kent Road fence repaired by Agscape for \$2,010.

Moved water pump from under dorm to boiler room to toilet block plant room, because of noise.

## 1986

Installed an electric wall hot water boiler to the HQ Camp kitchen wall.

New mattresses purchased for bunks in HQ Camp leaders' quarters.

HQ Camp toilets upgraded with a disabled toilet.

A large electrical storm hit the pole transformer at HQ and caused large damage to the Guides' buildings and \$1,200 to the Warden's cottage.

David Doolan appointed as new Assistant Warden in November following the resignation of Bill Wynn.

An inventory of all Rowallan equipment and kitchen equipment written.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 To 2019

New Hobart toasters were bought for HQ Camp kitchen.

Plans were organized for an upgrade to HQ Camp toilet block by Rudolf Arends.

A new road and retaining wall was constructed at the Assistant Warden's cottage by Agscape for \$2,010.

Vinyl floor tiles were laid to the large and small dormitories by John Didier for \$3,476.

A Krommenie notice board was added to the HQ Camp dining room for \$550.

Sewer pipes at rear of the HQ Camp toilets from pans were enlarged for \$1,825.

Keilor Rovers repaired the fire damage to Warnock Lodge and removed the old wood combustion stoves.

A Stihl 35cc brush cutter was purchased for \$650.

A new flywire door to the HQ kitchen installed by Wes Lee.

\$3,000 was spent on new fittings and furnishings to the Assistant Warden's cottage.

## 1987

Brick paving was laid around the HQ Camp hall and dormitories.

A new walk behind Deutcher mower was bought from AMS for \$600.

The rest of the HQ Camp dining room floor covering replaced with brown railway lino for \$750.

All HQ Camp dormitories door handles replaced with knobs.

New heavy duty shower curtains fitted to HQ Camp toilet block.

Manhole covers fitted to ceiling vents in the HQ Camp Recreation Hall.

50mm diameter rope fitted around the forest parade ground, for fencing, by Keith Farquhar Rovers.

A new Echo chain saw was bought for \$700.

3 Memorial plaques were installed to the forest Chapel. [W. V. Murphy, D. G. Knight and A. E. Anderson]

Security grills were added to the windows at both ends of the Recreation Hall and an acoustic ceiling was installed to the Rec Hall for \$2,320.

The Assistant Warden's drive and car park were regraded, enlarged and covered in crushed rock for \$740 by Scouts.

Steel support bracket on Forest water line between Cahill Trail and Hill Tanks was installed and set in concrete to stop the pipe slide.

New 270L LPG hot water unit installed at Forest Camp toilet block in tandem with existing unit.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

\$700 of soil added to the forest parade ground.

## 1988

Trees and bushes pruned at HQ Camp.

7<sup>th</sup> February saw the unveiling of 3 memorial plaques [W. V. Murphy, D. G. Knight and A. E. Anderson] in the chapel, the chapel's rededication and also the unveiling of the bush fire donor plaque in the HQ Camp dining room. Total cost \$955.

Levelled the area behind the Assistant Warden's garage for stacking of wood.

A tree was felled and laid across creek to form a bridge for the relocated water line to the forest as the previous crossing was now too wide. \$1,400

New sleeper steps constructed at end of car park as a kitchen dock.

A new 1 ½" high pressure polypipe waterline from the Riddells dam to our water meter at Mt. Charlie road was installed by Angelo Rizzuto for \$11,500.

Water supply from Riddells Creek dam failed because of a faulty meter at the dam. As a consequence the Hill Tanks ran dry. The opportunity was taken to clean out the large concrete water tank of sludge by Akoona Rovers.

Hill Tank manifold was changed to include a 2" take-off for CFA trucks to fill from as requested by CFA.

Design and purchase of new camp badge was arranged by Rudolf Arends.

3 new trestle tables were built for Recreation Hall.

A contour map of the camp was organised by the Department of Surveying (Mr. F. H. Edwards) and measurements of the HQ Camp area were taken and drawn onto the map by Rudolf Arends.

## 1989

A second hand Grey Massey Ferguson tractor and slasher bought.

David Doolan, Assistant Warden, was replaced by Eli Harris.

Meetings arranged with the Minister for Water (Bernie Walsh) and Riddells Creek Water Board to look at the possibility of a new independent water supply. Various meetings with the Water Board and Water Minister.

Safety rails fitted to all HQ Camp dormitory bunks to the Australian Standard.

Interior of Assistant Warden's cottage repainted, prior to new Warden arriving, by Declon O'Farrell.

The Assistant Warden's cottage was upgraded and refurbished.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

The HQ Camp toilet block was upgraded and added to by Spot on Construction for \$24,840.

Concrete dividers were added to the HQ Camp car park for \$1,093.

A cherry picker was hired for \$500 to trim HQ Camp trees.

A 2 year old motor bike [Yamaha XR 80 ] was bought for the warden for \$450

New treated pine fence was built along dining room driveway for \$886.

## 1990

Carport built onto the Assistant Warden's cottage by David Doolan for \$733.

New clothes hoist installed at Assistant Warden's cottage.

A 6' x 4' steel Saturn trailer bought for \$550.

Wire guards fitted to HQ Camp Recreation Hall lights.

Picnic tables made for forest near Chapel by Ray Stead.

An answering machine purchased for the Assistant Warden's cottage.

A plaque for the re-dedication of the Chapel was organized. Cost \$195.

Night lights were added to the dormitories.

Rudolf Arends designed and organised contracts for the addition of showers and upgrade of the forest toilets.

Fire requirements for camp with CFA and Council were organized and a handout produced for campers.

The Cottage garage was extended northwards for tractor and wood storage including incidentals. Organised by Wes Lee for \$6,400 total.

Sanitary burners were removed from the HQ Camp toilets and replaceable sanitary bin units to HQ Camp and Forest used instead.

Phone answering machine installed in Assistant Warden's cottage for \$100.

## 1991

Extension to forest toilets completed in January, by Garry Campbell \$54,806.

Repair and upgrade the asphalt to Baden-Powell Drive and also bituminise the Guides' Camp Roads for \$17,900.

Eli Harris, Assistant Warden, resigned and replaced by Bill Fuller.

New timber seats and steel supports installed to Chapel. Cost \$2,000.

Screenings placed around the forest toilets.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

1<sup>st</sup> December; Memorial held for Lt. Col. K. Farquhar who was DC when the camp was given to the Scouts. His ashes are in the chapel lectern.

The old tractor was replaced with a red Massey Ferguson MF35. Cost \$4,600

New Deutscher self propelled 26 inch mower purchased.

The granite lectern in the Chapel for Lt. Col. K. Farquhar was organized by Rudolf Arends

Rudolf Arends designed and organised the construction of a new Swing Bridge for \$9,000. Construction by Alex Mark and son Chris, Rudolf Arends and sons Robert, Steven and Chris.

Rudolf Arends designed and organised granite capping for the Chapel walls at cost of \$2,250.

Bird netting installed to the forest toilet by Gary Howard.

Green pay phone removed from HQ Camp by Telecom and replaced by an ordinary keyed phone.

The Assistant Warden's cottage was repainted by Declon O'Farrell. Cost \$400.

Centre steel water tank was replaced at the HQ Camp hill.

## 1992

Forest tracks were graded and made into proper roads by Jeff Shepherd for \$10,000.

Bill Fuller, Assistant Warden, replaced by Stephen Stafford.

HQ Camp boys' urinal had a tiled step added.

Cutlery trolley made for HQ Camp kitchen.

All HQ Camp dormitory locks & handles replaced with commercial grade locks & knobs.

10 x ½ fire drums (44 gallon) were purchased for the forest.

The supply and installation of a new metal water tank to HQ Camp.

The dining room gutters were replaced with larger ones and rainwater heads installed to all downpipes for \$4,000.

Water line in forest across Showers Rd. repaired and a new isolation valve inserted in the main line by Angelo Rizzuto.

Forest water line 'spur A' to the Swimming pool was disconnected as the line was disused since the '83 bushfire and now the creek crossing was now unsupported and likely to fail.

Planning approval received from Romsey Shire to remove 24 trees to construct Hoadley Drv.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

New ceiling fan installed into the cottage by Neville Sprattling for \$180.

Forest water line leak repaired.

New TV antennae for cottage installed at HQ Camp and a coax line run down the hill.

## 1993

Fluoro light fittings to the HQ Camp dining room were replaced for \$950.

HQ Camp Recreation Hall and both dormitories were repainted inside by Declon O'Farrell for \$4,100.

New Rinnai 100 gas heater installed at HQ Camp dining room and 2 old wall furnaces removed by John Robinson for \$1,342.

Trail bike purchased for Assistant Warden for \$1,200.

Carport shelter built at rear of Cottage by S. Stafford for \$733

Pine board lining added to end walls of HQ Camp Recreation Hall by McTaggart for \$1,300.

The HQ Camp kitchen floor was sealed with Epoxy for \$2,200.

Rudolf Arends designed and organized construction of the Forest Initiative Course by for \$2,000. Labour by Essendon District Scout Groups at working bees.

Rudolf Arends designed and organized construction of the replacement pool bridge and new Angel's Flight Bridge for approximately \$5,000. Completed in '94 by Rudolf Arends and sons Robert, Steven and Chris.

Underground electrical cable to the cottage was cut by the Guide camp when they redid their septic effluent lines.

## 1994

New stove installed to Assistant Warden's cottage for \$625.

Forest roads given names and signs made by Ray Stead.

Assistant Warden's cottage chimney and wood fireplace cleaned.

Camp future strategy report presented.

Battery smoke detectors installed to all buildings at HQ Camp.

Rowallan Camp sign at Kilmore road redone.

Sanitary units installed in HQ ladies toilets.

Stephen Stafford, Assistant Warden, replaced by Ray Badger. It was found that Stephen Stafford had sold a quantity of Scout tools \$1,500.



# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 To 2019

1995

Assistant Warden's cottage repainted internally by Declon O'Farrell.

Triton Tray Ute bought for camp for \$15,000.

A steel security door installed at the HQ Camp dining room entry.

A strip of new donated tiles laid down the centre of the large dorm.

Air compressor bought.

Timber playground for HQ Camp cub camp was donated by St. Mary's, West Melbourne and moved to camp and installed in April '96 by Keith Farquhar Rovers.

Assistant Warden Ray Badger replaced by John van Alphen.

Installed a 2000L water tank for the Assistant Warden's cottage at the top of the hill for \$940.

Spring loaded taps fitted to all forest taps by Angelo Rizzuto for \$1,400.

The construction of the amphitheatre at the initiative course was started. \$1,250.

The design and manufacture of a long stainless steel stormwater pipe cleaner was organized by Rudolf Arends. This is to remove debris from pipes under our roads.

All forest and HQ Camp keys keyed alike into 2 master keys by Declon O'Farrell for \$240.

An amplifier was installed to the Assistant Warden's TV system for \$250.

6 Extinguishers bought for \$400 & installed in boxes [\$250] in both dorms and dining room by Declon O'Farrell.

New chain saw bought for \$950.

Camp registered with Land for Wildlife by Stan Wilson of Essendon District Scouts.

New pump bought for HQ Camp for \$500.

A fireproof cupboard for HQ Camp archives donated by Hugh Robertson DC Essendon District.

Camp marketing brochure organized by Bruce Paterson and sent out to all schools in the Western and Northern areas.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

## 1996

HQ Camp parade ground topped up with new pebbles by Jeff Shepherd for \$840.

Pergola to front of cottage repaired by the Rotary Club of Essendon for \$470.

The spider's web to the forest initiative course was repaired.

Bluestone fireplace constructed at the forest amphitheatre.

Pot holes in Baden-Powell drive repaired by Romsey Shire.

HQ large and small dormitories repainted inside by Jack Paterson.

All dormitory mattress covers were washed by the Ranger's wife.

Old forest tip closed and cleaned up by 15<sup>th</sup> Essendon Sea Scouts' Venturers.  
\$350 to truck out all metal rubbish.

Night game installed at HQ Camp near Angel's Flight by Declon O'Farrell.

## 1997

Rudolf Arends organised a new second hand Garland 10 burner stove with double oven for HQ Camp kitchen. Conversion to LPG & delivery cost \$1,500.

Water line across the creek repaired by Angelo Rizzuto for \$480.

Forest camping areas trees pruned and cleared with help of Masonic.

A new enclosed wood heater from Cleanair Woodheating installed in Assistant Warden's Cottage for \$1,900.

New microwave bought for HQ Camp kitchen for \$275.

The outside timber work and fascias to the Assistant Warden's cottage were repainted by Jack Paterson.

Cottage septic tank emptied.

A vegetable garden was setup for the Assistant Warden by the Scouts.

Second hand wardrobes and drawers [obtained by Rudolf Arends] were installed to all leaders' quarters.

Rudolf Arends designed, organized and help build an office on to the Assistant Warden's cottage with Danny Attard for \$4,300 with an additional phone socket.

## 1998

Fire blanket bought for HQ Camp kitchen by Declon O'Farrell for \$30.

HQ Camp concrete water tank repaired, sealed and a new roof added. \$1,400.

Assistant Warden's cottage hot water tank repaired for \$80.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 To 2019

Assistant Warden's cottage carpet to dining and kitchen replaced with vinyl for \$250 by Danny Attard.

A death occurred in the forest and a memorial constructed on 19/9/1999.

Callistemon shrubs planted around the chapel.

All HQ Camp dormitory mattresses had replacement covers made by Mrs. Margit Arends and Mrs. M. O'Farrell for \$1,810.

Rock barrier garden built in front of HQ Camp dining room entrance.

Tractor was repaired.

A Bartolini 8 bar air compressor was purchased. Organised by Danny Attard.

## 1999

2 sets of steel flag pole holders installed in the forest chapel.

Working bee to plant 300 extra trees in the forest was held.

¼ drum Rowallan sign on corner of Mt. Charlie and Kent Roads repainted.

Mirrors installed into all leaders' quarters.

Tractor was repaired by Ranger for approximately \$1,000.

Leaking drainage pipes to HQ Camp kitchen repaired as well as cupboards.

Additional sports equipment and basketball rings bought for \$3,400 including table tennis and small soccer goals

A low ropes course was built at HQ Camp for \$8,400

P.T. pine logs placed around the HQ Camp adventure playground and Pinegro bark laid.

10 broken safety bars to bunks replaced for \$200

Assistant Warden's cottage office had entry door replaced and 2 blinds added.

Memorial plaque for Craigieburn Scout, Simon Gray installed near the Chapel.

Ian Wheeler started cutting down all Pine trees to the HQ Camp hill area

Shade cloth added to the verandah on the west side of the Assistant Warden's cottage for \$62 and awning blinds for \$240.

Cages installed to all HQ Camp smoke detectors.

New concrete paths and ramps were constructed to HQ Camp for disabled access. \$4,360.

## 2000

Camp advertising brochure [by City Graphics] revised, printed and posted out, cost \$1,500.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

Rudolf Arends designed and organized the new Initiative Spider's Web for \$200

Replaced the HQ Camp flag pole with another donated by A.V.B.C. (Ascot Vale Bowling Club)

Forest roads re-graded by Jeff Shepherd.

HQ Camp dining room curtains repaired by Mrs M. O'Farrell for \$280.

Steel chequered plate for HQ Camp footpath added to cover drain for \$84.

Sleeper steps constructed from the forest pool bridge up to the Cahill Trail by Jason Troy with Keith Farquhar Rovers.

HQ Camp toilet shower heads replaced with water saving ones.

Orienteering courses and maps for whole of camp designed and produced for \$1,350.

Handrail installed to HQ Camp car park steps near LPG tank. \$220

New water boiler bought for HQ Camp kitchen. Cost \$550. The Rotary Club of Essendon donated \$400.

Assistant Warden's cottage repainted externally by Jack Paterson for \$1,500.

Assistant Warden John van Alphen replaced by David Quarrell.

CAV (Camping Association Victoria) accreditation for Rowallan Camp was obtained by Rudolf Arends and Robert Arends. The Rotary Club of Essendon donated \$4,000 towards the o/a cost of \$6,500 for all the accreditation works.

New booking system and camp information booklets instigated by Robert Arends and Helen Arends after they took over from Harry Goodgame as Booking secretary.

Old water tanks cut in ½ and used for firewood shelters.

Wedding of A & P Horton occurred in the chapel.

## 2001

Procured more 44 gallon drums to be used as ½ drums for the forest camp fires.

Assistant Warden's cottage retaining wall drilled and filled with preservative.

A series of nature trails was established through the Flora and Fauna Reserve by Jason Troy for his BP award.

Flag poles to HQ Camp and forest repaired.

Electric fire siren fitted to HQ Camp kitchen.

The Rotary Club of Essendon paid for the concrete fire circle in the amphitheatre.

The forest around the initiative course cleared.

Cahill Trail cleared and refurbished.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 To 2019

Concrete step to west end of HQ large dorm constructed.

All night "Dance for Life" event was held in the forest on 7/8th April

Concrete and bluestone fire place constructed in the Amphitheatre by Ranger.

Added chicken wire to walkway of Angel's Flight and Pool bridges by Ranger.

New toilet roll holders installed to HQ Camp boys and girls toilets.

Replaced gate 2 and gate 4 rotten timber posts with steel.

50th Anniversary Open Day held at HQ Camp on 14th October. [1 year late]

The Rotary Club of Essendon donated \$900 towards a new freezer for HQ Camp kitchen.

Purchased a new Canon fax machine for the Assistant Warden's cottage and dedicated phone line for office, cost \$458

The Rotary Club of Essendon paid for new steel signs which were installed for the forest initiative course activities at a cost of \$500.

A mobile white board was donated for the HQ Camp Recreation Hall.

Baden-Powell drive up to HQ Camp had the bitumen repaired.

## 2002

All HQ Camp dormitory mattress covers were laundered by Assistant Warden's wife.

Camp Information Book and Emergency Procedures Books were revised and condensed by Robert Arends

Rowallan web site started by Robert Arends.

HQ Camp Recreation Hall had major repairs due to termites' infestation, cost \$1,210.

Discussions and proposal put forward to Southern Rural Water to dam the creek and create a lake. Did not happen as conditions too onerous.

Stainless steel shelves to HQ Camp fridges were chromed for \$165.

The Rotary Club of Essendon donated \$1,000 towards the replacement of the \$1,400 HQ Camp steel water tank next to the Forest Camp tanks.

Steel window guards installed at ends of HQ Camp Recreation Hall.

New shower curtains installed to HQ Camp showers.

Replaced the HQ Camp disabled toilet door.

## 2003

New blue sheet vinyl laid to HQ Camp dining and leader's quarters for \$8,614.

New shower curtains provided for the forest showers.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 To 2019

Driveway embankment cut out for bus turning circle at HQ Camp, cost \$694.

Forest toilet septic tank pumped out.

Assistant Warden's cottage wood heater baffle replaced.

New Grevillea shrubs at the Simon Gray Memorial.

HQ Camp Recreation Hall re-lined with 16mm MDF by Gary Howard and painted by Jack Patterson.

4 trestle tables purchased for HQ Camp Recreation Hall.

Exhaust fan fitted to Assistant Warden's kitchen.

New answering service installed to Assist. Warden's office, cost \$60.

Wire mesh fitted to sides and decking of the pool bridge by Gary Howard.

The Rotary Club of Essendon donated \$1,000 towards the replacement of the HQ Camp kitchen under floor hot water unit with an external electric unit.

Stainless steel sides installed to the HQ boys urinal.

HQ Camp Recreation Hall grate to fireplace replaced for \$440.

Update and resubmit the camp accreditation – now renamed ACA (Australian Camping Association).

## 2004

HQ Camp 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary photo montage and plaque hung in HQ Camp.

Oztrance Music conference was held at HQ; problem with noise.

Alien Earth 3 music event was held in the forest with council approval.

HQ Camp – BBQ upgraded from open fire to gas hot plate, water and electric light. \$2,000. Includes gas BBQ purchased at discount for \$300 from Keenheat Gas, Keilor Rd. Essendon.

The forest initiative course was repaired.

Wire guards installed to both dormitory light fittings, cost \$432.

"Beware of Pedestrians" signs to HQ Camp Baden-Powell Drive added.

Installed solar light-tube to Assistant Warden's dining room for \$580.

12v spot lights installed to Warden's driveway for \$182.

Removal of a lot of Pine trees behind the Assistant Warden's cottage.

Forest toilet skylights replaced by the Rotary Club of Essendon.

HQ Camp dormitory bunks steel restraints replaced with new to comply with new standards for \$800.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 To 2019

All forest roads were regarded by Jeff Shepherd for \$6,303.

The valves to the water line at the forest parade ground were replaced for \$583 and brick pit constructed by the Ranger.

The main overhead electrical cable to HQ Camp dining building was repaired.

Stainless steel sides were added to HQ Camp BBQ for \$340.

HQ Camp toilet septic tanks pumped out for \$380.

## 2005

Rubber mats supplied to HQ Camp toilet block showers by Declon O'Farrell.

Railway sleepers donated by Rudolf Arends for Assistant Warden's garden beds and soil added for \$300.

Assistant Warden's cottage fireplace had fire bricks replaced.

Assistant Warden's cottage septic tank pumped out for \$280.

Keith Farquhar Rovers name added to the HQ Camp Honour Board.

Assistant Warden's cottage carport clear roof sheeting replaced with polycarbonate by the Rotary Club of Essendon.

Cups cupboard with sink and hot water unit over installed to HQ Camp dining room for \$1,400.

Camp Ute was serviced + 4 new tyres added for \$420.

## 2006

HQ Camp toilet block upgraded, ceiling added, hand dryers and exhaust fans added and floor graded and painted for \$27,628.

New fax machine purchased for the Assistant Warden's office.

Overhead cupboards and a new range hood installed to Assistant Warden's cottage kitchen. \$1,800

Rowallan web site upgraded by Robert Arends.

2 external steel picnic tables donated for HQ Camp BBQ area by CCCW Church Box Hill.

Cahill Trail cleared and sign behind BBQ added.

Gables to HQ Camp Recreation Hall repainted by Declon O'Farrell.

All smoke detectors to HQ Camp have been direct wired to power. \$1,200

Purchased 3000 extra camp badges for \$2,100.

Coffee table donated for HQ Camp dining room by Declon O'Farrell.

Air fresheners installed to HQ Camp toilets by Declon O'Farrell.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 To 2019

Aerial map donated and mounted in HQ Camp dining room by Declon O'Farrell

Trees around the HQ Camp low ropes course trimmed.

Drinking water filters installed to the Assistant Warden's cottage kitchen. \$600

A new Husqvana chain saw was purchased for \$900.

Updated and resubmitted ACA camp accreditation.

## 2007

Warden's cottage hot water service electric element replaced. \$400

Ceiling exhaust fans and movement sensors to HQ Camp toilet block. \$400

HQ Camp dormitory mattress covers repaired and some replaced by Liz. Benton.

Trees pushing over the Assistant Warden's retaining wall were removed.

New mobile phone and number acquired for bookings by Robert Arends, due to Telstra ceasing the 0500 follow me service.

HQ Camp kitchen stove serviced.

Assistant Warden's cottage wood heater in the living room replaced by Clean Air for \$2,480

HQ Camp kitchen glass front fridge repaired. \$1,000

Advertising brochures mailed out to 800 schools North and North West of Melbourne.

The Rotary Club of Essendon rebuilt the front pergola to the Assistant Warden's cottage.

## 2008

8 new trestle tables bought for HQ Camp Recreation Hall. \$520

The Forest Swing Bridge was repaired by Mr Rudolf Arends & Steven Arends.

Replaced the fiberglass skylights to the HQ Camp toilet block with polycarbonate.

New Orange pump installed at HQ plant room for \$1,792.

Assistant Warden, David Quarrell replaced by Len Krois.

The Assistant Warden's cottage was painted, new carpet and new kitchen joinery prior to new Assistant Warden residing. Also a reception desk was added to the office.

Overall cost was \$14,000. The water filters were replaced for \$121. The Bunnings flat-pack kitchen was installed by Robert Arends, Helen Arends and sons Dirk and Martyn.

HQ Camp hill steel water tank (2000 gl next to concrete tank) replaced and a new full length manifold for \$1,680.



# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 To 2019

A 2000 litre steel tank installed at the north end of the Assistant Warden's equipment shed.

1 destroyed bunk in the HQ Camp large dorm was rebuilt by Gary Howard.

A petrol generator was bought, cost \$702 (lasted only one year).

The HQ Camp kitchen exhaust roof motor was repaired by Mr. Chris Arends.

New light/heater installed in Assistant Warden's cottage bathroom, cost \$150.

2 HQ Camp and forest septic tanks were pumped out.

A lifting crane was obtained for the rear of the tractor by swapping old tractor equipment.

2 correct Holden wheels and tyres purchased for the steel trailer, cost \$140.

Main water supply water meter was replaced by Western Water.

A water hose and wheel support installed at the HQ Camp BBQ.

New flag pole & stainless steel cable installed at HQ Camp.

HQ Camp toilet cisterns to boys and girls toilets replaced with new plastic ones.  
\$1,100

Cut up old water tanks and place at HQ Camp and Forest fire circles to provide cover for firewood.

Various electrical work at HQ Camp for \$490. (Small dorm North external light and sensor, etc.)

HQ Camp phone replaced with a standard phone with an STD bar.

Tractor serviced for \$690.

Chapel cleaned up and extra soil added for a wedding on 20/9.

## 2009

Ceiling fan to Assistant Warden's master bedroom replaced by a donated one and the lounge one rebalanced.

A second hand Massey Ferguson M135 tractor bought and old one sold on Ebay.  
Change over cost \$4,000

Assistant Warden's cottage kitchen stove hot plate repaired and serviced.

Assistant Warden's driveway 12v lights replaced with LED lights.

Clothesline added to end of Warden's cottage by Assistant Warden.

Assistant Warden's cottage and carport gutters replaced by Mr. B. Helmers for \$2,200.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

A new electric fire-horn installed at the HQ Camp kitchen and large dorm by Robert Arends for \$1,850.

A new pole with light was installed at entry to HQ Camp car park. \$600

A 2kVA, 12 panel Photo Voltaic (PV) solar power system was installed to HQ Camp large dormitory roof for \$11,000 aided by a \$3,000 donation from the Rotary Club of Essendon.

A 71,000 Litre water tank with pump and filters installed behind the HQ Camp kitchen and connected it to all the HQ Camp building gutters through the Australian Government and Scouts' grant for water tanks. Rowallan paid for the excavation for the tank pad. \$3,960.

Forest toilet septic tank pumped out and effluent lines rebuilt at a cost of \$4,125 by Angelo Rizzuto.

HQ Camp kitchen grease trap drain extended to bushy area beyond the new rainwater tanks.

4 External canvas blinds added to the west windows of the Assistant Warden's cottage. \$200

HQ Camp dining room and small dormitory downpipes and gutters replaced by Tait for \$3,200 after Gary Howard and Len. Krois straightened the rafter ends and fitted fascias to the dining room for \$2,000.

Doors added to HQ Camp large dormitory to create 3 areas by Gary Howard.

Second hand 15 amp, 10 slice toaster added to HQ Camp kitchen.

New split system air conditioner added to Assistant Warden's cottage living room. Donated by Assistant Warden, value \$3,300.

Stainless steel sheeting added to western door of HQ Camp large dormitory.

Grate in fireplace to Assistant Warden's living room replaced.

The Rotary Club of Essendon repaired the brick paving and retaining wall to the west side of the HQ Camp Recreation Hall.

HQ Camp kitchen can opener has had its wheel replaced.

Changed the master switch of the HQ Camp electrical switch to allow the solar panel system to feed the grid when the camp has been turned off. \$576

HQ Camp kitchen stove serviced and thermocouple to toilet hot water service replaced.

Driveway at the Warden's shed re-graded and crushed rock added, cost \$520.

½ round PVC covers added to dining room sub floor vents to keep the soil away from the vents.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

Disabled carpark markings added to HQ Camp driveway.

Fire retardant overalls bought for Assistant Warden and kept in his office.

The Rotary Club of Essendon repaired the HQ Camp kitchen path.

Rusted gutter to HQ Camp small dorm replaced for \$700.

Rusted gutters to the Assistant Warden's shed replaced for \$3,000.

ACA Accreditation renewed but submitted in 2010

## 2010

The steel trailer was repaired and new electrical plug fitted for \$128.

Assistant Warden's underground power line coming from the Guides outdoor toilet block switchboard was inadvertently cut by the Guides while redoing their sewer effluent lines.

Large soak pit dug for HQ Camp kitchen grease pit. 4m x 4m x 4m, filled with old tyres and covered with metal sheet and soil.

Trees pruned around the HQ Camp by PM Tree Lopping for \$1,300.

Fire horn added to West Side of Assistant Warden's wood shed.

Replaced the flue to the HQ Camp dining room gas heater for \$583.

Saw dust added underneath the HQ Camp low ropes course and repairs carried out.

The Rotary Club of Essendon held their 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at HQ Camp.

Large amount of cut wood stolen from forest, informed police.

HQ Camp fire pole seating repaired after damage by user.

Fragrance misters to HQ Camp toilet block replaced.

Ex Warden of Rowallan, Ray Stead died.

HQ Camp kitchen loading dock steps and adjoining retaining wall rebuilt with help from Keith Farquhar Rovers.

Latch set fitted to Assistant Warden's office internal door.

HQ Camp dining/kitchen building checked for termites and treated. \$1,960

New 270L LPG hot water service installed to HQ Camp toilet block.

Forest item 1 of the initiative course repaired.

Large storm and flood at Rowallan. Wrecked the Angel's flight bridge and water pipe bridge over creek and removed 1m of the Kent road bridge. Damaged covered by insurance. Kent Rd. bridge repaired by Macedon Ranges Shire Council in 2011.

Shower base to the Assistant Warden's bathroom was repaired. \$600

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

Fire bricks to Assistant Warden's cottage fireplace replaced for \$74.

Working bee at which the Rotary Club of Essendon helped with labour to repaint the external walls of the HQ Camp Recreation Hall and both dormitories in new brighter colours.

The Entry/Exit to Rowallan Camp driveway off Kent Road rebuilt and widened, after the storm earlier in the year, by Jeff Shepherd.

Refurbished the Rowallan Camp sign at Kilmore Road.

A new Stihl 35cc brush cutter and helmet bought. \$664

A new Envirosep sewerage plant installed to HQ Camp toilet block for \$11,000

Assistant Warden's water filters replaced for \$121.

12 High visibility vests bought for working bees.

A second hand Ford Courier Ute was bought for \$10,000.

Hand brake on Ute was broken and replaced.

## 2011

An answering machine was bought for the Assistant Warden for \$119.

The camp ute had to be rewired for a cost of \$3,000.

Main circuit breaker in the HQ Camp toilet block upgraded to 32amp.

Padbolts to forest toilet hot water service cupboard replaced due to vandalism.

The main camp entry road was re-graded and an additional culvert installed. Also the HQ Camp Cub camping area was extended. All for \$3,900.

Installed a "spotters" instruction plaque to the Low ropes course. \$88

Procured a hand log lifter for \$85.

The brass hand Fire Bell was stolen from HQ Camp dining area.

Peter Holloway from the Rotary Club of Essendon produced a digital camp letterhead.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council repaired the Kent Road bridge after the 2010 storm.

The Angel's Flight and water pipe bridges were replaced and the Pool bridge repaired under insurance after the 2010 storm for \$26,500.

Shower curtains to the HQ Camp and Forest toilets were replaced by Declon O'Farrell.

Replaced the post holding the stabilizing cable to the Swing Bridge.

Water leak in our water line through next door's property broke and was repaired, but not before we lost 1 million litres.

Hot water cupboard to forest toilet repaired after being vandalized.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

Left hand mirror to Ute broken.

Replaced the broken ropes to the “kitty crawl” of the low ropes course.

Replaced the locksets to the HQ male toilet and large dorm.

A new UV water filtration and revised piping were installed to the HQ Camp boiler room. Also a new 2000L water tank, sand filter and pumping system were installed at the HQ Camp driveway for pumping water to the rainwater tanks. The works were covered by a \$16,000 Bendigo Bank grant.

The storage shed at the rear of Warnock Lodge was destroyed by a fallen tree and covered by insurance for \$5,060.

Graffiti to the underside of the HQ Camp bunks was sanded off and resealed by Liz Benton.

Tank water gauges from Rhino were installed to HQ Camp, Hill Top and Rainwater tanks for \$140.

New engraved name plates were installed to the HQ Camp kitchen cupboards by Helen Arends.

New curtains to the HQ Camp dorms and dining room were made and hung by Liz Benton for \$400.

Mr. Coleman donated 2 pallets of paving bricks for the Assistant Warden’s cottage. To be used across the front of the cottage.

New water filter cartridges were bought for the Assistant Warden’s cottage for \$121.

The Assistant Warden’s cottage had the fire bricks, retainer and handle replaced to the fireplace for \$61.

A Stihl brushcutter was purchased from Australian Mower supplies for \$565 to replace the old one.

## 2012

The broken terracotta sewer pipes at the rear of the HQ Camp toilet block were replaced with PVC by Angelo Rizzuto for \$3,850.

Forest toilet skylights were replaced with polycarbonate and Stainless Steel fly mesh added all round to the ventilation area by Gary Howard for \$2,500.

HQ Camp and forest trees checked by the arborist and culled for \$4,900.

ACA accreditation renewed.

The camp was now required to charge GST for all non Scout bookings, as directed by Scout Association of Australia Victoria Branch.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

Bunnings Gumleaf gutter protection was installed to all HQ Camp buildings and the Assistant Warden's garage/shed by Gary Howard for \$5,500.

HQ Camp toilet block switchboard upgraded & separate circuit breaker added for the small dormitory for \$790

HQ Camp dining room water boiler repaired for \$355.

HQ Camp exhaust fan over the kitchen sink was replaced.

HQ Camp dining room table tops were replaced with solid timber [from Bunnings] tops. Supply \$2,000 installed by committee. The old timber tops were cut down into trestles and legs made by Rex Bennett for \$500.

Broken skylight to Warnock Lodge [by storm] repaired for \$400.

Problems with Western Water storage dam at Riddells Creek meant all water to Assistant Warden's cottage, Guides and Forest had to be boiled before usage.

Meeting with Western Water to check HQ Camp filtration system.

All metal signs throughout the camp were replaced for \$3,500. Graphics were done by Robert Arends.

A 60k litre Rhino tank was added to the rainwater system. \$8,100 including excavation.

New water filter cartridges were bought for the Assistant Warden's cottage for \$137.

Assistant Warden's office flood light was replaced with LED for \$131.

Because of the Riddells Creek dam water problem a 1" PVC line was installed to the Warden's tank direct from the HQ Camp water filtration system. \$1,485.

Driveway alongside the Assistant Warden's shed was graded with a slope and crushed rock added for \$1,560 ready for a retaining wall.

Telephone poles were used as fencing and placed around the forest parade ground.

Assistant Warden's cottage septic tank pumped out for \$280. Timber retaining structure built over the tank access hatch for \$300.

HQ septic tanks pumped out for \$600

A stainless steel access ladder fitted to the rainwater tank.

Impeller of the HQ Camp Orange pump in boiler room replaced.

Internet connected to HQ Camp primarily to provide Internet to the Assistant Warden. A 3G [4G capable] Cellular Internet connection from Telstra [at \$50/month] including directional antenna and mast was installed. The existing underground TV co-axial cable from the HQ Camp leader's quarters was used as carrier to the Assistant Warden's office. Designed and installed by Robert Arends for \$1,200. The cost was covered by a Bendigo Bank grant.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 To 2019

All dormitory bunk slats were screwed down by Liz Benton.

An isolated solar LED lighting system was designed and installed into the Forest toilets by Robert Arends for \$2,200. Part of the Bendigo Bank grant.

Guides installed 2 water tanks [without Scout approval] over the Assistant Warden's cottage underground power supply and cut it.

The HQ Camp driveway sand filter had its sand replaced.

HQ Camp driveway widened and upgraded by Jeff Shepherd for \$2,112.

Forest toilet block walls repaired for \$1,166.

The orienteering course had 7 numbers missing and were replaced.

Hoadley Drv was re-graded by Jeff Shepherd for \$1,800.

The HQ kitchen stove serviced.

The HQ and the forest was checked by the arborist and dangerous trees felled for \$4,900.

## 2013

Declon O'Farrell completed the external painting to the HQ Camp recreation hall and dormitories, which were started by the Rotary Club of Essendon, and the internal painting of the dining room for \$12,413.

Entry platform to "Swing" bridge repaired.

All forest camping areas were designated with new letters and a Forest Camp map installed at the gate 4 entry.

There was a bushfire close by at Kerry.

Leak in our main water line in neighbour's property was repaired.

Double swing hinges to the HQ kitchen saloon doors replaced by Gary Howard for \$364.

A replacement, new glass fronted fridge [Effendi] bought for HQ Camp kitchen for \$1,087.

The old tip road cleared, graded and reopened as a walking track.

Received a Melbourne Water grant of \$1,650 to clear the Hakea infestation from around the old pool.

New PT Pine retaining wall built to east of the Assistant Warden's shed for \$800 and \$400 of plants planted by Liz Benton.

New red box timber archway to chapel built by Rudolf Arends from Red Box for \$600.

HQ Camp plant room door and doors to forest toilet block repaired by Gary Howard.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

Showers road near the chapel was graded by Mr Jeff Shepherd. \$880.

Mr Jeff Shepherd pushed over 25 trees at the end of Farquhar Cres. for \$550 to create a cleared camping area. The trees were cut up by Gary Howard for \$1,800.

A leader's prep and 1<sup>st</sup> Aid room was created from one of the HQ Camp leaders quarter' rooms. At the same time new benches, coat hook racks and drawers were installed into the HQ Camp leader's quarters for \$1,200.

A 5m aluminium extension ladder was bought for \$220.

2 Possum boxes were installed in the forest. Constructed by 1<sup>st</sup> Milleara Scout Group.

Scouts and Venturers planted shrubs along the creek as part of a Landcare project.

Top soil placed onto the HQ Camp Cub camping area for \$1,056 and levelled by Jeff Shepherd for \$528.

Obtained 2 sets of tug of war ropes and placed them in the Recreation Hall sports store.

Replaced the Forest shower curtain rods and rings.

Graded and added road topping to the Chapel entry for \$1,340.

Started the process of redefining the paths in the Flora/Fauna Reserve with Venturer Dirk Arends and Mr. Chris Clark.

The Rotary Club of Essendon placed a Rowallan Camp history sign on the HQ Camp gas tank enclosure.

The Rotary Club of Essendon refurbished the Rowallan camp main entry sign.

Forest amphitheatre was cleared, excavated, levelled, drains and gravel added and 2 tiers of PT Pine seating added for \$2,500 by Rudolf Arends, Stephen Rahill and Neil Collum.

Farquhar Cres. at the amphitheatre was re-graded, new stormwater pipes under the road and road base topping added by Jeff Shepherd for \$2,000.

Added water-wise signs to the HQ Camp toilets.

HQ Camp female toilet exhaust fan replaced for \$180.

A new large "Rowallan" and District Gum leaf signs added to the HQ Camp Recreation hall by Declon O'Farrell and Liz Benton.

Additional drop bolts and overhead door stops added to the Recreation Hall and the dining room. Also the dining room door closer was replaced.

Badges and yellow vests made for the committee members.

A new fiberglass slide was added to the HQ Camp adventure playground by Rudolf, Dirk and Martyn Arends for \$1,000.



# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

A new flying fox, manufactured by Phil. Macrae, and installed at HQ Camp by Rudolf Arends for \$1,900.

Purchased 2 patio heaters for the HQ Camp Hall for \$50 each from L Krois.

Parkair Venturers burned off all the cleared Hakea infestation for \$400.

An upright gas stove / oven and 45L LPG tank were installed at Warnock Lodge.

The Assistant Warden's living room light fittings were replaced with LED for \$150.

Seats to the Ute were re-upholstered.

The HQ Camp adventure playground was repaired by Robert Arends and his sons Dirk & Martyn.

The HQ Camp storm damaged ladies toilet was repaired and painted by Declon O'Farrell for \$2,970

## 2014

A large section of the HQ Camp dining room floor near main door (was the area in front of the old fireplace), was replaced [due to old termite damage] by Gary Howard, Rudolf Arends, Stephen Rahill and Neil Collum for \$882.

Flammable liquid signs added to the camp front gate and the garage.

A second hand MF250 tractor and TMD log splitter were bought from Mrs. Helen Arends' auntie for \$6,000 + \$500 for maintenance. The old MF135 tractor was sold for \$6,500.

The north and south walls to the Assistant Warden's wood shed were rebuilt by Rudolf Arends and Neil Collum.

Replaced the ceiling fan in the Assistant Warden's bedroom for \$250.

Plumbing report by Arthur Cale resulted in a new sediment filter from Southland for \$5,000 to replace the paper and carbon filters. At the same time the copper piping to the plant room and toilet block were replaced with 1" pipes to provide better pressure. \$2,000. The filtered water supply was also connected to the hill tanks which meant the whole camp now had filtered water, including supplies to the Guides' Camp, Assistant Warden's cottage and the Forest Camp, as well as HQ Camp.

Chapel paths were upgraded with Tuscan Lilydale Topping and Merbau edging by the Scout Fellowship.

All Rowallan minutes and correspondence are starting to be placed onto the web "cloud" drive which was set up by Robert Arends.

The construction of an archery course at Angel's Flight Bridge was started by Jason Troy. Cost expected to be approximately \$3,000.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

The HQ Camp Recreation Hall sleeper steps were replaced with PT Pine sleepers for \$500 at a working bee.

Angel's Flight track was cleared by Robert Arends, Venturer Dirk Arends and ranger Len Krois.

All dormitory bunk mattresses were replaced with new blue covered 100mm foam for \$6,012 which was organised by Robert Arends.

Stainless steel coat hooks were installed to all bunks by Rudolf Arends.

Both elements to the HQ Camp kitchen oven were replaced for \$2,244.

Declon O'Farrell's sister in-law donated 31 stackable chairs for the hall.

The Forest water line that traverses the Parade Ground is exposed. A trench was dug by Bendigo Rovers and the pipe lowered in to the trench. The rusted valve and connections to the main line gave way in the process and were replaced.

Electrical power supply from the transformer pole to both the Scouts and Guides camps were placed underground as part of the Government 2009 bushfire grant. The cost to the Government was \$31,000.

The HQ Camp toilet block Orange pump bearings were replaced.

The HQ and cottage septic tanks were pumped out. \$940.

## 2015

Main water supply line from Hill Tanks to plant room, behind the HQ Camp toilet block was replaced as it leaked and we lost 100kL of water.

There was a water leak in the forest so all the water lines were traced with a metal detector and a leak was found and repaired. Also the water pipe leading to the tap at the corner of Hoadley Drv and Showers Rd. was broken. The pipe was shortened and the tap replaced further south. It was also found that the toilet cisterns were leaking after the whole system was pressure tested. The cisterns were fixed and the system didn't leak anymore.

A solar powered exhaust fan was installed to the HQ Camp boy's toilet near the urinal.

Painted steel handrails were installed to the 2 HQ Camp Recreation Hall stairs and the Kitchen loading dock.

An additional water level indicator was installed to the HQ forest tanks.

The sleeper steps to the small dorm at the toilet were replaced.

A 3<sup>rd</sup> tier of seating and additional soil was added to the forest amphitheatre by Neil Collum and Robert Arends.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

The 3 yearly camp accreditation was renewed including site inspections. The ACA accreditation is now run by ATAP.

The HQ Camp toilet floors were painted with Epoxy.

The main water line crossing in from the adjacent farmer's property was damaged. It is old farmer's polypipe. The last 20M in the neighbour's property was replaced with new polypipe, removing multiple joins.

A hydronic heating system (including the upgrading of the gas supply to 20mm and additional wall and ceiling insulation) was installed to both HQ dormitories at a cost of \$20,000. A \$5000 loan was obtained from Scout HQ to facilitate the work.

The HQ Camp septic tanks, sewer tank and the Ranger's Cottage tank were pumped out.

The Ranger's Cottage firebox was replaced under warranty with an external pedestal unit which is capable of having a wetback added later for a cost of \$1562. This included removing the old brick hearth and installing a CFC sheet to the floor.

Maintenance to the Rangers' Cottage also included main laundry fly wire door hinges and wire were repaired; tap handles to shower and basin were replaced; smoke detector was replaced; living room ceiling fan [\$179] was replaced.

The HQ Camp water tank, middle of 3, was drained and isolated as it has too many rust holes.

The HQ Camp UV water filter wiper motor was replaced.

2 additional fire drum stands were made for the forest.

The Forest toilet septic tank was pumped out; cisterns and pans were repaired; shower curtain rings were replaced with Stainless Steel rings.

The HQ Camp Recreation Hall verandah posts were repaired with steel base support extensions added by Gary Howard.

The HQ Camp and Forest camping areas were checked by an arborist and trees cut and trimmed accordingly at a cost of \$4,400.

The Rangers' Cottage in-roof hot water service was replaced with a Run on Sun electric boost roof solar hot water service at a cost of \$6,979.48.

The Rangers' Cottage bedroom ceiling fan was replaced at a cost of \$348.70.

All power points to the HQ Camp dormitories were replaced with USB points for \$600 except for 1 power point in each dorm to discourage campers bringing fan heaters.

The Forest Chapel path was extended in Tuscan Lilydale Topping by the Scout Fellowship.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 To 2019

An Archery Range was constructed along the creek flat at the bottom of Angel's Flight, just across from the walking bridge at a cost of approx. \$4,000, which includes all the equipment. The construction was carried out by Jason Troy, Rudolf Arends, Robert Arends and his sons, Dirk and Martyn. Additional sign posts were added at various places.

In the process of constructing the Archery Range the excavator also widened and cleared the track from the Cahill track to the Archery Range.

A Facebook site was started and maintained by Dirk Arends.

The AMP Bank investment account was moved over to an investment account with the Bendigo Bank.

A service contract was signed with Delph plumbing for the HQ septic/sewer system. The septic pump was replaced at a cost of \$880. The blue Lowra pump in the HQ Camp plant room was replaced.

Old electric poles were laid at the base of the embankment of the first HQ Camp Cub camping area with hooks to allow tents to be tied to them due to the rocky area making it difficult to use pegs with the tents.

31 stackable chairs donated by Declon O'Farrell for the HQ Camp Recreation Hall.

15<sup>th</sup> Essendon Sea Scouts donated 15 wooden trestle tables for the HQ Camp Recreation Hall.

Yallambie's (our north eastern neighbour) contractor drove his excavator through our flora and fauna reserve (North end of Camp) at gate 5 without permission. The Gate had been removed and closed off years ago, and so the fence wires were cut and not reinstated by this action. The infraction was raised with Yallambie and the resolution would be that the contractor construct a driveway at Kent Rd and bore a hole ready for a gate post. The post and a gate (Gate 5) will be installed by the Committee, allowing renewed access to the reserve.

The valve to the Guides' Camp water supply at HQ broke and was replaced including the moving of the nearby tap standpipe.

The fibreglass slide at the HQ Adventure was broken by a falling branch. It was replaced under insurance.

The polypipe water supply pipe in the HQ Camp plant room burst and was replaced.

A fire screen was manufactured for the new Ranger's Cottage firebox for \$215 by Rex Bennett.

Congratulations to Jack Paterson who has been on the committee for 20 years.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

## 2016

Some Archery equipment was stolen out of the shed and has been replaced by insurance. Lockable Gates were installed to the 1<sup>st</sup> part of the shed to create a secured area.

The UV sensor in the UV water filter was replaced at a cost of \$500.

The Polish Scout Jamboree was held in the Forest Camp in January.

The retaining wall on the Cahill trail at the bottom end of the old 'pipe line' was repaired.

20 foldable chairs were purchased for the HQ Camp Recreation Hall for \$700.

New Archery Range instruction boards installed.

Forest toilet floors epoxy painting completed.

Committee bought the Ranger's Cottage A/C and mobile repeater from the Ranger for \$2,300 and a Warn winch for \$250. He also donated a block and tackle and a pump.

All lights for the tractor were fixed by Stephen Rahill.

Rangers Len and Cheryl Krois have resigned as of 13<sup>th</sup> June.

A log lifter/carrier (dolly) for behind the tractor was constructed (design from the Internet) for \$400 by Rex Bennett.

A 1KL square water tank was purchased for \$50 for the cottage vegetable garden.

Shane Rider is the new Camp Ranger.

The HQ Camp Recreation Hall fluoro lights were replaced with LED tubes.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> HQ forest water tank was replaced at a cost of \$1,825 with a \$1,000 donation from the Rotary Club of Essendon.

The rock garden around the HQ Camp flag pole was removed and new retaining pole positioned near the large dorm and Recreation Hall with additional pebbles to complete the new look.

A new gate 1 & 5 were installed and the whole length of Kent rd. fence repaired by Stephen Rahill.

The inaugural Moonee Valley District (including Moreland District) camp for Rover, Venturer and Scout called Mucked Up Tails, was successfully held with more than 100 participants.

A Hazardous Tree Identification course was attended by Rudolf Arends, Robert Arends and the Ranger.

The maintenance contract for the HQ Camp septic sewer plant was moved to SSA from Delph at a cost of \$360.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 To 2019

The existing Ranger's Cottage water tank was replaced with a new 8KL poly water tank for \$2,320 installed.

Forest toilet cisterns had valve systems replaced with dual flush types.

Ranger's Cottage garage fibreglass skylight replaced with polycarbonate.

Constructed 3 new ½ fire drum stands as old ones have disappeared.

Forest parade ground had 4 dead trees. These were pushed over and then cut up and 6 truckloads of soil added and spread to level.

A concrete drain pipe and grate installed to the new link road between Anderson Drv and Showers Rd.

Air seals added to all dorm doors.

A round table top [being a wooden cable drum side on a stump] added to Forest Parade ground.

Kindreds pumped out the 2 HQ Camp and the Forest Camp septic tanks for \$930.

Rowallan Camp sign at Kilmore Rd stolen and has been replaced by Council.

A new Makita battery drill, grinder and ratchet drill set bought for \$500.

Yearly accreditation renewed with ATAP. The PAA inspection of the specialised courses and repairs were done in January 2017 for \$1,760.

Grant of \$1,100 received from Bendigo Bank towards a new 8KL hill tank.

New timber valve pit and cover for the Forest Camp tap junction at Warnock Lodge constructed and installed.

## 2017

The Ranger has installed at his cost an NBN Sky Master 30G satellite dish on the Cottage, to provide personal Internet services.

Gate 3 has been refurbished by S.Rahill.

HQ Camp dining room hot water urn was repaired.

Ute registration and insurance moved to Scouts Victoria. The tractor was also registered via Scout Victoria since we need to drive it on Kent Rd.

Swing bridge steel uprights were de-rusted and painted by Declon O'Farrell & Rudolf Arends.

Rowallan web site and camp documents were updated by Robert Arends.

The Camp rubbish removal was changed to the MRSC recycle program, at cost of \$1,180 pa, by the camp Ranger. This is a similar cost to the previous provider who has

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

ceased trading. The Ranger also constructed some compost bins at the Cottage and is running a recycling program for HQ Camp occupants.

6 new ½ fire drums were made for the forest.

The HQ Camp central water tank was replaced with a new 8KL poly tank at a cost of \$2,285, including a new CFA valve connection.

Replacement used batteries provided by Secure Bits for the Forest toilet block solar lighting system.

A new cone shaped filter was constructed to the HQ rainwater tanks to resolve blockages caused by debris caught by the existing filter.

All HQ Camp table tennis tables were repaired by the Ranger.

The existing HQ Camp Safewater UV system has broken down and was replaced with an Advance System at a cost of \$2,401.

The CFA inspected the Scout and Guide camps fire systems.

A gate valve was added to the rainwater tank supply (from Western Water dam) through the driveway pump/tank to aid in manual flushing of the water system.

The arborist has checked and cut more trees to the forest areas B, C, D, F, G and J for \$4,400.

With the Accreditation now being run by ATAP, the previous Accreditation Arch Folder was repurposed as a Camp Manual by Rudolf Arends. It was provided to Scouts Victoria Campsite Alliance for the use by other campsites.

Two aluminium flag poles were installed to the HQ Camp area in front of the large dorm.

The Rec Hall South West corner post was moving out due to retaining wall movement. It was repaired by Robert Arends.

The driveway alongside the large dorm was re-graded and a spoon drain added.

HQ Camp drinking water system through the UV & sediment filtration system was tested by DTS and found OK.

Two old water tanks were cut in ½ and installed in the forest for wood storage.

Three poly grill-drains were installed across the chapel paths by D. O'Farrell.

Softfall mulch was added to the HQ Camp Adventure Playground and mulch to the Low Ropes course.

The Ranger's Cottage solar hot water service element, thermostat and anode were replaced.

Rubber guards were added to the tractor slasher to contain flying debris.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

The Kent Rd. fence has been repaired by S. Rahill.

Our Northern neighbour (Spendthrift Australia) has replaced gate 6 (North boundary).

Area E in the forest was cleared and levelled by local contractor John Sabo.

In December, a new online booking system (Venue360) was rented along with 2 other Campsites and historical data for the 2017-2018 FY was added. Initial cost \$41 per month.

A bequest was received from J. B [Barry] Keam to the value of \$150,484. Thank you very much it will be put to good use bringing planned projects forward.

A second hand Echo leaf blower was obtained at no cost.

## 2018

The HQ Camp male toilet electric fan over the showers was replaced.

Timber handrails to the HQ Camp adventure playground replaced & roof repaired.

HQ Camp BBQ table tops replaced.

HQ Camp disabled toilet has had a shower and curtain installed, a new door installed and side wall rendered.

New signs by the Ranger installed at cottage and camp entry.

The Rowallan web site was upgraded by Robert Arends and Dirk Arends.

Various meetings with Western Water and MRSC health regarding water supply.

The HQ Camp Orange pump coupler and impeller replaced.

Leaf baskets were added to the downpipes of the HQ Camp Recreation hall and large dorm.

HQ Camp kitchen stove and ovens were professionally cleaned.

A defibrillator (AED) was donated by Baden-Powell Masonic Lodge and installed outside the HQ Camp dining room.

Three speed humps were installed in Baden-Powell drive to slow speedy drivers.

A solar powered skylight was installed into the central room of the HQ Camp large dorm.

An external battery pack was added to the battery powered Warn winch.

Upgraded the Recreation Hall committee room with the addition of 3 "Brownbuilt type" metal shelves and removed the committee cupboard from the HQ Camp kitchen.

Donated \$100 to the Riddells Creek CFA.

A 14m mast was donated for Jota by SRESU and Kent Cochrane.



# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

Hoadley Hide was held at Rowallan in the Forest Camp.

A new grease trap was purchased for the HQ Camp kitchen at a cost of \$687.50.

A \$20,000 grant received from HV McKay towards the refurbishment of Warnock Lodge.

Ash receptacles (1.5m x 1.5m) made from concrete sleepers were installed at the 4 firewood shelters in the forest.

Lots of dropped timber, by the Arborist, have been cut up and cleared.

Two woollen blankets donated to the HQ Camp 1<sup>st</sup> Aid room by State Commissioner for Campsites, Peter Rutley.

HQ Camp kitchen refurbished. Cabinets were solid, but doors, drawers, sides were replaced. One of the benches was laminate, it was replaced with Stainless Steel bench. Built-in pantry and broom cupboard removed and replaced with open Stainless Steel shelving. The right half of the Stainless Steel bench and double sink replaced with new, Sharpline Stainless Steel dishwasher and Stainless Steel bench with new larger sink added and part floor sealed with epoxy. Broom racks were installed outside the kitchen & light tubes changed to LEDs. The cost of \$26,433 funded by the J.B. Keam Bequest.

Gravel added to the Forest Camp female toilet path with a power pole as a retaining wall.

John Sabo upgraded some of the Forest Camp roads, added a road across area J, added a drain under and raised the intersection of Nunan Road and Anderson Drive and added a carpark opposite the Ranger's Office at a cost of \$17,258.

A low ropes course has been installed in the Forest Camp by ARCB at a cost of \$19,500 which was funded by the Keam Bequest.

Large and small dorm vinyl floor tiles repaired.

## 2019

Gutter guard was installed to the Ranger's cottage.

The TV co-axial cable from HQ to the Ranger's cottage was replaced with 2 single lengths to improve signal. The second cable is future use.

Some boards replaced on the "swing bridge".

The HQ Camp grease soak pit was repaired and covered with corrugated iron sheets.

Old fashioned handles and latches added to the HQ Camp leaders rooms.

The garden bed in the southern end of the HQ Camp toilet block was cleared of some unruly bushes and the edging was rebuilt using power poles.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

HQ Camp overhead power cable to the toilet block re-supported from the Recreation Hall to remove the supporting pole (related to next item).

The eastern retaining wall to the HQ Camp Recreation Hall was replaced and the surrounding paving, including up to the toilet block southern garden bed, was re-laid.

Broken pipe to the HQ Camp sewer tank was repaired.

Rowallan Camp sign at Kent Rd & Mt. Charlie Rd intersection replaced after it was taken.

A reed bed to disperse Class C water from the HQ Camp sewer plant was constructed.

Safety signs added to the HQ Camp upper bunk beds.

The Baden-Powell Drive drain alongside the Ranger's cottage was dug out as it had filled.

31 truckloads of soil added to the HQ Camp playground by C. Newnham \$4,100 (to reduce the slip hazard caused by the hard clay), graded by J. Sabo \$800 and then seeded \$400.

Hose connection valve installed onto the HQ Camp main water supply for watering the playground, \$300.

10 truckloads of soil added to the Forest Camp area E \$1300 (for general leveling), and 6 loads to area J \$800 (to cover the exposed water main), by C. Newnham, graded by J. Sabo \$800, and then seeded \$400.

HQ Camp Toilet block internal lights replaced with LED tubes.

Most HQ Camp external lights replaced with LED \$1,100.

A new "cloud storage" system was instigated by Rob Arends.

HQ Camp dormitory mattress covers (72 off) sewn and replaced by Liz Benton at a cost of \$2,960

HQ Camp toilet block HWS had its computer control panel replaced.

HQ Camp disabled toilet door replaced with a solid core external door.

Stumps removed with a skip-steer loader in the Forest Camp, area C, G, H, & J. \$1,600

The broken fly screen mesh to the Forest Camp toilet block roof has been replaced with Stainless Steel mesh.

Fixed-wireless NBN antenna is now connected to HQ Camp and phones and Internet connected to HQ Camp and Cottage. The system was upgraded by Rob Arends.

A second hand TV was supplied to HQ Camp dining room by Dirk Arends.

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

## APPENDIX E – PHOTOS AT ROWALLAN.



Rowallan Official Opening Ceremony



Rowallan HQ Camp Kitchen, Cub Training Team, Eskimos, HTRAPC, July 13 1958



## ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019



Essendon District Bus

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019



Rowallan HQ Camp, Dining room + Fireplace, balloons, 1956



Rowallan HQ Camp Dining room + Fireplace, 1957



## ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019



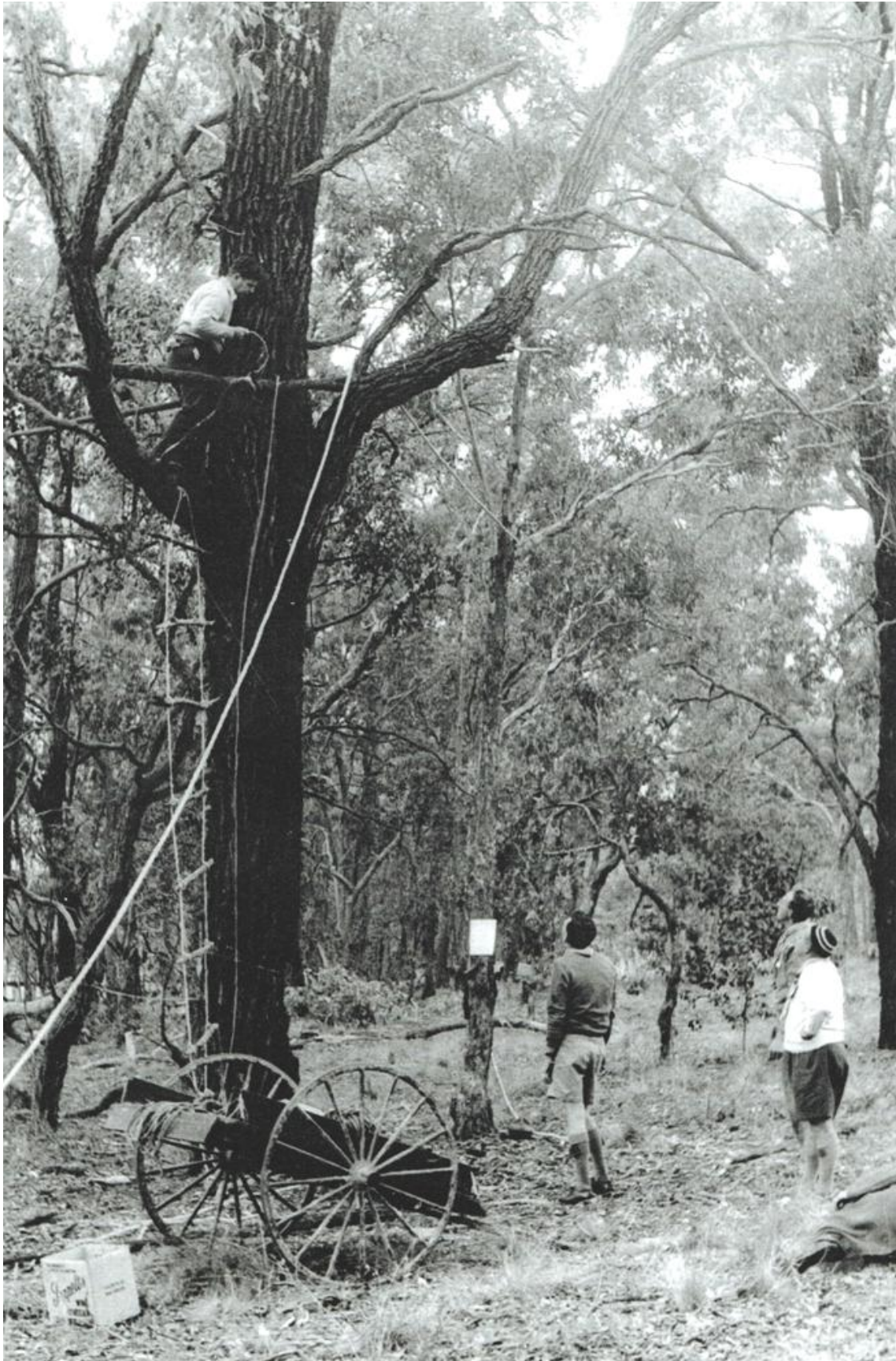
Rowallan HQ Camp kitchen + wood stove, 1959



Rowallan HQ Camp, Flag Pole, Dormitory, 1959



## ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019



Rowallan Forest, Pioneering, note: Trek Cart, 1959



# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019



Rowallan Swimming Pool Opening Victorian Chief Commissioner,  
Maj. Gen. R.J.H. Risson, 9/12/1961



Rowallan Swimming Pool Opening Mayor Essendon Cr. Alan Arvidson, 9/12/1961



# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019



Rowallan Fitzgerald Cup Opening, Swimming Pool



Rowallan Fitzgerald Cup Parade, Warnock Lodge left, Toilet/shower block right.



# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019



Rowallan Ron Horne Memorial Chapel, 1959



Rowallan Chapel, Wedding, Judy Herron + David Morrieson



# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019



Rowallan Swing Bridge, pre 1983 Fires



Rowallan Swing Bridge, pre 1983 Fires



## ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019



Rowallan Swing Bridge, post 1983 Fires



## ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019



Rowallan HQ Camp, Cub Camp, school room and dormitory in the background, 1970's



Rowallan Ron Horne Memorial Chapel, Plaques unveiling, 1988



# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019



Rowallan Ron Horne Memorial Chapel, Lt. Col.K. Farquhar Memorial, 1/12/1991



Rowallan Ron Horne Memorial Chapel, Internment Memorial, Entry, 10/3/1997



# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019



50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration 14/10/2001 @ Rowallan Scout Camp.

From Left: Peter Duras (Rotary Club of Essendon), Tony Farquhar (Moonee Valley District, Scouts Victoria), Ann White - District Governor Rotary 9800), Ian Singleton (Rotary Club of Essendon - President), Danny Attard (Rowallan Committee - Chairman), Rudolf Arends (Rowallan Committee), Jane Scarlett (State Commissioner Guides Victoria)



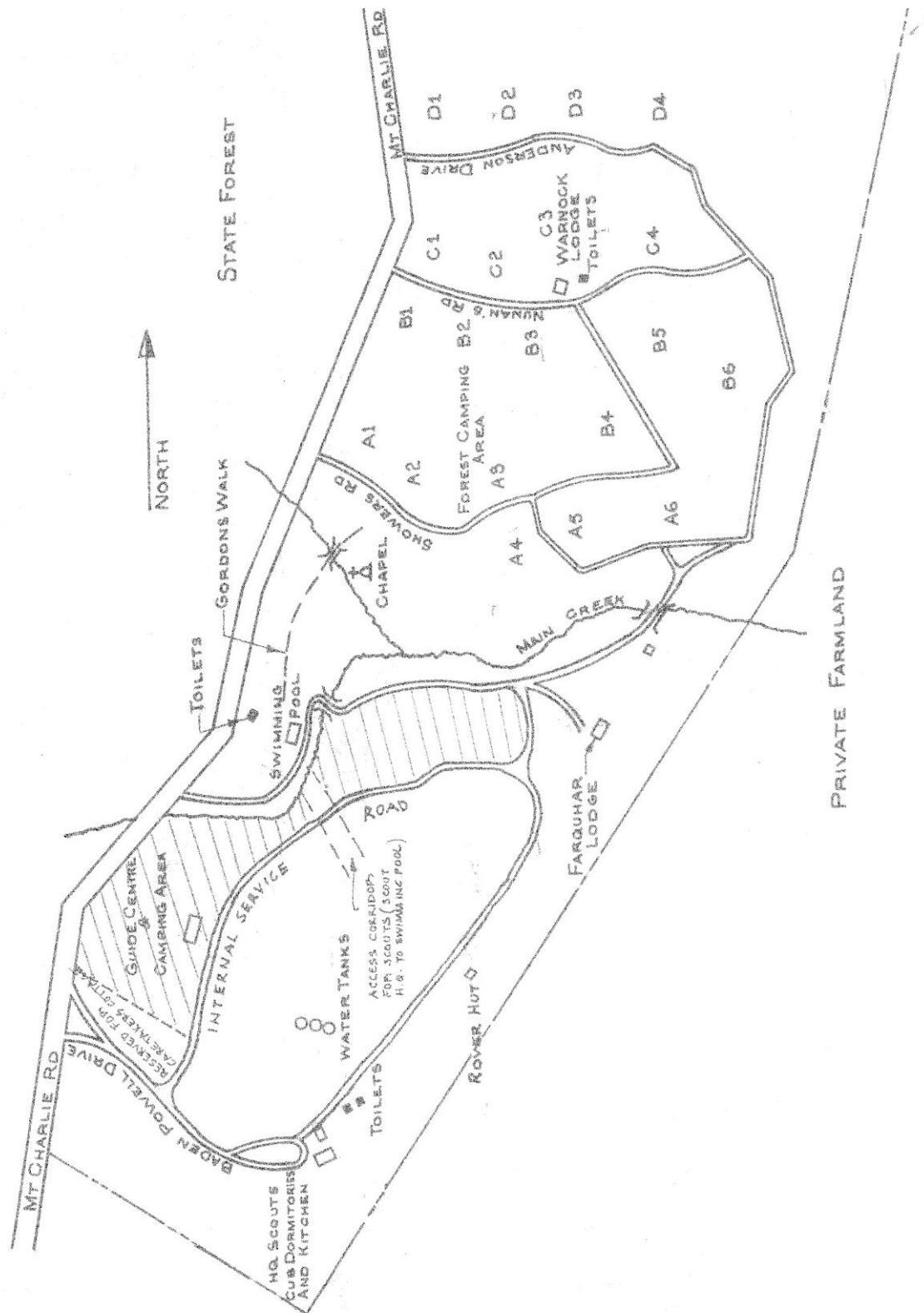
50th Anniversary Celebration 14/10/2001 @ Rowallan Scout Camp.

Replica Plaque of the original given to the Rotary Club of Essendon in 1949 that had been lost in a fire.

From Left: Wal Dibben (Rotary Club of Essendon), Ian Singleton (Rotary Club of Essendon - President), Ann White - District Governor Rotary 9800)

# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019

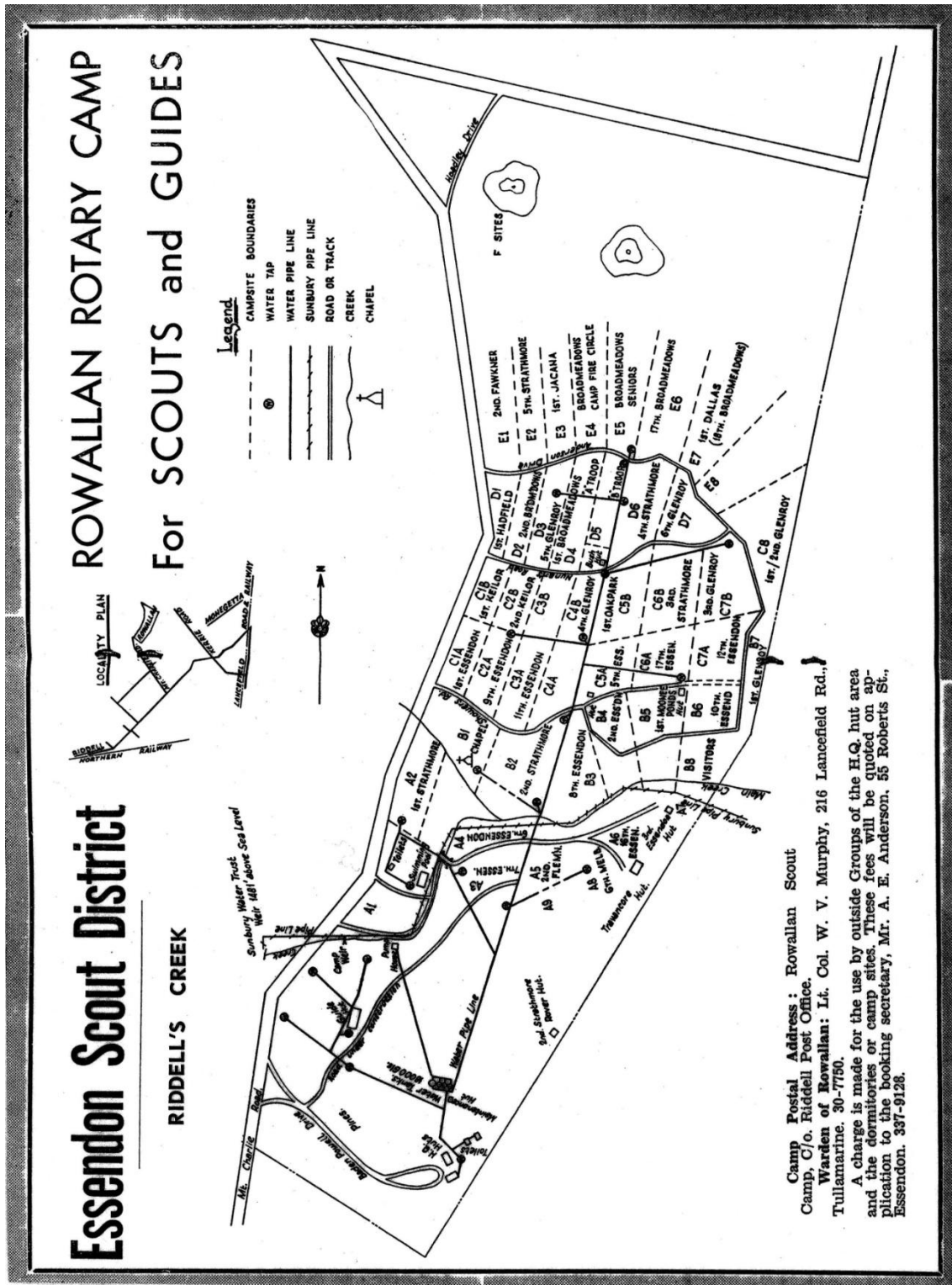
## APPENDIX F – MAPS AT ROWALLAN.



Early Site Plan



# ROWALLAN ROTARY CAMP HISTORY 1946 TO 2019



Rowallan Camp Map, circa 1968-1976