

TRAINING CAMPS ARE POPULAR AT MIRRIWINNI GARDENS

The series of youth Training Camps being conducted at Mirriwinni Gardens on Five Day Creek west of Bellbrook, by the Youth Department of the Seventh-Day Adventist church in North New South Wales, are proving to be very popular. So far over 160 children and youth from a wide area of New South Wales' mid-coast have attended and have greatly enjoyed the programme. The daily programme at the recent camp held in the May School holidays (1974) included a games period, inspection and parade, and swimming activities in the morning, while in the afternoon a hobbies period and recreational activities, such as hay rides, archery, treasure hunts, mini-bikes and hikes took up most of the time. Each evening campfires, films and concerts were enjoyed. Archery has proved to be one of the most popular sports with coaching and training provided by Pastor W. A. Baines of Coffs Harbour. Mini-bike riding also proved to be a great attraction.

In the holiday atmosphere of the camp the staff tried to get across the idea that learning is fun and in the programme time was found for short meetings and instructional talks.

Although access to the campsite is difficult, Mirriwinni Gardens provides a near-to-ideal setting for a camping programme with ample scope for such things as bushwalking, swimming and canoeing and outdoor team sports.

The camps have been staffed mainly by senior students, who act as counsellors to groups of 8-10 campers. These counsellors help in supervising the activities of the groups.

The camps have been co-sponsored by the Directorate of Aboriginal Welfare in New South Wales and the Adventist church.

Information concerning future camps can be obtained from the Youth Department, P.O. Box 129, Hamilton. 2303.

Right, centre: Almost dwarfed by their bows, six young archers get their aim in under the watchful eye of archery instructor, Pastor W. A. Baines. The archers are from left to right, Rosalie Quinlan, Shirley Cohen, Wilma Cohen, Marjorie Holten and Lester Cottrell

Right: With the encouragement of their counsellor, Esther Quinlan of Bellbrook, (centre) a group of girls get the potatoes peeled for dinner



Left: The mini-bike was always in demand and muddy paddocks provided a lot of fun. Left to right are Gordon Quinlan, Ricky Halton and Charlie Quinlan

