

# ADELE FIELDING

Memories of Christmas as a child, are synonymous with Tiona.

Packing up to go involved stripping the veggie garden to store food under the bed, and leaving home around 4am "to avoid the heat". Tent living with no refrigerator, just a safe hanging from a tree. Tomato, cucumber and onion sandwiches featured. Such excitement when there was fish on the menu.

Christmas morning excitement to look under the side of the tent and see children gradually emerge from their tents with new presents to play with and show off to friends.

Visits to Ivers farm for peach picking and bottling. Boxes of fresh fruit brought back to

camp to share. I loved serving in the shop.

Services under the "MissionTent" canvas, until a huge storm ripped it to pieces.

Children's classes. Kevin Wall took us fishing one year for class activity.

Many friendships were initiated and developed over the years.

I am still drawn back to Tiona for the quality worships, choir, orchestra and fellowship experiences over meals and beach time.

May our memories serve to shape our futures as we adapt to changing times.

# TIM PRESCOTT

Christmas for our family has mostly been "in the lands of palm-tree and vine" with annual summer holidays at Tiona, nearby Bluey's Beach and home at Forster on the Mid-North Coast of New South Wales. Camping at Tiona Reunion was a wonderful time for connecting with church friends, extended families and new campers in a community sharing worship, classes, recreation and the principles of zionic living. Fun adventures by the ocean, Wallis Lake and shady palm glades included swimming, gathering pipies, fishing, team sport, hiking, wildlife and finding wonder in nature. Many of us camped in comfortable tents, enjoyed fresh meals, received inspiring ministry in the mission tent, sang carols on the lawn in front of the old dining hall and watched sunsets through ancient palms in the Green Cathedral.

Christmas festivities were simple and meaningful as we met with old friends and included new people on a camp stool at the old wooden table. As I reflect on Christmas experiences over the years I appreciate the African Proverb "It takes a village to raise a child" where children are nurtured, the spirit of Christ's love is present and hopes for peace embrace the world. Enjoy the holiday season of Christmas everywhere.

Tim Prescott



Tim Prescott, Elizabeth Thompson (Selwan), Tony Prescott, Judith Fordham (Ryan), Robert Thompson, Mark Lillico-Thompson at Tiona about 1963