



Edmund Rice - Networking WA

Volume 1 Issue 4

August 2008

Special points of Interest:

- **International Edmund Rice Network Young Adult Justice Gathering July 10th to 13th**
- **Edmund Rice Camps 20th Anniversary ball August 29th 2008**
- **Ministry in Morawa—Br Gerry Faulkner**
- **Universal Declaration of human rights ERCMWA**
- **Indigenous Ministry WA**
- **Victorian ERN Conference Oct 18th 2008**



INTERNATIONAL EDMUND RICE NETWORK YOUNG ADULT JUSTICE GATHERING

This Gathering of almost 90 Young Adults from across the International Edmund Rice Network is the first of its kind – members of the Edmund Rice Network from almost everywhere in the world gathered in Mulgoa, Sydney for almost 5 days. It was designed to be a special time, created for people to share stories, hopes, dreams and visions. This extraordinary event proved to be all that anyone could have hoped for ...and more.



Over the past two centuries, the Christian Brothers have worked across the globe principally in education. In more recent times the 'Edmund Rice Network' has evolved to comprise many other men and women who are not members of the Congregation but that are employed or volunteer to work collaboratively in various ministries initiated and inspired by the Christian Brothers. Alongside many traditional and alternative education initiatives, the Edmund Rice Network is now also involved in healthcare, community development, social jus-

tice and advocacy programs, and specialised ministries working with the poor and other people living at the margins of society.



With the WYD Festival scheduled for Sydney, it was decided this was an opportune time for the young adults of the Edmund Rice Network around the world to come together to celebrate, reflect and renew.

There have been many gatherings, of all ages from across many parts of the network. However, nothing for this particular section of the network nor on this scale had ever been attempted before!

It is hoped that this event has not ended . . . delegates needed no encouragement to develop contacts and connections and many are already pursuing



those into the future. This will see meaningful connections develop between parts of the Edmund Rice Network.

Plenty of less formal and

fun times were had as the delegates relaxed and got to know each other. Delegates are reporting they had a wonderful time and have been left with many memories to cherish for a long time.



Delegates stayed on in Sydney after the Edmund Rice conference to participate in the 6 day WYD Festival. . . For many, it was a significant experience to be able to participate in this event as a truly multicultural group, alongside members of the ERN from all over the world!



Some responses from delegates:

"I feel a deeper connection and am excited about the future"

"a profoundly life-changing and energising experience"

"the spiritual benefit has been surprisingly powerful"

"my task and mission back home has been given more clarity and purpose"

"challenging and rewarding"

"inspirational, empowering and personally satisfying"

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MINISTRY IN MORAWA

I have been in Morawa for 12 months now, so I thought it was time I published a brief summary of my ministry in this part of the world.

As many of you would know, I was to have gone to Nairobi in Kenya at the start of last year, but suspect health changed that plan. Then I was invited to consider a form of pastoral ministry in the northern wheat belt of Western Australia and I have been here for a year now.

The northern wheat belt divides naturally into East, Central, and West. In the eastern region are the towns of Mullewa, Tardun and some smaller communities. Central includes the towns of Morawa and Perenjori, and in the West we find the towns of Mingenew, Three Springs, Carnamagh, Coorow, and again a number of smaller communities. Morawa's population is generally estimated to be about 700. As most of you would be aware, this region has been badly affected by drought for the last several years. This year it is as bad as any - and probably worse because any one drought builds on what happened the previous year.

Of the towns mentioned above, Mullewa is the only one with a resident priest. What we are trying to do is prepare the people for living their faith without the presence of ordained ministers. In each town or



local community, one person has been appointed as coordinator, and this person (currently all are women) makes sure that if there is to be a local mass, all necessary preparations are done, including preparation of the altar, etc. From time to time, we have a visiting priest in the region from overseas (the last one came from Donegal) and at present we have a retired priest from Toowoomba.

I have been asked by the leader of this pastoral ministry movement to focus my attention on the men of the region. I do this in two ways. Firstly, by having occasional gatherings of men; and secondly, by visiting the farmers and their families. Organising the gatherings is quite another matter, mainly because people don't come easily or readily to meetings, especially in the evening. I must take into consideration a number of factors, including the price of petrol (\$1.80 a litre for unleaded and more for diesel). Also, night driving is somewhat hazardous, given the presence of kangaroos on the roads.

I attend as many gatherings (both religious and civil) as I can. This means that I go to public meetings (farming related or not), and street gatherings such as health days, fund raising events, school public events, etc.

Contact: Br. Gerry Faulkner gtfaulkner@edmundrice.org

INDIGENOUS MINISTRY IN WA



Indigenous Ministry in Oceania is raising awareness, participation and the profile of the Indigenous Story in the Edmund Rice Ministries.

To achieve this there has to be ongoing "two way" conversations with all Ministries, including Edmund Rice Schools in Australia. Indigenous Ministry is involved in a range of activities which includes working with students in schools; leading Acknowledgement of Country ceremonies, and a wide range of cross cultural discussions and reflections.

The second aspect of the Indigenous Ministry is that it belongs to a wider network of Indigenous people throughout Oceania. With the evolution of processes and structures in Oceania the hope is that the Indigenous Ministry in Oceania will be strengthened as Indigenous people come together to debate about the most culturally appropriate ways of doing Indigenous Business in Oceania.

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CEREMONY ACKNOWLEDGING NOONGAH COUNTRY

The official handover of the Holy Spirit Province Leadership team to the Oceania Leadership Team took place on the banks of the Canning River at Westcourt, Salter Point, in October 2007 with a ceremony acknowledging Noongah Country led by Donella Brown. Donella is the Indigenous Consultant WA



UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

EDMUND RICE CENTRE MIRRABOOKA YOUTH LEADERSHIP GROUP

The Edmund rice centre Mirrabooka Youth Leadership Group was founded in October 2006 with the aim of training young people of the CaLD community to be positive role models by teaching them leadership ideas, and encouraging them to put those ideas into practice through service to the community. Australia's Refugee Week theme in 2008, "A Place to Call Home", aims to encourage people to think about themes of protection and human rights by focusing on the fundamental right to secure a place called home.

On Saturday 21 June 2008 as part of Refugee Week, and to promote the signing of the UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, the ERCM Youth Leadership Group, led by Joe Moniodis, their Coordinator, opened the Edmund Rice Centre Mirrabooka for the whole day. At intervals throughout the day, the Leadership Group provided information



seminars followed by the opportunity for people to sign the DECLARATION on the web and on hard copies which will be sent to the "Every Human Has Rights" Campaign.

Joe writes "A total of 116 people signed the Declaration and the whole day had a festive atmosphere, with plenty of tasty food and fun activities for the children and youth, and even for the adults! This event has generated interest in similar follow-up events and the Leaders are excited to 'take the show on the road'.

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Make us worthy, Lord,
to serve our fellow men
throughout the world,
who live and die in poverty
and hunger. Give them today,
through our hands, their daily
bread and through our
understanding love,
give peace and joy.

Amen

Mother Teresa

20th ANNIVERSARY BALL AUGUST 29 2008



A Ball is being held to celebrate the 20th anniversary of EDMUND RICE CAMPS FOR KIDS WA

It is also an opportunity to commemorate the 20 years of all the hard work done by ERCKWA volunteers, and the support they receive from Christian Brothers, friends and family.

ALL ARE WELCOME

Anyone who wishes to support the fundraising of Edmund Rice Camps for Kids WA, and to have a great time is invited.

All proceeds will go directly towards helping kids come to camps throughout the year

Please note this is an 18+ event

TICKETS: \$100

ON SALE NOW!!

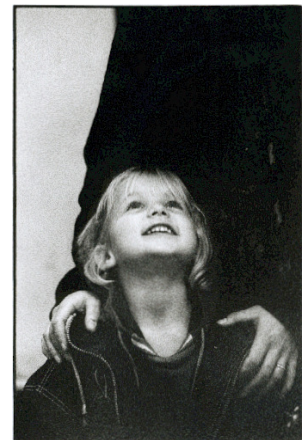
Includes :

DINNER, DRINKS, &
ENTERTAINMENT
FOR THE NIGHT

Novotel Langley Hotel

7.pm to Midnight

Contact : Kellie Carnaby
Tel: 08 9365 2817



VICTORIAN ERN CONFERENCE

Date: Saturday 18th October

Contact: dmoore@stpats.vic.edu.au

Theme: Dare to be Disciple (continuing from General chapter)

Hosting Ministry: St Bernard's College, Essendon

ERN REGIONAL COORDINATOR WA

The position of Edmund Rice (ERN) Co-ordinator is to aid the Oceania Networking and Development team in maintaining contact with individuals associated with the Christian Brothers and the Edmund Rice Network in Western Australia; to keep them informed and to encourage participation in future endeavours of the Christian Brothers Oceania and associated entities. I can be contacted on mobile phone **0414 629 218** or as below.

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Once again, thanks to all who sent information for this issue. Please send in any news of events in your ministry so that I can promote them in the Network

Cheers, Jill