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We Need Your Help



If you would like to support our work, your donation will be most gratefully accepted. Your donation will enable people from refugee and Indigenous backgrounds to continue to benefit from our educational programs. The Edmund Rice Centre Western Australia is a registered charity.

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. As we are required to issue a tax receipt for all donations, please send an email to info@ercwa.org.au when you donate, including your full name, postal address, email address and donation amount. You may also choose to make your donation to a specific project.

Please make cheques payable to “Edmund Rice Centre”

Donation via Website, Paypal and Direct Deposit

www.ercwa.org.au

Account name: Edmund Rice Centre Mirrabooka Inc

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18 Brewer Place Mirrabooka WA 6061
PO Box 613 Mirrabooka WA 6941
www.ercwa.org.au

Newsletter

Issue 48

December 2017



Christmas message from the Director

Most of us will spend time with families and loved ones over Christmas and New Year. It is the season for giving, remembering and sharing the love.

It is a time we reflect on the work of Edmund Rice who inspires our organization. Edmund was born in 1762 in Ireland and devoted his life and fortune to educating the poor and the marginalised. He wanted to ensure that those he helped developed the necessary life skills of confidence and compassion, with an understanding of how to effect changes in their own lives and those of others. In Western Australia many people from a refugee background or vulnerable Aboriginal and Torres Islander people are alone without their families and friends. Life can seem particularly hard at this time of the year when others are celebrating Christmas. At the Centre we try to provide a sense of family to people regardless of their background.

I also hope you might consider a special donation to the Edmund Rice Centre WA to help us continue our work in the coming year. You can read more about and the work we do in the community by visiting our website www.ercwa.org.au. You will also find a link if you wish to help us there or you can use the form on the next page.

I would like to thank our incredible volunteers and staff, funders, donors and partner organisations for their support in 2017.

In conclusion, I would like to wish everyone a happy holiday season and a New Year filled with hope.

Stephen Bowman, Director of Edmund Rice Centre WA



You can help us to save money!

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Harmony Camp Highlights

On Friday December 1st, approximately a hundred people joined our annual Harmony Camp at Camp Kelly in Dwellingup. On Saturday morning six Aboriginal people led by Uncle Frank and his nieces and nephews welcomed us to country.

There was dance, storytelling and music. Everyone enjoyed a bush walk and learnt about gathering bush food and how to be careful of some bush animals. It was a time for us to appreciate nature.

It was the first time for many of the families to experience the Australian bush. We shared our own life stories, faith stories and the similarities that exist between faiths. In the evening we shared a multicultural meal followed by dance and Karaoke. And lastly on Sunday we gathered for a multi-faith service.

We thank Aquinas College, Lotterywest and the Edmund Rice Centre staff and volunteers.



Aboriginal Youth and Arts Program

Work has begun on what will be a stunning mural in Mirrabooka. The project is part of a partnership between the Edmund Rice Centre WA and the City of Stirling and is expected to be completed by January or February 2018.

The mural will depict a Noongar Six Seasons design onto the change rooms at the popular Fragrant Gardens Reserve.

Four artists are developing and painting the new mural Peter Farmer, Kylie Graham, Gabby Loo and Surreay Demir. From early next year the artists will be holding workshops at community organisations and schools to draw ideas for the mural to portrait the cultural diversity in the area.



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A snapshot of our year



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