



The Eddie-torial – April 2018

Edmund Rice Camps WA News Bulletin

CEO's Welcome

Dear Readers

Welcome to our April edition of *The Eddie-torial*. This month we completed a successful Eddie on the Road program to the Pilbara! The group, led by Meg McKenna, arrived home safely on Sunday 29 April covered in red dust (or is the vehicle just pink now?). The team will have had a well-deserved rest and I look forward to sharing their stories with you in the May edition of *The Eddie-torial*.

Preparations are almost completed for the upcoming May Mini Camp with the camp team having met last week to talk about the program, the participants that are coming on camp, logistics and policies and procedures.

Our Annual Report is currently being written and I look forward to sharing this with you next month. There will be much to reflect on and importantly to celebrate.

Read on to find out what we've been up to!

In the Eddie Rice Spirit and with warm regards,

Kevin Knapp (aka K-Dawg)

Chief Executive Officer, Edmund Rice Camps WA (ERCWA)

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Our Eddie Rice Network

AGM

Please save the date for our Annual General Meeting, which will be held on Thursday 14 June from 6.30pm at Westcourt. More information will be sent out closer to the date.

Community Engagement

Coach Development and Training

Our Manager Community Engagement, Meg Huitema, with support from the ERCWA Identity and Formation Committee, are putting together some training for current and future coaches. Camp Coaches are the essential conduit for reflection and formation on camps as well as the provision of pastoral care for our leaders and we are looking forward to upskilling members of our network in this important role.

We are very fortunate to have Lydia Cook and Tara Broadhurst on the committee as trained ‘Eddie Rice Fire Carriers’ and of course our very own Brother Terry Casey. The sharing of the Edmund Rice Stories and values are critical in ensuring our ongoing connection to the Edmund Rice Charism and making sure we deliver our programs and services in the Edmund Rice Tradition.

Volunteers

Curtis Novacsek

Many of you will know Curtis Novacsek as he is and has been an amazing volunteer leader for many years, going on almost countless camps. Curtis has also been a staff member and a valued member of our Volunteer Leader Committee. What many may not know is that Curtis also volunteers hours of his time in our office at Westcourt assisting with logistics, database administration and general Eddie Rice stuff!

Most recently Curtis completed the mammoth task of updating our database to ensure all hard copy files are now entered electronically in our Database and File Management System. This will now enable us to contact and engage with our stakeholders to let everyone know what we’re doing and the events that are coming up.

Thank so much, Curtis, for what you so selflessly do for ERCWA!



(Curtis Novacsek – Leader Supreme!)

Events

Team Rice

Team Rice is an initiative that aims to build a formal membership base for our wider Eddie Rice network, including volunteers both past and present, community and corporate partners, sponsors, donors and the WA community. Team Rice members are invited to celebrate our founder Edmund Rice and the Eddie Rice spirit during special member events, while also raising ongoing funds for our camps.

Member Expressions of Interest are currently being processed, with special Team Rice shirts available for members. If you would like to become a member or want to know more then please contact CEO Kevin Knapp via kknapp@edmundrice.org.

ERCWA Raffle

ERCWA will be running a major raffle this year over a number of months, with tickets ready for sale in June. We have a target of \$25,000 and to achieve this we need to ask you all to help us find great raffle prizes – and of course sell plenty of tickets!

Please see the donation letter below, which will be shortly followed by a promotional flyer. Once we have the raffle items to promote on our tickets we will be printing these off and making them available to our network for purchase.

To whom it may concern,



I am writing to request support for our two upcoming major fundraising events – the Edmund Rice Camps WA (ERCWA) Major Raffle and the ERCWA Annual Gala Ball 13 October 2018.

*The Raffle, which will run from June to November 2018, has the potential to raise over \$20,000 for ERCWA. **This fundraising initiative is crucial to the success of ERCWA and we are seeking ‘big ticket’ items to comprise the Raffle’s suite of prizes.** Any items that do not form part of the raffle’s prize suite will become part of the silent auction at our Gala Ball. **There is also the opportunity for a business to donate to the raffle and become the naming right sponsor.***

ERCWA is a non-profit, community-based charity organisation that serves the needs of disadvantaged and ‘at risk’ children aged 7–16 and their families – families who would not otherwise have such opportunities.

We achieve this via a variety of developmentally-focussed recreational programs, including camps. ERCWA also fosters the ongoing personal development of our young adult volunteers who act as friends and mentors to the children in our care.

Children attend our programs from all areas of Perth and a wide variety of cultural and religious backgrounds. For those who cannot make it to a Perth-based camp, our ‘Eddie on the Road’ program delivers our services to regional, rural and remote areas across Western Australia.

It is important work that has a positive ripple effect in the community, with our success measured in the smiles, laughter and new-found confidence of our ‘Eddie Rice kids’ and the personal growth of our leaders.

***In order to provide our not-for-profit camps and programs, we rely on funds raised solely through one-off grants, sponsorship, donations and fundraising.** Our fundraising events and initiatives aim to raise vital funds so we can continue to run our programs and potentially increase our reach to even more Western Australian children and families in need.*

*We are approaching companies and individuals who have a strong community-based focus that resonates with ERCWA’s own values and mission. **We would be very grateful if you could assist us in helping to raise these funds with either cash donations, items to auction or goods to give away as prizes.***

Corporate Sponsorship Packages for the Raffle and Gala Ball can be obtained by contacting me directly on 0429 913 364 or nmancini@edmundrice.org.

Please help us make a difference to the lives of WA disadvantaged children and their families.

I would like to thank you in advance for considering to sponsor or donate to ERCWA and I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Warm regards

Nicole Mancini – Manager Profile, Fundraising & Events

ERCWA Gala Ball

Don’t forget to save the date (and don a dapper dress or suit!) for our Annual Gala Ball, which will now be held on Saturday 13 October. More information to follow soon – we can’t wait to share the details with everyone!

ERCWA Quiz Night

We are currently finalising the date of our Quiz Night but it will likely be towards the end of June – giving you plenty of time to get swotting up on your trivia!

Watch This Space for Other Events

As always, we’ll have other activities scheduled throughout the year so please keep an eye out on our website and in our May edition of *The Eddie-torial* for latest news on our other upcoming events.

ERCWA Staff and Board

Staff

Please be advised that our Manager Operations & Risk Management, Chris Dix, is reducing his work hours from 2.5 days to 2 days per week. Chris' office day will be Thursday and his other hours will be flexible.

Our Manager Community Engagement, Meg Huitema, is also increasing her work hours from 2 days to 2.5 days per week. Meg will generally be in the office on a Wednesday and her other hours will be similarly flexible.

Both Chris and Meg will do their best to respond to calls and emails promptly but, given their part-time positions, please do not hesitate to contact CEO Kevin Knapp if the matter is urgent and you haven't received a response from either Chris or Meg.

ERCWA Board – Mentorships

We are very fortunate at ERCWA to have a strong and highly skilled Board of Directors. Everyone on our Board is very passionate about what we do, volunteering their time to help ensure our governance is strong and that we remain a vibrant and sustainable ministry that delivers our programs in the Edmund Rice Tradition.

In this spirit, our Board Members are very keen to provide mentoring to our leader community. Skill-sets on the Board include Finance/Accounting, Risk Management, Human Resource Management, Events and Project Management, Strategic Copywriting, Marketing and Profiling, Legal and Governance.

If you're a leader and would like to connect with any of our Board Members, please contact CEO Kevin Knapp via kknapp@edmundrice.org, who help to make the connection.

Community & Corporate Partners

Beyond Bank Community Reward Accounts (CRA)

Did you know that last year Beyond Bank donated over \$5,000 to ERCWA simply because of savings accounts being opened by our supporters with the Bank?

If you want to know more about how this works and the amazing work Beyond Bank do in the community, then please read the information below from Beyond Bank and either contact them or by all means give Kevin Knapp, ERCWA CEO, a call on 0414 441 844.

Working hard to help others?

The Community Reward Account is a unique way for your supporters (both individuals and businesses) to contribute to not-for-profit and community organisations like yours.

It's a high interest savings account which allow supporters of your cause to save their money. And in return you will receive a Community Reward Payment, based on the combined average annual balances of all your supporters' savings. Your supporters don't pay a thing.

The earnings are not capped. So the more supporters you have saving in this account, the more money we will reward your organisation. Each year we donate over \$350,000 back to not-for-profit community organisations.

Our gift to your organisation

- *A simple and easy way to fundraise*
- *Earn great rewards on savings*
- *Another way for your supporters can help your cause.*

To find out more about how this unique account can help your [organisation get in contact with our Community Banking Specialists](#).

See You Next Time

If you have any questions relating to this newsletter or have any news or suggested content for future issues of *The Eddie-torial* then please contact CEO Kevin Knapp via kknapp@edmundrice.org or 0414 441 844.