

MARCH 2015



Edmund Rice  
Camps

# Eddie-torial

*Making a difference*

## On the Bone with K-Dawg

*New Year, New Team Members!*

Welcome to the start of our 26<sup>th</sup> year with Edmund Rice Camps WA (ERCWA)!

As has become a bit of a tradition here, instead of the staff, leaders and network hibernating over the festive season, we planned, ran and evaluated five Mega Camps in January (*see pages 3-4*)!

Suffice to say January is a pretty amazing Eddie Rice time with kids of all ages, leaders, mentors and ancillary volunteers working together to create innumerable special and in many cases life-changing moments.

The New Year couldn't therefore have started any better and although batteries were running low near the end, the natural high that camp produces sustained and energised everyone involved.

It's a time of personal reflection and for taking a great deal of pride in what we do.

The New Year is also a time for setting new goals and rejuvenating, and so it's with a great deal of excitement that I introduce our new team members here at ERCWA.

With both Brooke and Mark moving on to other challenges and Bella relocating to Sydney, we welcome Emma Thompson (new Coordinator Volunteer Leader Services) and Nicole Mancini (new Coordinator Events and Fundraising) to our team.

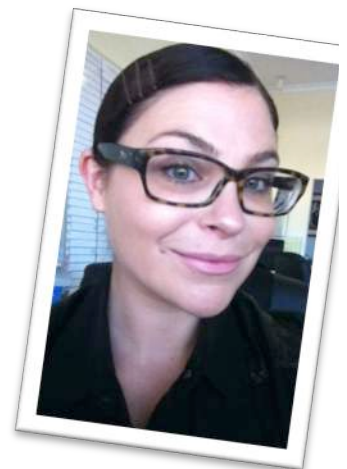
Both Emma and Nicole bring a great deal of passion, energy and skill to their respective roles and with Courtney, Chris and Meg make up a powerful little group here at Westcourt.

And of course we're looking forward to working with our volunteers once again to deliver a memorable Eddie Rice Year!



Woof, woof.

K-Dawg



**Image, above left:** New Coordinator Volunteer Leader Services Emma Thompson playing 'Pluck the Chicken' on an ERCWA camp.

**Image, above right:** Recently appointed Events Coordinator Nicole Mancini is excited to be back in Perth and working with ERCWA.

*The infamous K-Dawg is also known as Chief Executive Officer Kevin Knapp.*

### Notice of our AGM

**Affirmations | Great Achievements | Memorable Moments**

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) is being held at Westcourt from 6:00pm – 7:30pm on 25 March.

Volunteers, leaders, Christian Brothers, sponsors, stakeholders and network staff are invited to join us to network and celebrate a wonderful year of camps, as well as introduce and elect/appoint our Board.

There will be music and slideshows so please come along and share this special event with us.

To RSVP, please email Kevin Knapp via [kknapp@edmundrice.org](mailto:kknapp@edmundrice.org).

## Pilgrimage to Edmund Rice

*In January 2015 Courtney George, our Senior Coordinator Remote Youth Programs, travelled to Ireland to visit the grave of Edmund Rice, our namesake and inspiration.*

Upon arriving in Dublin I grabbed the first person I could and asked, “How do I get to Waterford?”

The response I got was one of confusion: “Why on earth do you want to go to Waterford?”

I politely replied that I was in a rush – explaining my connection with Edmund Rice was not something I had time for.

Whilst visiting Waterford, I had the opportunity to visit the Edmund Rice Chapel which is where Edmund’s tomb is located.

This was an opportunity I’ll cherish forever because it gave me insight into Edmund Rice, the person.

Seeing his grave made him feel real as I’ve only ever heard the story.

However, with such a short amount of time on my hands I was back in Dublin before I knew it.

Once there, I was able to meet up with Brother Martin O’Flaherty, from the Irish chapter of ERC, for dinner and connect with him.

A particular excerpt from the Thirty First Congregation Chapter booklet seems to sum up my Irish experience quite nicely: “We explore with fresh enthusiasm... the story of Edmund.”

I’ve returned home with more energy than ever before, ready to continue building what Edmund started so many years ago.

**Image, above:** Senior Coordinator Remote Youth Programs Courtney George and Brother Martin standing at the Lighthouse Cinema Café. You would think it was Italy thanks to the poster of the Leaning Tower of Pisa!

**Image, left:** The Edmund Rice Heritage Centre (cream building) in Mount Sion, Waterford, which houses the memorabilia and story of our namesake.



## What’s On @ Eddie Rice

13 March	Family Fun Day @ The Great Escape, Hillarys Boat Harbour
20–22 March	Family Mini Camp @ Bickley Department of Sport & Recreation campsite
8 April	Middle Kids Fun Fest @ Perth Zoo
9 April	Early Teens Fun Fest (art workshop) @ Westcourt*
10 April	Late Teens Fun Fest (art workshop) @ Westcourt*
7–19 April	Eddie on the Road @ Meekatharra, Yalgoo and Onslow
17–19 April	Late Teens Mini Camp @ Bickley Department of Sport & Recreation campsite
9 May	Graduates Program, Westcourt
15–17 May	Early Teens Mini Camp @ Ern Halliday Department of Sport & Recreation campsite
22 May	ERCWA Annual Quiz Night Fundraising Event @ Aquinas College Hall
21 June	Younger Kids Fun Fest (Masterchef challenge) @ Iona College

\* ERCWA HQ, Salter Point

## A Mega Camping Experience

*In January, four mega camps were held at Tuppin House in Moore River and one at Camp Kelly, Dwellingup. A staggering 125 kids, 140 volunteers and 30 ancillary volunteers attended the camps in total.*

### Camp 1: Leader Graduation Camp

*By Josh Gray (Coordinator)*

Camp 1 ('Graduation Camp') was a great success with eight graduates having a fantastic farewell to their Eddie Rice Camps journey.

Once children turn 16 they're no longer eligible to attend camps as kids, but can become volunteers in the future.

Jelly Drop, Egg Roulette and Zombie Shelter Building helped make this Zombie Apocalypse camp as gross and messy as it was fun!

The final graduation dinner was no doubt the highlight of camp for many, with each graduating teen selecting a 'waiter' from our brave leaders to get their food and drink for them.

A double-layered graduation cake made this a very special send-off.



### Camp 2: Survivor Camp

*By Lydia Cook (Coach)*

Hey all! Camp 2 was a massive hit with 25 wonderful children aged 8–10.

In Moore River the sun shone bright on our few days together and the water was glimmering.

Although there were are few shy kids on their first camp, by the end nobody wanted to leave.

The kids all left camp with huge smiles, memories of fun and friendship and lots of warm fuzzies!



### Camp 3: Army Camp

*By Rowena Cook (Coordinator)*

Whether it was all-out wars involving water bombs and various food combos, kids & leaders sliding across soapy tarps, camouflage spotlight or just chilling down at the river, face painting, finger knitting or sport, Camp 3 always seemed to be about finding a balance between a special kind of crazy and just simply enjoying the pleasure of each other's company.

... Even if you were getting sand or paint smeared into your hair and on your face!

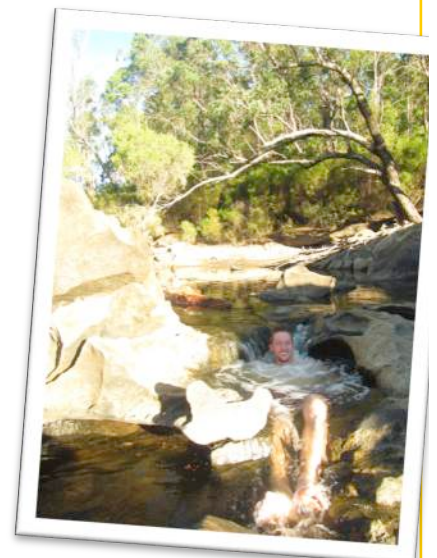
It was a really fun camp that facilitated an environment where each of the 13–14 year old kids felt safe to be themselves and the leaders felt affirmed in their ability to step up to a different kind of challenge.

**Image, top right:** Eddie Rice kid Connor and volunteer Arabella Bargmann having fun in the sand.

**Image, top left:** Volunteer Kelsey O'Grady and Eddie Rice kid Josh standing in front of the picturesque Moore River.

**Image, bottom left:** Eddie Rice kid Angela looking starry after having her face painted.

**Image, right:** Camp coach Dan Holt having a relaxing dip in the Murray River, Dwellingup.





## A Mega Camping Experience (Cont.)

### Camp 4: 'When I grow up, I want to be...'

By Belinda Hicks

In mid-January, a group of 7–14 year olds from Meekatharra and Yalgoo headed south to Dwellingup for a youth leadership camp.

The theme of the camp was 'When I grow up I want to be...' and participants were given the opportunity to reflect on different careers that may interest them.

The kids heard from leaders about the jobs and study they are currently involved in, including being army cadets and studying at university and TAFE.

The camp also included a range of activities that encourage positive communication, problem solving and decision making skills, as well as working as a team.



**Image, right:** Camp Coordinator Imogen Cook, Eddie Rice kid Kenneth and Camp Coordinator Rowena Cook pulling funny faces to go with their face paints.

**Image, bottom left:** Volunteer Nika Arora and Eddie Rice kid Chloe getting ready for some face painting.



### Camp 5: Board Games & Apps

By Madison Armstrong and Rachel Turpin

On 20 and 21 January, 25 leaders and 25 kids headed on down the Eddie Road to Tuppin House in Moore River for the 10–12 year old kids' camp.

With a theme of board games and apps, the kids and leaders were involved in a life-size game of Battleship, messy Twister, Fruit Ninja and a Cluedo themed scavenger hunt to name a few.

Once again the week flew by and we hope that everybody involved has some great new memories.

## Managing the Camp Experience

*Camp Manager Meg O'Leary gives us some insight*

Being involved with ERCWA has always been an opportunity for me to give something back to the community.

This summer I was provided the opportunity to be a Camp Manager, which gave me a different understanding of the organisation and a new challenge.

I thoroughly loved the chance to manage – getting to plan an exciting and memorable camp with the coordinators and coach, as well as interacting with the ancillary volunteers.

Meg, Chris and Kevin were excellent at preparing and training me for this role, and their support and encouragement made me feel comfortable taking on this position.

The amazing Camp 3 Leadership Team – along with the new structure of behaviour management\* during camp – ensured that everything ran smoothly and everyone had an amazing time!

I'm very grateful for the opportunity to take on this camp role and for the supportive team at Edmund Rice Camps, as well as my Camp 3 Team.

It definitely was a memorable summer camp!

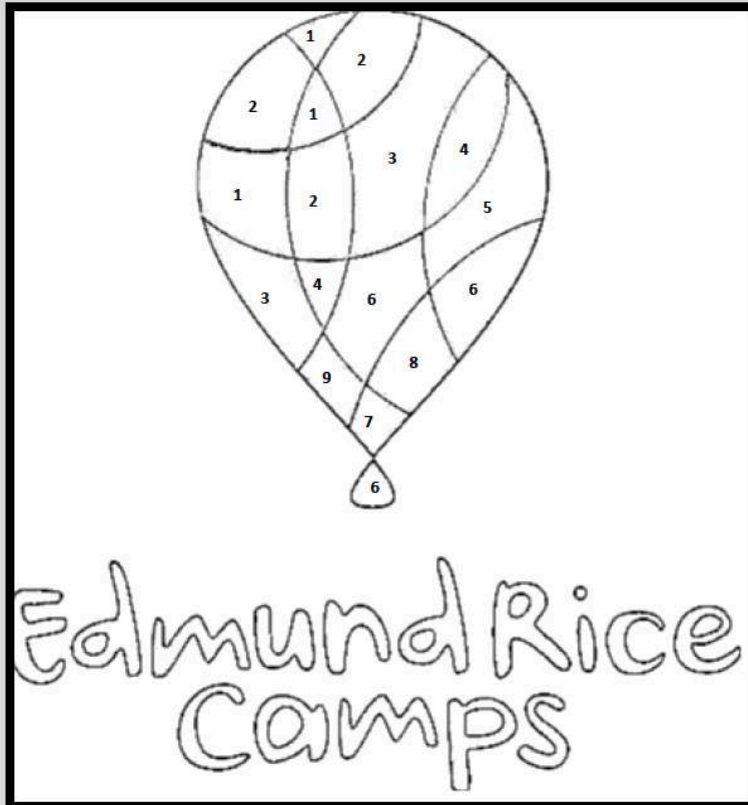


**Image, above:** Camp 3 Volunteer Coordinator Rowena Cook and Camp Manager Meg O'Leary just after a water fight.

\* ERCWA's new Behavior Management Policy provides leaders and kids with a clear outline of behavioural expectations and the consequences of not abiding by these expectations.

## KIDS' KORNER

Can you help us colour the Eddie Rice Camps logo?



The colours have disappeared from our Eddie Rice Camps logo! What a disaster!

Using the codes below and some coloured pencils, try and fill in the colours. Be careful, some of the colours look similar!

Number	Colour
1	Light Yellow
2	Dark Yellow
3	Orange
4	Dark Orange
5	Light Pink
6	Pink
7	Dark Purple
8	Light Purple
9	Red

## Prize-Winning Limerick

We have found the very worthy winner of our limerick challenge!

After considered debate the selection panel – comprised of K-Dawg, Go the Flow Ro and A.N. Other – have awarded the prize to Mr Mark McGlaughlin, Regional Coordinator at Christian Brothers Oceania Province, for this fabulous verse:

*It's great to recall the Eddie Rice story of the past  
But its new chapters we now pen to make it last  
For it's from the hearts of our young  
That the justice tune will be sung  
And the new spirit of Eddie will blast*

As a prize Mark will receive a special Eddie Rice Running Pack and sun smart kit (something we know he will use during his long distance running sessions!).

Well done, Mark, and thanks to everyone for their excellent entries.



**Image, above:** Great new – we have found the winner for the Eddie Rice Limerick Challenge!

(Creative Commons image courtesy of thegoldguys.blogspot.com)





## Eddie Would Go... Back!

Eddie Would Go, a volunteer-only personal development program, was successfully re-launched on 3–6 February.

Volunteers were invited to immerse themselves in charitable opportunities to learn about the positive impact they can have on their community.

Tuesday involved a trip to the Edmund Rice Centre in Mirrabooka, which seeks to empower people through education and the dynamic development of community networks.

On Wednesday half the group visited Brother Olly's Wheelchair Workshop and the other half visited Shopfront, an outreach centre that provides food, care and respite services to those in need.

In the afternoon participants visited the Islamic Council of Western Australia where they engaged in a discussion with Imam Hisham Obeid about Islam.

The final day was dedicated to rich conversation that helped the volunteers reflect on the role in the community.

Participant Kari Potier said, "Overall this was an enriching experience that I'd highly recommend for all volunteers.

"It opened our minds and taught us more about the community we live in."



**Image, above:** Jessie Lonergan and Belle Regan building wheelchairs that are sent overseas to kids in need at Olly's Wheelchair Workshop.

## Golfing in Eddie Rice Style



**Image, left:** The Richard Noble team, winners of ERCWA's Callan Cup – namely, Alex Gregg, Neil Rae, Dean Farmer & Ian Campbell

On 27 February WA business men and women donned their smartest golfing attire to compete in the 'Callan Cup', our first golf day fundraising event.

Over 150 golfers and three-course-luncheon-enthusiasts descended on the fabulous Royal Perth Golf Club for a lovely day on the green.

The combination of excellent golf (for some real and for some imaginary!), a great venue and catering, superb guest speaker John Hughes and friendly corporate banter and networking made for a most enjoyable 'working' Friday.

Congratulations to the Richard Noble team who won this year's Cup – many were envious of their golfing scores!

ERCWA would also like to give a big 'thank you' to everyone who attended.

Thanks to your generosity we raised over \$20,000 for our programs and activities, as well as selling a record number of raffle tickets for our involvement with McDonalds Community Cinemas.

Due to the great deal of support that has been received this year, we will be sure to run a similar event in 2016.



**Image, above right:** ERCWA CEO Kevin Knapp getting ready to tee off at the start of the Callan Cup.

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*A warm thank you to all of our contributors.*