

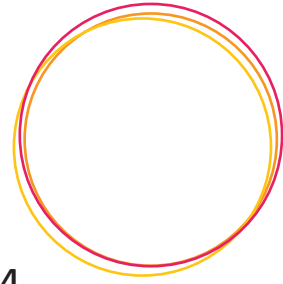


**Edmund Rice Camps Inc.**  
Annual Report 2015

With the support of hundreds of volunteers, Edmund Rice Camps Inc. provides holiday programs for children and families who are disadvantaged, in an atmosphere of acceptance, care and fun.



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## Executive Officer's Report

2015 was an exciting year for Edmund Rice Camps. We successfully ran an extensive programme thanks to the continued efforts and enthusiasm of our volunteers on camp, other volunteers who helped out in the office before and around camp time, and our small team of full time staff. We are blessed with a large group of people who believe in what we do and are only too happy to support us.

The camps ran from January right through to December focussing on the key school holiday periods. They varied from kids camps, camps for children from refugee and indigenous backgrounds; to family camps; to teenage boys and teenage girls camps. We were able to achieve this with the support of almost 200 volunteers providing camp experience to more than 270 participants; with many of our volunteers attending more than one camp. The planning and preparation for these programs required our volunteers to help with tasks such as driving a bus, cooking, facilitating activities, data entry, packing and unpacking equipment. While at camp the key skills the volunteers offer include engaging with the children and families on a one to one ratio, creating a sense of community whilst role modelling positive behaviours on camp. I really would like to thank the volunteers for their continued efforts to allow the camps to get off the ground and to make sure each program is successful.

We are always looking to extend the reach of our services, be they additional camps for other disadvantaged groups or for other activities. To this end we have introduced an afternoon activity program called Play Club which runs weekly in St Albans in partnership with Edmund Rice Community and Refugee Services. Our ability to provide such additional services or camps is limited by availability of our own volunteer workforce as well as sufficiency of funding.

The workload of our small staff has been something we and the Board have focussed on. As a result we have agreed to employ a part time Volunteer Coordinator to assist with our workload, with this person to be in place in the first half of 2016. I would like to say a big thank you to Callie Miles for her work over the past couple of years as Program Coordinator. We have worked very well as a team. You may not know but Callie is leaving to undertake further studies in England and departs in June 2016. We will all miss her.

We are responsible for vulnerable people and we must ensure our training and child protection procedures are up to date and appropriate. All of our volunteers therefore have to undertake training under our Child Protection Reporting Framework. Almost 190 were trained during 2015. We continue to receive invaluable support from Dr. Pauline Meemeduma and also thanks to Callie Miles for overseeing the training. In ensuring our processes and training meet State requirements, we have engaged with an external agency, Child Wise, to independently review our policies and procedures. This work and review is in progress.

We work with a range of organisations and supporters, be they referral agencies or partners for our camps. They are too numerous to mention but we thank them all sincerely for sharing our mission and what we strive to do. They are identified in detail on Page 18 of this Annual Report.

We rely on the hard work of our volunteers to help with our fundraising activities and in particular what they have managed to achieve with the Annual Trivia Night. Chris Silvapulle and his team have raised in excess of \$100,000 for our camps program over the past six years – a truly remarkable performance. Run Melbourne and Melbourne Marathon continue to be important fund raising opportunities for us as well.

Our greatest supporter is the Christian Brothers Oceania Province in conjunction with Edmund Rice Foundation (Australia). They provide a major part of our annual funding requirements whether directly, or “in kind” services through provision of office accommodation at Edmund Rice Centre Amberley, professional support, accounting and finance, policy and risk guidance. Our ability to provide camps at Amberley is a linchpin of our offering. They also keep us in touch with our mission and what we are here to do. The Province invited us last year to seek accreditation to the Edmund Rice Mission, something we are proud to advise we achieved, and as part of that received a strong endorsement of our mission.

The broader Edmund Rice Network – the schools, the social justice centres, soup vans, asylum seeker support programs and immersions – is something we rely on, but also provide support to, through the activities of individual volunteers. For Edmund Rice Camps this network provides access to buses, campsites, professional support and further volunteer and formation opportunities. It is something we are proud to be associated with. We also continue to work closely with our sister camp organisations across Australia sharing our stories, our successes and the approaches they follow. We are collectively strengthened by this interaction.

*“Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, The wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed, to me: I lift a lamp beside the golden door”.* This appears on the Statue of Liberty at the entrance to New York and was penned by Emma Lazarus in 1883, over 130 years ago. It is still as relevant in the current day and represents what we stand for.

Adrian Scerri  
Executive Officer

# Board Chair's Report



2015 has been a great year for Edmund Rice Camps. We provided wonderful experiences to all our participants (in excess of 270 people) who otherwise have limited opportunity to have fun in such an informal and friendly way. We also provided important and life changing experiences for over 200 volunteers who learned that life can be pretty challenging out there, but in their own way they can turn that challenge into something quite special.

Your Board had 11 formal Board Meetings during the year with individual Board members participating in various Board Subcommittees including Evaluation Subcommittee; Fundraising Subcommittee; and Nominations, Governance and Personnel as well as other ad hoc subcommittees. We see our role as providing a strong and supportive governance framework for our small team comprising Executive Officer, Adrian Scerri and Program Coordinator, Callie Miles. This governance framework ensures we protect the organisation from risk, ensures we are financially sound and able to meet our financial obligations, ensures we have a strong and deep relationship with the Oceania Province, and most importantly enables us to focus on our real role – providing our camps and other activities to worthy participants.

2015 has been a year of significant change on the Board with a number of departures together with some significant new blood. The 2015 AGM sees the retirement of great contributors particularly Stephen Ellich your former Board Chair for three years, and an active Board Member for the past six years who provided great leadership and direction. We also lose our Treasurer and trusted stalwart Graham Collier who played a fantastic role on camps, as mentor to many of our volunteers, as well as his work on the Eddie Rice soup kitchen. Carly Randle has moved to Sydney and has played a key role keeping the Board true to our purpose but also as a key member in training of leaders and volunteers. We thank them all for their contributions and look forward to their continued involvement somewhere and at some time.

We welcomed Jill Kokinos, Mairead O'Sullivan and Guy Steel onto the Board and look forward to their counsel and enthusiasm going forward.

Key Board initiatives for the past year included the development of a new part time position of Volunteer Coordinator to more properly support the busy schedules of Adrian and Callie. We also continue to review all our policies and procedures with the assistance of other Eddie Rice Camps organisations across Australia and with the Oceania Province.

The Board also agreed during the year to have our Child Protection policies independently reviewed by an external agency, Child Wise, to ensure our approaches are appropriate and market leading. This work continues and we will advise upon its completion. It will enable us to meet recently promulgated DHHS Child Safe Standards which require compliance by early 2017.

The Board is very focussed on maintaining a strong and positive relationship with the Oceania Province particularly through Brother Shane Wood and Brother Laurie Collins. Their ongoing direct financial support through Oceania Province and ERFA, plus their in-kind support through accommodation and finance and accounting, and their focus on mission is vital to supporting our activities is greatly appreciated.

We have been involved in discussions over the past 12 months with the Oceania Province about possible changes to our Governance arrangements as they streamline their approaches. The Board is closely considering these changes to ensure they will not impact on our ability to provide the level and quality of our camps and other offerings each year.

On the fundraising side, the Trivia Night continues to be a major funding source and a great night's entertainment. The team led by Chris Silvapulle have done an amazing job. We are always seeking out new funding sources and are very thankful for the ongoing support of our partners, supporters, camp providers, schools and many others as listed elsewhere in the Annual Report. We will focus on our alumni from the past 35 years as a key element of ongoing funding.

I would like to pay a special tribute on behalf of the Board to our Executive Officer Adrian Scerri and Program Coordinator Callie Miles. They are the human face of our organisation. Their enthusiasm for the organisation and what it stands for is infectious. They work long hours and deserve your praise and ongoing support. Callie has decided to follow up a long held passion for helping refugees and will soon depart for the UK with her partner to pursue further university studies. We will miss her bright smile and enthusiasm.

The Board also sincerely thanks our more than 200 volunteers who attend our camps for the great work they do with our camp participants. It can be challenging to be up all the time and to put on the bright happy face but they manage to do this at every camp, so well done to you all.

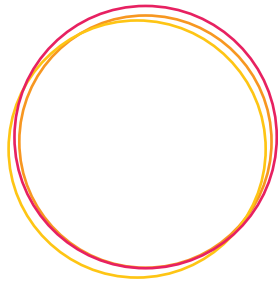
When I am asked about Edmund Rice Camps and what we do, I tell people the following:

- the great things we do for our participants - fun, friendship and laughter
- the impact on our volunteers – life changing, life affirming experiences.

The combination of these two features is what makes us truly unique - something everyone in the Organisation should be proud of.

We are *"transforming lives one camp at a time"*

Peter Robinson  
Board Chair



# Governance

## How we are constituted

Edmund Rice Camps Inc is an incorporated association (Registration No. A 15259 x, ABN 78 403 166 367). We trade under the name Edmund Rice Camps.

## Meet our Board of Management

The Board of Management has overall responsibility for the governance of the organisation. In particular, the Board oversees: the achievements of organisational aims, strategic planning and review, the nurturing of the ethos and spirit of the organisation, compliance and legal obligations, financial planning and performance, risk compliance, policy review and endorsement, promotion and fundraising, and provides an accountability function to the members, funding bodies and the community.

The Board of Management, at the members' direction, employs the Executive Officer to implement its decisions and hold responsibility for the day-to-day management of the organisation. The 2015 Board members, their qualifications, skills and experience and their responsibilities are as follows:

### Mr Peter Robinson – Chair

BEC, GAICD  
Chair – Fundraising Subcommittee  
Member – Nominations, Governance & Personnel Subcommittee

### Mr Rob Daly – Deputy Chair

MBA, PGDip, BA (Hons)  
Director – CDP Australia  
Fundraising Director (VIC) – Heart Foundation  
Member – Fundraising Subcommittee

### Mr Graham Collier – Treasurer

ICAA  
Chair – Risk, Audit & Finance Subcommittee  
Volunteer since 2010

### Ms Georgia Harris – Board Secretary

BSocSc(YWk), AdvDipBus(Legal)  
Indigenous Community Links Coordinator, Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place  
Chair – Nominations, Governance & Personnel Subcommittee  
Volunteer since 2008

### Mr Stephen Ellich – Board Member

B.EE (UTS); GDip (Admin); MBA; GAICD  
Chief Executive Officer – Utilities, Telecommunications, Construction & Field Services  
Non-Executive Director  
Member – Nominations, Governance & Personnel Subcommittee

### Janelle Howell – Board Member

Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Education, MSc (Risk Management)  
Head of Enterprise Financial Crime Risk at the National Australia Bank  
Member – Risk, Audit & Finance Subcommittee

### Jill Kokinos – Board Member

Bachelor of Education, MBA, GAICD  
General Management and Operational Management - Lawrence and Hanson  
Member – Risk, Audit & Finance Subcommittee

### Mairead O'Sullivan – Board Member

Bachelor of Applied Science (Human Movement, Bachelor of Education (Secondary)  
Coordinator of Healthy Communities - Wyndham City Council  
Member – Evaluation Subcommittee

### Ms Carly Randle – Board Member (Past)

BExSc, GDip (Ed)  
Teacher – Avila College  
Member – Evaluation Subcommittee  
Volunteer since 2006

### Mr Adrian Scerri – Executive Officer

BA  
Non-voting Board Member  
Member – Fundraising Subcommittee  
Member – Accreditation Subcommittee

### Ms Ashlee Smith – Board Member

BASc, GDip (Psych), MPsych (Ed & Dev)  
AHPRA Registered Psychologist  
Private Practice & Murdoch Children's Research Institute  
Member – Evaluation Subcommittee  
Volunteer since 2005

**Br Robert Stone – Board Member (Past)**

Dip Teach, BA, Grad Dip (Student Guidance & Welfare), MEd (Human Relations & Community Development)

Grad Cert TESOL

Christian Brothers Aged Care

Chair – Accreditation Subcommittee

Chair – Nominations, Governance & Personal Subcommittee

**Dr Zita Unger – Board Member (Past)**

BA, BEdSt, PhD, GAICD, FAES

Member – Evaluation Subcommittee

Member – Accreditation Subcommittee

**Mr Nick Wee – Board Member (Past)**

BA(Psych), BBus(Acc), CA

Manager – PwC International Assignments Solutions

Member – Finance, Audit & Risk Subcommittee

Volunteer since 2002

**Board of Management Meetings**

Board Member appointments and cessation dates along with number of board meetings attended during the financial year are given below.

Board Member	Date Appointed	Date of cessation	Board Meetings Eligible to Attend 1 Jan – 31 Dec 2015	Board Meetings Attended
Br. Robert Stone	Nov 2008	Apr 2015	3	3
Mr. Stephen Ellich	May 2010		11	11
Dr. Zita Unger	May 2010	Apr 2015	3	3
Mr. Peter Robinson	May 2012		11	11
Mr. Graham Collier	May 2012		11	9
Mr. Nick Wee	May 2012	Apr 2015	3	3
Ms. Carly Randle	Sep 2013	Dec 2015	11	9
Mr. Rob Daly	Sep 2013		11	9
Ms. Ashlee Smith	Nov 2014		11	7
Ms. Georgia Harris	Nov 2014		11	11
Ms. Janelle Howell	May 2015		8	7
Ms. Jill Kokinos	Nov 2015		2	2
Ms. Mairead O’Sullivan	Nov 2015		2	2



Our mission is inspired by....

social justice  
trust  
compassion  
*growth* hope  
community

Guided and inspired by the life of Edmund Rice, with a strong sense of social justice, we commit to the formation of a dynamic and supportive community. By inviting and challenging our volunteers to act as positive role models, we provide opportunities to young people and families for growth, support and enjoyment in an atmosphere of acceptance, care and fun.



# Our Values

## Social Justice:

- We draw inspiration from the life and vision of Edmund Rice
- We stand in solidarity with disadvantaged children and families
- We promote sustainable living and prudent use of earth's resources

## Hope:

- Edmund Rice brought hope to the impoverished of his society
- We generate hope and meaning for children and families

## Community:

- Dynamic, supportive community is the bedrock of our outreach
- Strong ERC community empowers our young adult volunteers
- Our community based approach to evaluation models change
- Our programs are inclusive, regardless of race, gender or religious beliefs

## Trust:

- It is the precondition for all ERC relationships
- Our relationships embody respect, integrity, accountability and transparency

## Growth:

- Empowering participants to enhance capacities, life skills and self-worth
- Empowering young adults to assist those in need in their communities
- Promoting female leadership within ERC at all levels

## Compassion:

- The compassion of Edmund Rice compels our outreach
- Participants' experiences and hopes inform our programs

## Our values are lived everyday.

Energised and inspired from their experiences on camp volunteers seek **justice** for those people that we work with and look to advocate and target the systems that have made them marginalized.

Parents develop a renewed sense of **hope** after spending time with volunteers who take time to listen to them.

We build a **community** on every camp where both participants and volunteers feel comfortable to take risks and reveal their 'best self'. This community stretches beyond the camps and manifests itself in social and pastoral communities across the state.

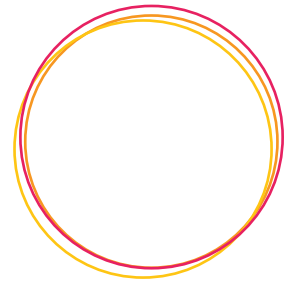
When a 4-year-old Burmese child entered the swimming pool for the first time ever, she placed incredible **trust** that her buddy would look out for her.

We encourage **growth** on a personal level when we give our volunteers space to explore their spirit and as an organisation as we seek to create a greater impact.

**Compassion** drives our challenging work and compels us to work towards a more equitable society.

It is by living our values that the Edmund Rice spirit makes our organisation unique.

# Our Camps



## Kids Camps

For Edmund Rice Camps our Kids Camps are a key component in the program delivered by the organisation. The camps are focussed on primary school age children and our 1:1 volunteer to participant ratio provides every child with the opportunity to feel special.

We held Kids Camps throughout the year inviting participants from a variety of backgrounds to enjoy games, fun and laughter with our volunteers. Twenty seven kids attended the **Summer Camp** at Merricks Lodge. The kids, aged between 8 and 11 years, built friendships with their 'big buddy' and had a ball experiencing all that camps can offer. They took part in excursions to Pt Leo beach and the Peninsula Aquatic Recreation Centre, as well as participating in other games and activities. The camp also provided the parents and carers of the children the space and time to have a well-earned break.

An Autumn **Refugee Kids Camp** was held in April attended by 21 participants at Amberley in partnership with Edmund Rice Community and Refugee Services. The children were primarily from a South Sudanese background and both participants and volunteers had a great time.

We also ran an Autumn **Indigenous Kids Camp** at the DOXA Malmsbury Campsite in conjunction with Eastern Health Aboriginal Health Service from Healesville. This camp allowed indigenous kids to explore their culture in a welcoming and safe setting. The volunteers and participants took part in traditional men's and women's business activities, as well as Aboriginal art, weaving and traditional games.

A **Winter Kids Camp** was held at DOXA Malmsbury Campsite in July with 26 participants. The participants and the volunteers took part in swimming, bike riding, river walks, rock climbing, archery, soccer matches, trampolining, art and craft and other fun activities.

## St Albans Kids Play Club

We have started an afternoon play club for local kids staffed by our volunteers, in partnership with Edmund Rice Community and Refugee Service.

## Family Camps

A **Summer Family Camp** was held for five days at Amberley in January and was attended by six families, with three of the families having attended the Camp before.

The **Queen's Birthday Weekend Family Camp** was held at Amberley over the Queen's Birthday long weekend. This camp was run in partnership with Kildonan Uniting Care. The camp provided an opportunity for five families to take part in activities run by the volunteers over the course of three days.

A **Winter Family Camp** was held at Amberley and attended by six families. The families were made up of thirty participants including foster carers, mothers, fathers and aunts and their children from different cultural backgrounds and different family sizes. The families took part in farm visits, coffee outings, river walks, scrap booking, swimming, archery, bike riding, group games, cooking, gardening and many more activities.

We ran a **Spring Family Camp** in partnership with Edmund Rice Community and Refugee Services at Amberley, focussing on the Burmese Chin community in Sunshine. Twenty eight participants comprising parents and children, enjoyed a variety of activities including a local children's farm. It was the first time in six years we had engagement with this community.

A successful **December Weekend Family Camp** was held at Amberley in partnership with Edmund Rice Asylum Seeker Project with 23 participants.

#### Adolescents

We held a very successful **Summer Teenage Girls Camp** at Santa Monica Campsite near Lorne. Over the course of this camp program the participants and volunteers all enjoyed a range of activities including swimming, art and craft, canoeing and bush walks.

A **Summer Teenage Boys Camp** for 15 boys was also held at Santa Monica Campsite. The participants and volunteers had great fun through taking part in activities including mountain bike riding, surfing, canoeing, bush walks, swimming, art and craft and other sporting activities, and a visit to Lorne over the course of the week.

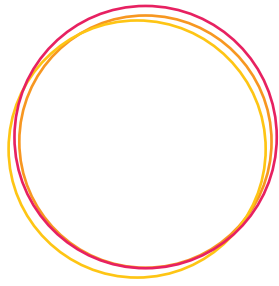
A **Labour Day Weekend Camp** was held at Amberley in March in conjunction with MacKillop Family Services Refugee Services for ten boys, aged 16 and 17 years, from a variety of cultural backgrounds. This camp marked the last formal event in conjunction with MacKillop Family Services Refugee Services with the closure of the program set for late 2015. We have thoroughly enjoyed working with the team at MacKillop over a number of years.

We ran a **Spring Teenage Boys Journey Camp** in September for the first time. This camp was built around the idea of engaging young adult males, a large portion of whom were at risk, in the outside environment while incorporating new experiences and challenges and building up resiliency and team work skills. The boys were responsible for things such as packing and carrying equipment, setting up a tent, building a campfire and hiking on rough terrain whilst enjoying the company of the young adult volunteers, participating in team building activities and having a fun time.

#### Leaders Retreat

In July, over the course of two nights twenty volunteers gathered together to share in an experience of learning and understanding, to increase their skills as volunteers while spending time socialising with others. The volunteers spent their time with a full program of sessions run by volunteers past and present from the ERC Community. The purpose of the weekend was to strengthen the connection between Edmund Rice Camp volunteers, to empower volunteers with a variety of skills that can be utilised on camp and in life and to provide volunteers with an opportunity for reflection.





## Our Volunteers

Edmund Rice Camps is, at its heart, a volunteer organisation. Every ERC camp is delivered entirely by a group of volunteers. From our Board to our cooks, from our trainers to our grant writers, we are volunteers. It is our volunteers who deliver our mission.

Being a volunteer for Edmund Rice Camps can be a transformative experience for a young person. Many of our camp volunteers join ERC when they are at high school or university – during their formative years. Most have had little exposure to disadvantage and fewer still have taken on leadership responsibilities. Volunteers are immersed into a welcoming and accepting community and are empowered to take on new responsibilities. Many “Eddie Ricers” would agree that being an ERC volunteer ‘has changed their lives’.

Our evaluation data shows that over 90% of volunteers are keen to return after a camp. Volunteers agree that after coming on an Edmund Rice Camp they have a greater understanding of disadvantage, are more empathetic and better equipped to help others. For many, Edmund Rice Camps is a launching platform to take on other social justice and advocacy endeavours.

### Volunteer Reflections

My first Family Camp was a flurry of laughter, smiles, tears and noise. An experience which, though sometimes difficult – I would redo one thousand times over. ... Camps do as much for the volunteers as they do for the participants and I couldn't be more proud to call myself an Eddie Rice Camper.

**Millicent Kavenagh**

The commitment displayed by every single volunteer epitomises my understanding of camps...an amazing network of people who will work together, no matter what the situation, to get the best out of themselves and others.

**Matt Taylor**

Every time you complete a camp you can't help but feel a little sad that something so amazing can't be apart of your every day life. But the anticipation of the next camp always lifts the frown and makes you want to give even more of yourself to try and top the last.

**Aaron Gmehling**

The atmosphere was tense as everybody was overwhelmed by mixed emotions – nervousness, excitement, scared – but all these emotions were short-lived. These barriers were overcome by utilising team-building activities which were encompassed by strong leadership and effective communication creating an ‘uptown funk’ group dynamic.

**Anthony Tran**

It was such a joy to witness and share that moment, as it was with every single one of those moments on camp; as the parents farewelled us with an outpouring of gratitude, I was not entirely sure who should be thanking who.

**Mel Sweeney**

The atmosphere of the Indigenous culture was alive and vibrant, and the sense of community developed throughout the week was inspirational. They say ‘another day is another dollar,’ but while I'm on camp, I feel like I earn so much more.

**Chris Galle**



### Camps Statistics

Years	Number of Camps	Number of Participants*	Number of participant placements**	Number of program Volunteers*	Number of volunteer placements**	Number of Volunteers Trained (Leaders and Trained)	Number of Volunteers Trained (Child Protection)
2015	13	273	339	198	384	184	197
2014	13	245	281	208	375	158	210
2013	12	292	308	241	394	148	
2012	11	248	261	192	391	185	

\*This figure counts each volunteer and participant that has come onto our programs. Volunteers and participants who attend more than one program are only counted once here. This figure does not include the many volunteers who support ERC outside of camps.

\*\*This figure counts the number of volunteer and participant placements. Some volunteers and participants attend multiple programs.

### Training Statistics

Years	New Leaders	Group Leader	Camp Captain	Camp Coach	PF	Child Protection Foundational	Child Protection Reporting Officer
2015	144	22	9	3	6	188	9
2014	135	12	2	6	3	196	14
2013	131	8	6	1	2	-	-
2012	185	13	9	6	5	-	-

On a five day  
**kids camp** a child  
 will experience more  
 than **55 hours** of 1:1  
**positive attention**  
 from a **volunteer**.



## Evaluation Report

The Evaluation Committee surveyed 8 camps throughout 2015 and the results continue to indicate the high quality of Edmund Rice Camp Programs.

In 2015 the Committee also reviewed the combined data since the survey inception in 2011 through to 2014. This data showed trends of leaders' age and experience increasing over time. From the camps surveyed the percentage of leaders' aged over 22 years increased from 20% in 2011 to 30% in 2014, and those with 6 camps or more experience had increased to 50% from just under 30% in 2011. Ratings of the camps from child, leader and parent has remained consistently high across this time with an average of 4.6 (out of 5) or above for each group (4 = good and 5= awesome). These results also showed consistent performance across camp quality ratings and leader growth.

In addition, the Committee has undertaken a review of our Evaluation Survey and is in the process of drafting our Evaluation Framework to guide the direction of the committee going forward and identify potential changes to questions within the camp survey. This review has encompassed articulating the aims of ERC broadly and mapping how camps enact these aims. The AIMS are identified below and it is to these aims the evaluation framework will be based. By articulating what we do and how we do it has enabled the committee to start identifying how we can better measure outcomes and our impact and ensure we are evaluating the core elements of our camp program to support continuous improvement. This process has comprised reviewing data, consulting with volunteers and the Board, running workshops and reviewing various documents within ERC.

We have also been fortunate to attract Melissa O'Halloran, a Psychology Masters Student from ACU to undertake her Research Thesis on Edmund Rice Camps. The focus of her project will be researching "The Impact of a Family Holiday on Family Functioning, Child Problem Behaviours, and Social Skills for Socially Disadvantaged Families". She will be undertaking her research throughout 2016 and interviewing participants from selected Family and Child Camps. We are very excited by this project and are very grateful for the opportunity this presents to ERC. Once completed the Committee will organise an event for Melissa to present this research.

The committee continues to evolve and develop, and at the end of 2015 Shivaun Pereira tendered her resignation as Survey Analyst Coordinator and we are currently recruiting to this position. Shivaun

has been instrumental to the success of our committee and I thank her for her significant contribution and tireless effort.

I also thank and am grateful for the hard work and dedication of all members of the committee in what was a busy and intense year: Shivaun Pereira, Callie Miles, Carly Randle, Alex Wren, Meg Monahan, Tracey Martin, Mia Spalliera, Ash Smith, Mairead O'Sullivan and Alicia Gulenc who have made this year's achievements possible

Our Identified AIMS OF ERC VIC:

- To create a positive environment and community within our organisation that is supportive, nurturing, welcoming, fun, safe and inclusive; that is founded upon respect, trust and acceptance of others.
- To foster appropriate and positive interactions that enable genuine and respectful relationships.
- To provide life enriching intensive experiences that enhance personal well-being, promote growth, develop new skills and allows risk taking in a supportive environment
- To equip our staff and volunteers with skills, knowledge, experiences, opportunities and support to encourage their development as leaders within our organisation and the wider community
- To engage our staff and volunteers in reflective practices that enhance self-awareness and understanding of our effect on others.
- To promote the development of a social conscience that is inclusive of empathy, compassion, insight and knowledge.
- To actively engage in processes that seek to inform continuous improvement.

Suzannah Siddles,  
Evaluation Chair



## Treasurer's Report



On behalf of everyone who has and will be part of the Edmund Rice Camps experience, a heartfelt thank you to all those who provide the essential financial support.

I would in particular like to highlight and celebrate one source, as it demonstrates the depth of friendship and teamwork Camps helps to create amongst the volunteers. Six years ago a small group of volunteers decided to hold a fundraising event based around trivia, raising \$5k that first year. 'Trivia' has subsequently grown to become the annual volunteer get-together. An opportunity to catch-up with fellow campers, to reflect on and celebrate the value of Edmund Rice Camps and of course to raise invaluable funds - this year's \$16k taking the total raised to over \$100k. An amazing achievement!

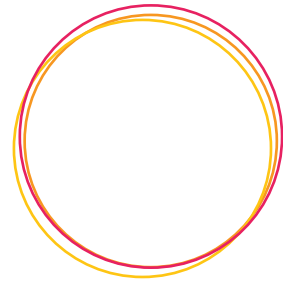
'Trivia' is of course but one source. Collectively, generous donations from individuals, organisations, schools, foundations, trusts and others have funded this year's operations and enabled Edmund Rice Camps again to end the financial year in a sound financial position, ready to continue the journey of 'transforming lives one camp at a time'.

The Annual Report contains abridged financial results. The complete Special Purpose Financial Report for the year ended 31 December 2015, together with the Auditor's report thereon, is available at [www.ercvic.com](http://www.ercvic.com).

  
Graham Collier  
Treasurer



# Events & Fundraising



Camps aren't the only time the ERC Community comes together. The following are just a few of the great events held during 2015.

## Trivia Night

Over the last 6 years the Trivia Night has raised over \$100k for Edmund Rice Camps. This is a tremendous achievement for an event that is organised and delivered entirely by a group of dedicated and passionate volunteers. In 2015, our keynote speaker was Bernadette who shared the story of the impact that an Edmund Rice camp had on her son. We had live music, competitive trivia and the amazing silent auction. There's a reason that the event is called the "Trivia Extravaganza"! We raised over \$16k this year and look forward to another successful year in 2016

## Social Events

It is well known that our volunteers do catch up with each other between camps which is a great thing. The volunteers again had the "Annual ERC Footy Game" which was very successful.

## Family picnic

In January, with the support of a core group of volunteers, a family picnic day was facilitated providing a space for volunteers past and present, and their families, to come together and share a meal. The afternoon allowed volunteers who had camped over many years of ERC's existence to share stories and memories from their time as a leader, and the community they are a part of.

## Fun runs

We had a number of volunteers and friends of Eddie Rice who competed in both Run Melbourne and Melbourne Marathon. Thanks to all those who ran and supported us.

## Other Community Fund Raising

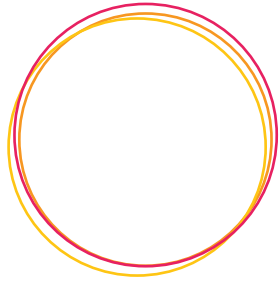
Board Member Rob Daly was part of a group who rode through the Wombat State Forest in May and raised \$1067 for Edmund Rice Camps – great effort.

## Parents' afternoon tea

We held an afternoon tea at Amberley in August for some of the unsung heroes of Edmund Rice – the mums and dads of our volunteers. We were keen to let them know what a great job their kids had done during the past year. Bernie the mother on one of our participants shared her heartfelt thanks for what Camps had done for her son and his self esteem. It really made us feel we do make a difference to their lives.

## Alumni

We have a large number of alumni who have left school / university and started their broader lives outside Edmund Rice Camps. We want to make contact and re connect with them over the coming 12 months and with their support hope to raise sufficient funds to run one Camp during the next year – stay tuned for more information.



# Our Supporters and Partners

The work of ERC would not be possible if it were not for the generous financial contributions of many individuals and organisations in the community.

## Donors

Those individuals who make donations to support our work as either a one off gift or a regular contribution wish to remain anonymous and let their actions speak for themselves. We would especially like to thank our biggest donor Andrew Martin. All donors, whether big or small, are essential for our work.

## Schools

The following schools are champions of our work and contribute, not only financially, but also by providing us buses and facilities at little or no charge. We would like to take this opportunity to thank:

- Catholic Regional College St. Albans
- Christian Brothers College
- Loreto College
- Parade College
- St Bernard's College
- St Columba's College
- St Joseph's College
- St Joseph's Flexible Learning Centre
- St Kevin's College
- St Patrick's College
- St Peter Apostle Primary School
- Star of the Sea
- Xavier College
- Yarra Valley Grammar

## In Kind Support

Each year the list of businesses, corporations and individuals that have supported us continues to grow. This year, we would like to acknowledge:

- Barkly Driving School
- Edmund Rice Centre 'Amberley'
- The Treacy Centre, Parkville
- YMCA Anglesea
- YMCA Macleod
- Life Saving Victoria
- Metropolitan Fire Brigade

## Grants and Corporate Giving

We have been successful in securing grants and corporate gifts in 2015; We would like to thank the following supporters:

- Mary MacKillop Foundation
- The Bell Charitable Trust
- Bankwest
- RACV
- Foundation for Young Australians
- Future2 Foundation

## The Christian Brothers Oceania Province & Edmund Rice Foundation Australia

Our single largest and longest supporter continues to be the Christian Brothers Oceania Province and Edmund Rice Foundation Australia. For over 30 years their support, both in-kind and financial, has ensured our continued operation. We offer our sincerest thanks.

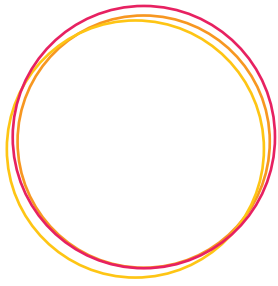
## Our Partners

We rely on the support of other organisations to be able to do our work. We would like to acknowledge those organisations that have played a significant role over the last year:

- Banyule City Council
- Brotherhood of St Laurence
- Doxa Youth Foundation
- Edmund Rice Community and Refugee Services
- Edmund Rice Oceania Support Centre
- MacKillop Family Services Refugee Services
- Eastern Health Aboriginal Health Service
- Kildonan Uniting Care

## Regular Giving

Donating regularly to camps helps us plan effectively for the future and to reach out to more children, families and young people. Every month some of our supporters collectively contribute \$800, which helps fund one camp over the year – a very worthwhile and painless activity.



## Life Members

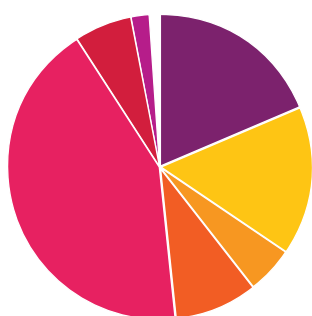
Each year up to two long-serving members of the Edmund Rice community are nominated as Life Members. This special group of volunteers have demonstrated a commitment to Edmund Rice Camps Inc. for at least ten years. They have demonstrated the direct involvement in the direction of the organisation, have contributed to our long term sustainability and demonstrate qualities of leadership that embody the charisma and spirit of Edmund Rice. Their names are engraved in a plaque that sits on display at our home in Amberley.

- Martine Batchelder
- Br. Tim Bilston
- Br. Gerard Brady
- Daniel Butler
- Anthony Chapman
- Br. Peter Clinch
- Jessica Connor-Kennedy
- Dianne Donati
- Adrian Ferris
- Paul Huggett
- Andy Kuppe
- Rob Lindsey
- Bernadette Luckman
- Melanie Martin
- Caterina Mezzatesta
- Anthony Michielin
- Mark Monahan
- Megan Monahan
- Ben Moodie
- Sarah Morgante
- Br. Frank O'Shea
- Anthony Ramsay
- Mark Smith
- Br. John Wright

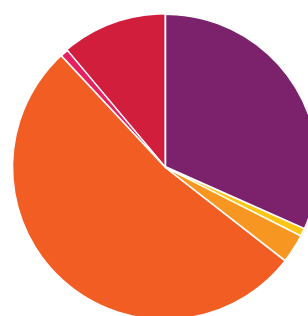
# Statement of comprehensive income

for year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2015

Revenues	2015	2014
Donations	57,068	74,603
Camp Fees	47,501	40,501
Sponsorship	15,249	31,627
Grants	26,400	20,900
Grants from related parties	130,260	115,000
Fundraising	18,442	19,932
Interest	5,606	5,668
Other	2,043	445
	<b>302,569</b>	<b>308,676</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Camp Expenses	98,015	90,465
Fundraising Expenses	4,403	8,210
Training Expenses	8,156	6,480
Salaries and associated employee costs	169,512	153,580
Depreciation	4,133	4,133
Administration and other expenses	35,536	32,658
	<b>319,755</b>	<b>295,526</b>
Net (Deficit)/Surplus for the year	<b>(17,186)</b>	<b>13,150</b>



Revenues	2015	2014
Donations	19%	24%
Camp fees	15%	13%
Sponsorship	5%	10%
Grants	9%	7%
Grants from related parties	43%	37%
Fundraising	6%	6%
Interest	2%	3%
Other	1%	0%



Expenses	2015	2014
Camp expenses	31%	31%
Fundraising expenses	1%	3%
Training expenses	3%	2%
Salaries and associated employee costs	53%	52%
Depreciation	1%	1%
Administration and other expenses	11%	11%

# Statement of financial position

as at 31st December, 2015

<b>Current Assets</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
Cash and cash equivalents	234,443	233,486
Trade and other receivables	10,813	7,088
Other	14,770	9,646
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>260,026</b>	<b>250,220</b>
<b>Non-current Assets</b>		
Plant and equipment	2,515	6,648
<b>Total Non Current Assets</b>	<b>2,515</b>	<b>6,648</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>262,541</b>	<b>256,868</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Trade and other payables	74,798	51,939
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>74,798</b>	<b>51,939</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>74,798</b>	<b>51,939</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>187,743</b>	<b>204,929</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
Retained surplus	187,743	204,929
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>187,743</b>	<b>204,929</b>

*The above are abridged financial results. The complete Special Purpose Financial Report for the year to 31 December 2015, together with the Auditor's Report thereon, is available on the website at [www.ercvic.com](http://www.ercvic.com)*

# Statement of cash flows

for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2015

<b>Cash flows from Operating Activities</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
Cash receipts in the course of operations	292,013	308,542
Cash payments in the course of operations	(296,662)	(305,772)
Interest received	5,606	5,668
<b>Net Cash provided by operating activities</b>	<b>957</b>	<b>8,438</b>
Net increase in cash held	957	8,438
Cash and cash equivalent at the beginning of the year	233,486	225,048
<b>Cash and cash equivalent at end of the year</b>	<b>234,443</b>	<b>233,486</b>

## Notes to Statement of Cash Flows

### (a) Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents

For the purpose of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and at bank and short term deposits at call. Cash and cash equivalents as at the end of the financial year as shown on the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the Statement of Financial Position as follows:

Cash at Bank and on Hand	234,443	233,486
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### (b) Reconciliation of Operating Result to net cash used in operating activities:

(Deficit)/surplus	(17,186)	13,150
Plus non-cash items:		
Depreciation and asset write offs	4,133	4,133
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities before change in assets and liabilities	(13,053)	17,283
<b>Change in assets and liabilities during the financial year:</b>		
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(3,725)	12,474
(Increase)/decrease in prepayments	(4,220)	1,736
Increase/(decrease) in payables and other creditors	24,084	(15,242)
(Decrease) in unearned revenue	(1,225)	(6,940)
(Decrease) in GST paid	(904)	(873)
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<b>957</b>	<b>8,438</b>

# Statement of changes in equity

for year ended 31 December, 2015

Balance as at start of year	204,929	191,779
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(17,186)	13,150
<b>Total equity as at end of year</b>	<b>187,743</b>	<b>204,929</b>

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS**  
**As at 31st December 2015**  
**EXTRACT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of Accounting**

The responsible entities have prepared the financial statements on the basis that the entity is a non-reporting entity because there are no users who are dependent on general purpose financial statements. These financial statements are therefore special purpose financial statements that have been prepared to meet the financial reporting requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. The entity is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the mandatory Australian Accounting Standards applicable to entities reporting under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and the significant accounting policies disclosed below, which the responsible entities have determined are appropriate to meet the needs of members. Such accounting policies are consistent with those of previous periods unless stated otherwise.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs unless otherwise stated in the notes. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

**Plant and Equipment**

All plant and equipment is stated at cost, representing the fair value of the consideration given in exchange, less accumulated depreciation and any impairment amounts.

Depreciation is calculated on a straight line basis over the estimated useful life of all plant and equipment, as follows:

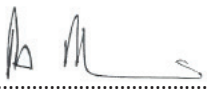
Motor vehicles - 6 years  
Plant and equipment - 5 years  
Office equipment - 5 years  
Computer equipment - 3 years

**Responsible Entities Declaration**

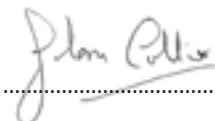
The responsible entities of Edmund Rice Camps Incorporated declare that:

- (1) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the registered entity is able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable; and
- (2) the financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.



Peter Robinson - Chair  
19 April 2016



Graham Collier - Treasurer  
19 April 2016



# Edmund Rice Camps

**Edmund Rice Camps can be contacted at**

Edmund Rice Camps Inc.  
7 Amberley Way  
Lower Plenty VIC 3089

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Phone 03 9439 6142