

**Edmund Rice Justice Aotearoa New Zealand Trust – Annual General Meeting - 2014**

**Annual Report by Chairperson to Trustees**

This year 2014, marks eleven years since the formation of the Edmund Rice Justice in New Zealand and seven years as a recognised Charitable Trust. Auckland which evolved into a charitable trust, the Edmund Rice Justice Aotearoa New Zealand.

The past twelve months has been a significant time for the Trust. The relationship between the Justice Trust and Oceania Province has been clarified and the continued generosity of Oceania Province is sponsor many of the activities of the Trust has enabled the Trust to be at the cutting edge in New Zealand. Tribute must be paid to Chris Nolan and it work especially with the restorative justice programmes. Also his direct involvement in the Edmund Rice Network Conference in Auckland, the Edmund Rice gathering recently in Christchurch and Chris’s attendance at the Edmund Rice International’s United Nations’ training in Geneva, have given the Trust a high profile in the Network.

The strategic planning days have opened up new possibilities for the Trust to explore in response to Justice issues in Aotearoa - New Zealand. There will always be a creative tension on the continuum between those who want action and those who move strategically. That creative tension is a strength. The exercise of the Trustees exploring what is at the heart of the Trust

The engagement of Michael Bendall as financial administration has meant that issues of compliance and financial management are no longer undertaken by very busy Trustees. We are grateful for Michael’s work. Another significant area has been the development Trust policies. Owen Doody has played a significant role in this development and currently half of the named policies have been approved.

The Trust is also dependent on volunteers. A special thanks to both Tony Kydd for his work in communicating the essence of the Trust both through the Trust Website and also through Facebook. Also thank you to John O’Neill who in the name of the Trust, visits prisoners that no one will visit.

The commitment, expertise, passion and wide experience of the Trustees is significant for the future of the Trust and the way that the Trustees are involved in the life of the Trust brings life. Thank you Paul, Christine, Kieran, Owen, Sam and David for your generosity and the way you nurture the future.

Paul Robertson

Chairperson

15 August 2014