

**Edmund Rice Justice Aotearoa New Zealand Trust**

**Annual General Meeting - 2018**

**Annual Report by Chairperson to Trustees**

The past twelve months have been a time of further consolidation. Since the 2017 AGM, there have been a number of achievements for the Trust:

* a review of the Trust’s strategic directions.
* The decision of the Trust to continue into the future as an independent incorporated entity after the invitation from the Oceania Governance group to consider how we would like to relate to the new Edmund Rice Ministries Oceania organisation.
* the work of Karen Currie as the RJ Administrator based in Christchurch in building good working relationships with Christchurch prison staff and our RJ partners.
* the work of Boris Baptist as project officer based in Auckland continued to build effective networks. Boris had significant success in obtaining two new grants for the RJ work in Christchurch.
* the appointment for 2018 of Campbell Wood as project officer based in Auckland.
* the Trust’s continued sponsorship of the New Zealand Edmund Rice secondary schools’ street retreat programme.
* the Trust becoming responsible for the New Zealand Edmund Rice Network website and taking a lead role in encouraging the networking of the New Zealand ER groups.
* the continued production of regular monthly newsletters.
* the working closely with the Edmund Rice New Zealand schools group to build greater connections between the New Zealand groups.
* establishing an annual common meeting time for the ER Schools, ER Camps and the Justice Trust.
* bringing together the three New Zealand entities (Justice Trust, ER Camps Auckland and ER Camps Dunedin) to look at how we will support each other and work together into the future.

The Trust is grateful for the support of Christian Brothers’ Oceania Province especially for its ongoing financial support and the availability of professional services especially in the area of formation. We are thankful for the generous work of Tony Kidd in promoting current justice issues through our ER Justice Facebook blog. The Trust is also grateful to Jackie Katounas for her work as lead facilitator in the RJ conferences in the Christchurch prisons. The work of Michael Bendall, as financial administrator, has ensured that we have current and update knowledge of our financial position and that we comply with all our legislative requirement.

During the year, we farewelled Owen Doody who retired as a Trustee. Owen has overseen our finances for the past three years and was responsible for the development of our policies. His work, wisdom and presence was greatly valued and appreciated. On Owen’s recommendation Boris Baptist was appointed to replace Owen. We are also farewelling Debbie Frank who has been a Trustee and our secretary for the past three years. Debbie is locating to another part of New Zealand. Debbie has been very generous with her time and has ensured that our meeting records and documents are relevant and up to date.

I am always humbled by the generous contributions of time that our Trustees give. Thank you Cathy, Debbie, Kieran, Marty, and Sam for your continued commitment to the work of the Trust.

Paul Robertson

Chairperson

13 May 2018