**Edmund Rice Justice Aotearoa New Zealand Trust Annual General Meeting - 2019**

**Annual Report by Chairperson to Trustees**

Since the 2018 AGM, there have been a number of achievements for the Trust:

* The organisation of the “Hauora – supporting Wellbeing” Conference for the Edmund Rice Network.
* The co-ordination of the monthly Auckland Edmund Rice Reflection group gatherings
* Working with the other New Zealand Edmund Rice entities to produce a draft MOU template for use with Oceania Province.
* The appointment of Jack Barrett as National Project Officer
* 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 provision of Post-Sentencing Restorative Justice Conferences at Christchurch Prison by Karen Currie and Jackie Katounas
* The provision of Ethical Encounter gatherings both in Auckland and Christchurch
* A reformatted monthly Trust newsletter.
* The daily promotion of Justice Issues by Tony Kidd in the Facebook Justice Blog.
* The continued sponsorship of the New Zealand Edmund Rice secondary schools’ street retreat programme.
* The establishment of a project to extend the RJ conferencing to Auckland prisons.
* The Trust’s continued maintenance of the Zealand Edmund Rice Network website.
* The daily Edmund Rice Network Oceania Facebook news item

The Trust is grateful to Christian Brothers for the financial grants and the availability of the Formation Team for professional development support. It has also been pleasing to see the growing support from other funding agencies for the work of the Trust. We are also grateful to Tony Kidd who has continued to promoting current justice issues through our ER Justice Facebook blog. Thank you also to Jackie Katounas for her work as lead facilitator in the RJ conferences in the Christchurch prisons; to Jackie Currie and also Jack Barrett for their important work.

I wish to pay special tribute to Michael Bendall for his tireless work as financial administrator. Michael resigned in December due to work commitments. Michael has established very sound systems and ensured a smooth transition. We are also grateful to Keith Yardley who has taken on the role of financial administrator.

Sadly, Sam Drumm has resigned as a Trustee as he moves to London in July to take up a new work position there in July. Sam was responsible for establishing the Trust and for a number of years was the Trust’s executive officer. He has made a significant contribution to the direction of the Trust through his experience, wisdom and knowledge. Sam will be missed.

Once again I am most thankful for the generous contributions of time that our Trustees give. Thank you Boris, Cathy, Kieran, Marty, and Sam for your commitment to the work and life of the Trust.

Paul Robertson

Chairperson