

*Edmund
Rice
Family
News*



What's your vision for the future?

**Exploring the vision of Edmund Rice
and the Christian vista for each of us
in a fresh new millennium...**

**A full colour version of this newsletter is available on our website:
<http://carmen.murdoch.edu.au/edmund-rice-website/>**

Welcome and Congratulations...

WELCOME to the first edition of *Edmund Rice Family News* for the Year 2000. It is important that we register our appreciation to Br Leo Hassam for his editorship of ERF News for the past nine years. Thank you, Leo, we hope to continue to meet the high standards you have set.

We apologise for the late start to the year but we have been getting things in place to substantially increase our circulation and usefulness to you as a communications' medium. Some of the changes you will see in this first edition and we expect further refinements over the coming year.

A newsletter like *ERF News* fulfils two primary functions. Its first function is to keep you informed of news in the Edmund Rice Family. Our family is large and widespread geographically as well as in interests. You each need to promote your endeavours to the rest of the community and we therefore invite your submissions of news items and articles.

The second function of our newsletter is to promote discussion, confidence and enthusiasm. The work we are each engaged in is important. We all need to be inspired and to inspire. *Edmund Rice Family News* then is a means of providing "food for thought and inspiration – it is a means of spreading the 'spiritual mortar' that cements us together as a family".

We will endeavour to bring you stories that inspire you and encourage you in the important work you are engaged in.

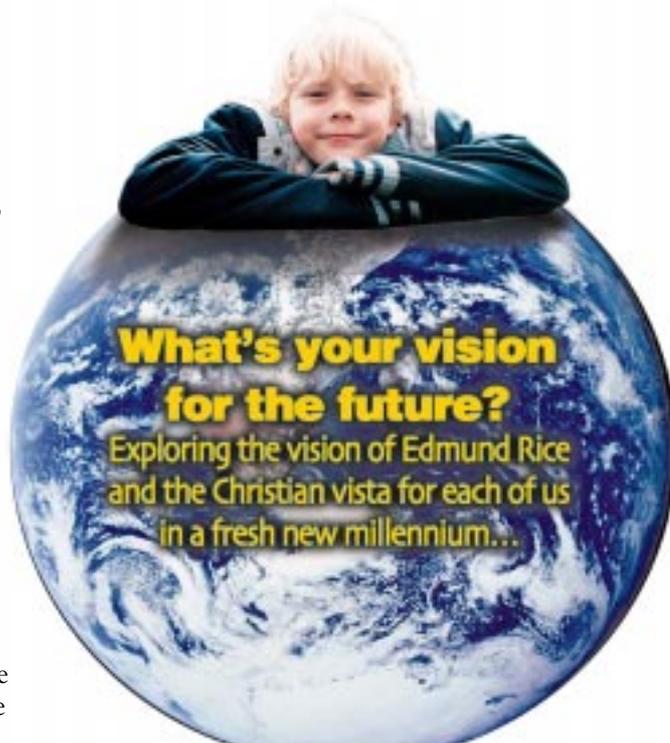
One of the changes in *ERF News* you will immediately notice is in layout. We are actually designing the publication for full colour publication on our website. The website version will be available in Adobe Acrobat™ "pdf" format and contains further articles and expanded treatments of some of the stories you will find in the hard copy edition.

We will welcome your feedback on these changes and, in due course, we will endeavour to establish an ongoing feedback forum on our web page.

To end this editorial on a really bright note, we extend our heartiest congratulations to Br Olly Pickett for the certificate he received from HRH The Duke of Edinburgh on the 1st April for his long service to the WA Section of the Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme. Br Olly is Deputy Chairman of the Scheme and has served in the Western Australian administration of the Scheme for over 30 years. Congratulations, Olly. We are immensely proud of you!



Br Olly & the Duke of Edinburgh



Cover Picture: Jacob is like many of the hundreds of kids who get a lot out of the Edmund Rice Camps for Kids. Richard Mavros took the picture of Jacob at Dwellingup and Brian Coyne created the montage. Jacob is one of the 'characters' in the Edmund Rice Family whose disposition invites the question "so, what do you think?" ... So, what is your vision for the future?

Edmund Rice Charism Fair

WHEN: 14TH MAY, 2000

WHERE: TRINITY COLLEGE
TRINITY AVENUE, PERTH

TIME: 1.00PM UNTIL 4.00PM



THIS IS A DAY FOR THE *EDMUND RICE FAMILY* MEMBERS AND FRIENDS TO SHARE IN THE SPIRIT OF EDMUND RICE.

THIS IS A DAY FOR US TO WALK AROUND AND BE CAUGHT BY THE SPIRIT OF EDMUND AT WORK HERE IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA TODAY.



FOOD & DRINK ON SALE



WANDER AROUND WITH "*THE EYES OF FAITH*" AND BE TOUCHED BY THE VISION AND CELEBRATE HIS SPIRIT WORKING IN US TODAY.

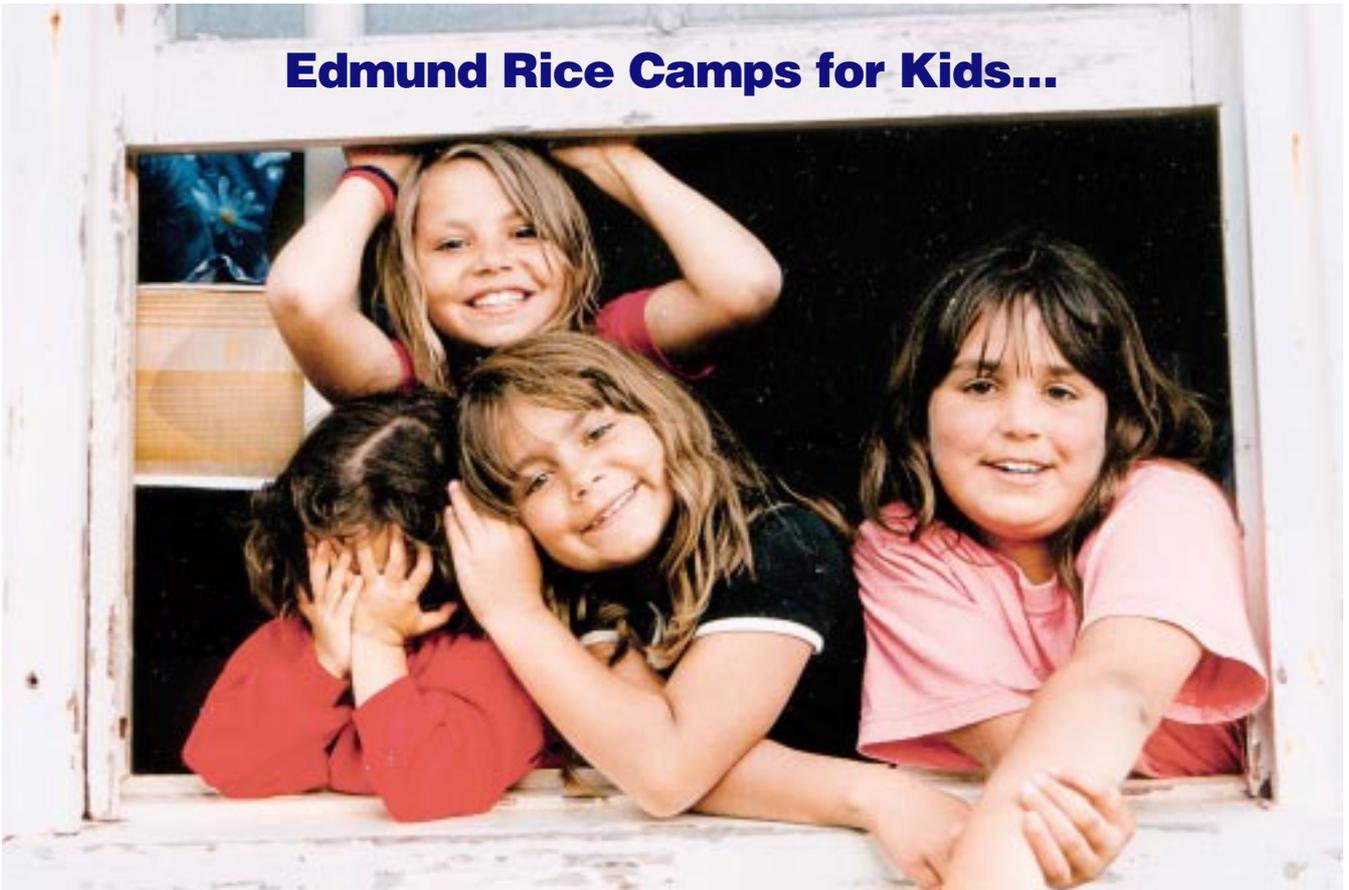
PLENTY OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE KIDS

THROUGHOUT THE DAY WE CAN WITNESS SOME OF THE EDMUND RICE PROJECTS AND CHRISTIAN BROTHERS' SCHOOLS "AT WORK". COME AND SEE HOW THE SPIRIT OF EDMUND IS BEING EXPRESSED TODAY THROUGH ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION, YOUTH PROGRAMMES, REFUGEE EDUCATION, SPECIAL PROGRAMMES IN SCHOOL AND MUCH MORE.

WHERE IS THE SPIRIT AT WORK TODAY? COME AND SEE.

FOOD, DRINKS AND LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT MINIMAL COST. LOW OR NO COST ACTIVITIES FOR THE CHILDREN OR THE CHILDREN AT HEART.
A MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED AFTER THE FAIR IN THE TRINITY CHAPEL AT 4.15PM.

Edmund Rice Camps for Kids...



you know you're doing something right when you can generate smiles like these!

Richard Mavros (Development Officer) and Paul Fitzgerald (Executive Officer) report...

THIS YEAR the Edmund Rice Camps for Kids in Western Australia celebrates its tenth birthday. And what a birthday it turned out to be...

Over a long hot summer with over a hundred and twenty kids aged 8-16 enjoying an experience they'll never forget at the five camps each of which was conducted over five days.

To celebrate 10 years of ERC WA we ran our first ever "Leaders Conference". Almost 40 Leaders mostly aged 17-21 spent four days being challenged physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually.

Leaders were given the opportunity to reflect, many sharing often eloquent and moving insights – their hopes, dreams and beliefs for a world that not only matches their expectations, but also the Lord's.

We are very proud of our fantastic bunch of young adults. With a strong sense of community responsibility and awareness of others needs they are consistently generous with their time and energies.

The greatest testimony to the value of the Edmund Rice Camps for Kids though has to come from those whom we seek to serve. The photo on the front page of this edition of ER News, the photo above and the written testimony from one of kids at right tells the story in one way. Kate Burns, one of the volunteer leaders, described it in this way for a story published in *The Record* newspaper...

To help make the camps a success, the leaders attend orientation and training days prior to camps. What makes it even more special is that the volunteers themselves take on the responsibility throughout the year for their own training and also raising the funds required to fund the camps and activities – but once the camps start it's just about ensuring the kids have fun.

With so much time spent together between activities, many leaders feel lucky to have the Edmund Rice Camps community in their life.

"You are giving so much and getting so much, that the whole camp feeling just makes you appreciate different things in life. You leave your normal worries behind," said a volunteer.

I dream'd in a dream I
Saw a city invincible to
the attacks of the world
I dream'd that was the
new city of friends,
Nothing was greater
there then the quality
of robust love, it led the
rest,
It was seen every hour in
the actions of the people of
that city,
And in all their looks and words.
This city was no city at all
but the members of the
Edmund-Rice Camps for kids.

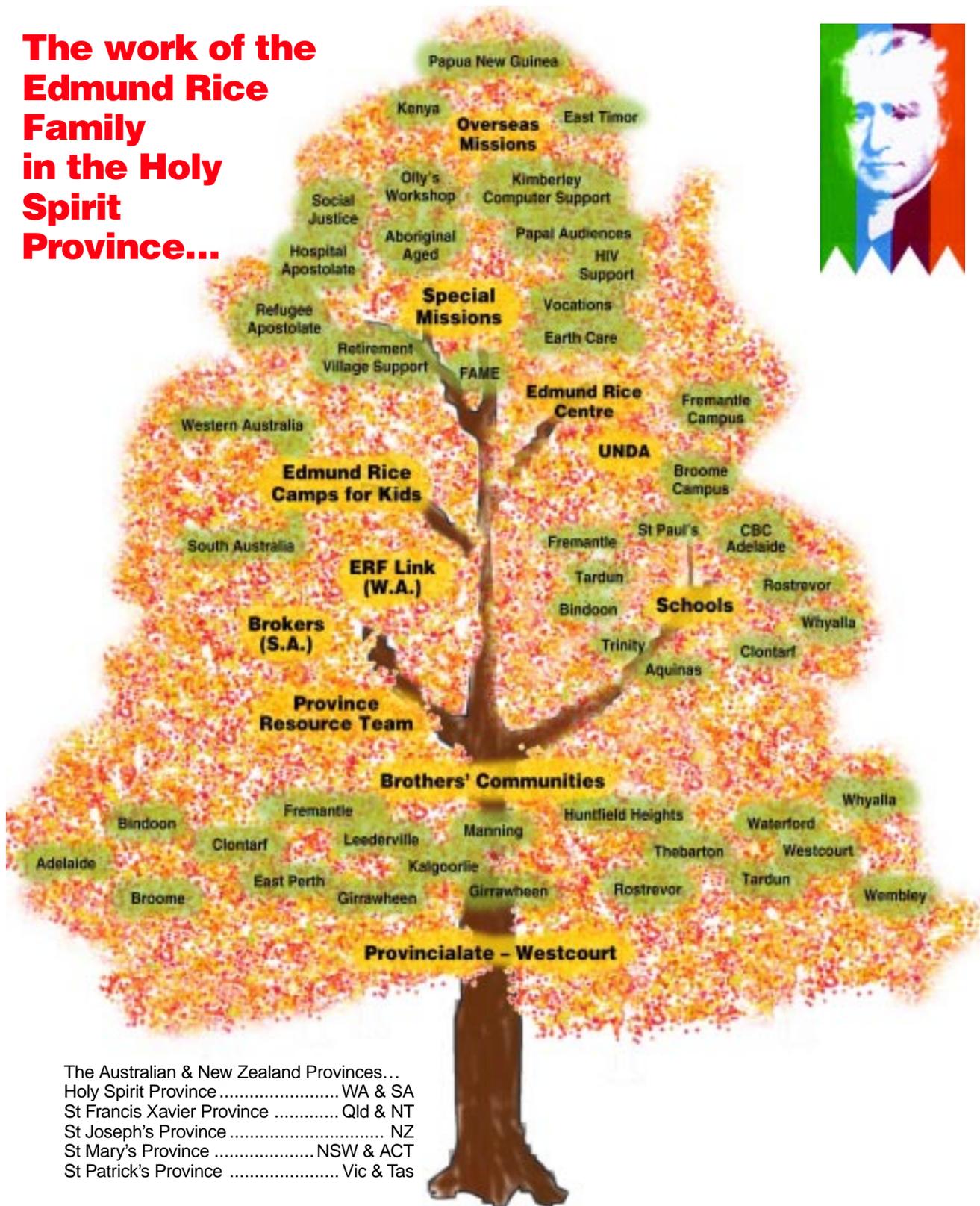
Edmund Rice



Camps for Kids

Written by a participant on her final Edmund Rice Camp after being with us for four previous camps. We think she might be back as a leader in the future!

The work of the Edmund Rice Family in the Holy Spirit Province...



The Australian & New Zealand Provinces...
 Holy Spirit Province WA & SA
 St Francis Xavier Province Qld & NT
 St Joseph's Province NZ
 St Mary's Province NSW & ACT
 St Patrick's Province Vic & Tas

The Edmund Rice Family Tree for the Holy Spirit Province continues to grow and complement the work of the International Edmund Rice Family which spans all the continents of the globe and extends back in time almost two hundred years as the following table listing the countries in which the Edmund Rice Family is active shows:

Ireland 1802	Rome 1900	Papua New Guinea ... 1950	Zambia 1964
Great Britain 1825	United States 1906	Zimbabwe 1954	Peru 1967
Australia 1868	St Lucia 1947	Dominica 1956	Ghana 1968
New Zealand 1876	Grenada 1947	Antigua 1958	Liberia 1969
Canada 1876	Argentina 1948	Uruguay 1958	Cook Islands 1976
India 1890	Trinidad 1948	Barbados 1961	Fiji 1981
South Africa 1895			

The number given to right of each country is the year in which our work started in that country.

National Formation Board

A NATIONAL FORMATION BOARD has been established as a result of the National Edmund Rice Family Formation Process being accepted by the Inter-province Leadership Committee (ILC). The members of the Board are appointed by the ILC on an annual basis, with the Board itself commissioned to operate until the end of 2002.

The Board is composed of representatives from each of the Provinces and reflects the composition of the Edmund Rice Family.

Members of the Board for 2000 are: Tony Shanahan (ILC representative); Gerry Faulkner and Andrée Brown (Holy Spirit Province); Peter Clinch, Madeline Duckett and Andy Kuppe (St Patrick's Province); Paul Corkeron (St Mary's Province); Jeanne Haster and Damien Price (St Francis Xavier Province). Peter Nicholson also attends the Board meetings as the coordinator of the National Edmund Rice Family Formation Process.

The first meeting of the Board was held on the 15th December 1999, at the Edmund Rice Centre, "Amberley", in Melbourne, where Andy Kuppe and Peter Clinch were appointed as co-chairs for 2000.

Despite the unseasonable, tropical Melbourne heat, the meeting was very energising. Among a range of issues, the Board discussed:

- ◆ The importance of each Province Formation Committee in the National Edmund Rice Family Formation Process. It was hoped that each committee would be established by the next Board meeting.
- ◆ The growing understanding of the Edmund Rice Family: its emerging organisational structures; its identity and membership; its underlying values and assumptions; and its relationship to Church. There was a sense of some readiness to take the "next step".
- ◆ The perceived need for Provinces to work together on the approach to volunteers.
- ◆ How Vocations Ministry is placed within the context of the National Edmund Rice Family Formation Process.

There was certainly no conclusions drawn about any of the above, but a willingness expressed to further explore these issues in further Board meetings and in dialogue with the wider provinces.

The second meeting of the Board was held in Melbourne from the 15-17 March. The Board was joined on the first day by



FROM THE PROVINCE ARCHIVIST...

Historical Material and Memorabilia...

It is a fact that the Christian Brothers no longer run many of the schools or institutions for which they were once well known, for example Ovingham, CBC Leederville, CBC Highgate, CBC Kalgoorlie, Castledare, Clontarf, etc. In many cases these schools are now running under a different regime, and it has been the assumption that the successor schools would retain historical material. However, in many cases records of the old Christian Brothers schools have been lost or have disappeared in the transition. We would therefore be grateful for any donations of the following:

1. School Annuals and Year Books including those for CBC St George's Terrace.
2. Memorabilia. These include metal and cloth badges, uniforms and hats, school report forms, letterheads etc. For example, I recently saw a metal label from one of the collection boxes for Clontarf Orphanage – this is an example of useful memorabilia. Another example that we have in the Province Archives at Westcourt is some of the floor titles from CBC Terrace.

Memorial cards of deceased Brothers...

Our collection of memorial cards of deceased Brothers has quite a number of gaps, spread over the time that the Brothers have been in South Australia and Western Australia. Can you help fill the spaces?

Please contact Josette Mathers, Province Archivist at Westcourt on 9365 2813 if you can help with any of these requests.

Carmel Leavy OP. During this time the Board became aware of a deepening understanding of the Edmund Rice Family and what it was being called to. Carmel offered the challenge of looking at the membership, development and formation of the Edmund Rice Family in parallel with serious study, research and learning from other disciplines. This conversation was a good basis for moving into a conversation on a vocabulary for pursuing the future. On the Friday morning the Board Members had a conversation around the local Church and the Edmund Rice Family: the experiences, links, gifts,

values, goals, etc.

The Board meets next on the 1-2 June in Sydney and will take as one of its foci the implementation of the 'Deepening and Exploring' Phase of the National Formation Process.

Importantly, the Board sees itself as having an ongoing role in providing and facilitating personal, professional and spiritual support to Peter Nicholson as the coordinator of the National Edmund Rice Family Formation Process

**Andy Kuppe and Peter Clinch,
Co-chairs, National Formation Board.**

The spirit of Edmund Rice at the University of Notre Dame Australia

by Br Peter Harney cfc, Director of the Edmund Rice Centre at UNDA

LIFE IS NEVER DULL at Notre Dame. I see at least three of the Leadership Team along with some other Brothers on campus doing some renewal and study.

For those Brothers on staff, life is never without its challenges. Over the past month at Notre Dame University I taught an intensive summer course on the environmental and maritime history of the south coast of WA (30 hours) to 5 students and then joined 35 others on board the 'STS Leeuwin' – a tall ship built at the time of the Americas' Cup challenge here in Fremantle.

For eleven days the 40 volunteers on board sailed to the Recherche Archipelago and the deep Southern Ocean. Three scientists joined the crew and provided a wonderful informed commentary on the fauna and flora of this pristine part of the Australian coast line. Not only did all on board learn 'the ropes' of the ship and how to control the sails but they enjoyed swimming with Australian Sea Lions and New Zealand seals as well as nursing their pups.

We walked on islands – Mondrain, Doubtful and Middle – only visited every few years by the inquisitive scientist intent on collecting data. The CALM scientists invited the crew to take part in recording the diversity of plant and animal life on these islands of paradise.

The experience of sharing meals, the unfurling of sails, the hauling on the lines, fishing in the still of the inky night, the sharing of our space and our time with virtual strangers who quickly became our friends, was a truly worthwhile experience. The catch cry was "challenge by choice" but in the company of so many who were prepared to climb the 30 metre masts to furl the sails most stepped forward.

There was a sense that we were part of the ecosystem of this part of the coast – we were not there as visitors, tourists and observers. There was a sense that we were a natural part in this watery-landscape if we listened carefully and took time to reflect and learn.

Notre Dame is a new University celebrating its 10th

anniversary this year as Australia's first Catholic University and is prepared to approve such integrated courses of study.

Your Province's support for the Edmund Rice Centre at Notre Dame is extraordinarily generous. This year we have one new staff member to help organise the estimated 400 students who will be engaged in community service-learning. On a recent Thursday night I spent six hours on a soup kitchen patrol that the Centre will be running for the next 12 months. It helps meet the needs of the homeless in the Fremantle area where it is estimated 100 people have nowhere to sleep each night. We are working with the Red Cross who have been doing this work in Perth for 25 years.

By mid-year we hope to have set up through the Centre the first BA-cum-LLB with a minor in Justice Studies at any Australian university. The six units will deal with justice issues in today's world from the social teaching/community development perspective, earth ethics and peace studies. In collaboration with the local East Timorese community we are presently planning a winter seminar for 10 students to visit East Timor. It will be a credit course. The interest among students has been high.

Through the generosity of the Holy Spirit Province we have given our first indigenous scholarship to an Aboriginal person who is studying for a degree in early childhood education. A truly fitting way to celebrate this Year of Jubilee.

Another feature of Notre Dame is the study abroad program which attracts 60 students from Notre Dame University Indiana, 30 from St Benedict's/St John's, Minnesota, as well as increasing numbers from the Catholic University of America, Washington DC, Boston College (Jesuit) and a few others. The young Catholic Americans are used to community service programs and bring real energy and enthusiasm to our work. A number this year are working in the Centre as volunteers as they have wide experience doing such administrative work in similar Centres in their home Universities. Our local, Australian students are as generous with their energy and time as well.

New Edmund Rice Ireland Website

DONAL O'CALLAGHAN from the Edmund Rice Office in Dublin recently forwarded copies of the ERIN Newsletter which have been distributed to the communities within our Province. Donal also asked us to bring to your attention the new Edmund Rice Ireland (ERIN) Website. You can find it at <http://www.er-in.com>.

Illustrated at right is one of the pages from the ER-IN website with information about the early history of Edmund Rice. This is a site well-worth visiting when you are in need of historical and background information.

The screenshot shows a website titled "Edmund Rice Ireland Network". It has a navigation bar with "Home", "Catalogue", and "Newsletter". There are three main menu items: "Callan", "Nth Richmond St.", and "Mount Sion". Under "Callan", there is a sub-menu item "Icon story". The main content area is titled "Westcourt Callan" and "Birthplace of Edmund Rice". It contains text describing the thatched house where Edmund Rice was born on 1 June 1762, and a photograph of the house. Below the text, there is a photograph of the interior of the house, showing a dining room with a table and chairs. To the right of the interior photo, there is a call to action: "Come and see how a prosperous farmer's family lived in Edmund Rice's time. Also see the chapel, Icon room and Visitor's Centre." On the left side of the screenshot, there is a vertical sidebar with a portrait of Edmund Rice and three circular icons labeled "THE STORY", "THE VISION", and "THE RESPONSE". Below these icons is a map of Ireland with several locations marked: Belfast, Galway, DUBLIN, Limerick, CALLAN, WATERFORD, and Cork (Mount Sion).