



Edmund Rice Network News

NSW/ACT January 2010

Dear friends

Greetings and blessings for a wonderful year in 2010 - the Edmund Rice Network, NSW/ACT will be organising plenty of events to inspire you to action in social justice issues and facilitate spiritual reflection to nourish the journey.

This monthly newsletter will keep you up-to-date with the latest, but also check out the new Edmund Rice Network Oceania website: www.edmundrice.org This impressive new website has many fancy features, including potential for groups, blogs and chatting. We will set up a special NSW/ACT page which will list all upcoming events for this region. We'll have more information on the new website (including instructions for those like me who are technically challenged!) in next month's newsletter.

In the meantime here below are details about some upcoming events. One of them is a special occasion for me, the launch of my book: *Ordinary Courage*, a personal memoir about my experience as a human shield in the war in Iraq. I would like to invite you to celebrate the launch with me at Sydney University on February 2nd. It will be a great chance for me to thank my friends and colleagues in the Edmund Rice Network for all your moral support as the book slowly came into being last year. Hope to see you there as my special guest, details are below and an invitation from my publisher is attached.

Upcoming Edmund Rice Network events:

Book launch event: *Ordinary Courage*

Sydney University's Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, in conjunction with Pier 9 Murdoch Books, Gleebooks and the Edmund Rice Network invite you to a special event to celebrate the launch of the book: *Ordinary Courage, my journey to Baghdad as a human shield*, by Donna Mulhearn. The book will be available in bookstores from February 1st. Special guest to launch the book will be author and journalist Antony Loewenstein.

When: 6pm-8pm, Tuesday, February 2nd, 2010

Where: Footbridge Theatre, Sydney University, Parramatta Rd, Camperdown

RSVP: claireg@murdochbooks.com.au by Jan 29

Let's Talk Rural Immersion Program for Brothers and Others - February 13-20

Brothers and members of the Edmund Rice Network are invited to join a unique cross cultural learning experience to develop a first-hand understanding of Indigenous culture in rural New South Wales. Throughout the journey we will explore a variety of issues affecting indigenous peoples, cultures and communities across North West NSW. We will travel through communities such as Brewarrina, Goolooga, Lightning Ridge and Walgett. You will participate in a range of cultural activities such as aboriginal art and dance, bush foods and medicines, smoking ceremonies, elders yarn ups.

When: February 13th - 20th, 2010

Cost: \$850, includes all meal, travel, accommodation and tour costs

Contact: To register your interest or apply, contact Ashlee Lasalo on (02) 87624207, ashleeb@erc.org.au

Afternoon Tea for the Future

The first Afternoon Tea for the Future for 2010 will be held on Tuesday 2nd February from 2pm to 4 pm at The Edmund Rice Centre, in the end room of the Edmund Rice Camps building opposite the reception.

The topic is: After Copenhagen. The struggle for climate change awareness and action is very much alive despite a somewhat disappointing result in Copenhagen. Jill Finnane a delegate at the conference will give us a short report and Leonie will also provide an update on the response to the petition.

The rest of the time will be spent in an informal discussion on “good” climate awareness companies and how they are responding to climate change. Are their efforts genuine or enough? What do you think? Come and share your thoughts, ideas and inspirations. Our meeting will conclude by 4pm and includes tea and coffee and time for informal sharing. For information and inquiries, please email: leoniec@erc.org.au or phone 87624200

When: Tues Feb 4, 2pm-4pm

Where: Edmund Rice Centre, 15 Henley Rd, Flemington

Fair Trade tour

The Edmund Rice Centre in conjunction with Well Connected Travel have developed a social justice tour program of Thailand focusing on Fair Trade issues. The tours are designed to give travellers an understanding, appreciation and respect for local cultures that also provides a positive impact on host communities. Thaicraft, the partner organisation in Thailand has over 20 years experience in working with communities of craft producers, including minority ethnic groups, promoting social and economic development in all parts of Thailand. Tour Host is Lindfa Gaden, also co-ordinator of the Fair Trade Association of NSW group.

Tour A, Isarn, depart 26 September and returns 3 October, 2010, (cost \$2670) Tour B, Lanna departs 26 September, returns 9 October, 2010 (cost \$4204).

For further information contact Danny Long, Fair Trade Project Leader at the Edmund rice Centre on 87624200, or Linda at Well Connected Travel on 9401 9209.

Also...

The Edmund Rice Justice Bulletin is a regular bulletin of news, information and invitation to action on current issues of social justice for members of the Edmund Rice Network. The latest bulletin is available for viewing at www.erjnbulletin.blogspot.com

Blessings along the way,

Donna

PS: “Come follow me to the edge, into the deeper and wider dimensions of Living that you may discover the God who awaits you” Munnar Chapter, 2008