



Easter blessings

The blessings of the Easter season be with all our readers. May the power of the Risen Christ inspire you all with vision and courage in your mission to build the Kingdom of God - a world of justice, love and peace.



Broken Bay initiative



The above photo of priests, with Bishop David Walker, and Brother Michael Dredge, represents an exciting move forward for the Australian Church, and particularly for the Diocese of Broken Bay. In his response to the scarcity of local clergy in his diocese, Bishop David travelled abroad, and gathered these ordained priests to serve in Broken Bay.

Rather than parachuting these new, can I say "missionaries" into the various parishes of the diocese, Bishop David arranged for them to take an eight weeks' course which included living together at "The Centre" at Randwick, allowing them to mix and get to know one another ; to invite other members of the diocesan clergy and assistants to visit and mingle in order to familiarise the newcomers with local conditions.

Importantly they had courses in English leading to certification through IELTS tests. In this they came under the expert tuition of Brother Michael Dredge, whose reputation and expertise in this special field are now internationally recognised. As well, the priests were introduced to such aspects of Australian life

as accent modification ; exposure to Australian culture and history, and to one another's own individual cultures.

When I returned from USA in 1987, the then SG Gabriel McHugh had a prophecy for me in that he said I would work with and have some influence on the life and ministry of Australian diocesan clergy. Over the past twenty plus years, I have travelled Australia giving retreats, conferences, workshops to the clergy. I believe it to be an Edmund outreach to be brother to our priests. So when Brother Michael extended his care to the newly arrived priests, I was and remain elated, and his ministry has my full support.

Patrick White

ERN Tasmania

On Friday 19 March I joined with Danny Moore, Peter Flint and other members of the ERN Tasmania Coordinating group. We shared Edmund Rice activities in which we are involved, had some time for reflection and planned for two significant events. This year ERN Tasmania will host an Edmund Rice Convention on 7-8 May at St Virgil's College. This will follow the annual Edmund Rice Mass at the Derwent Entertainment Centre. The other major event will be an Edmund Rice Justice Lecture in late August.

Friday's meeting was attended by representatives of the ERN Directorate, St Virgil's College, St Brendan Shaw College, St Patrick's College, Edmund Rice Camps and the Brothers. In the sharing there was a great spirit of cooperation and togetherness as we marvelled in the shared heritage of the Edmund Rice charism.

Tim Moloney

Chemin Neuf

The Chemin Neuf Community is a Roman Catholic community with an ecumenical vocation, which grew out of a prayer group in Lyons (France) in 1973. It currently has over 1,200 members in 21 countries in Europe, Africa, America and the Middle East.

Couple, families, singles and celibates, men and women have chosen the adventure of community life to follow Christ poor and humble, in order to serve the Church, the Gospel and the world.

The Chemin Neuf Community is an apostolic community, influenced both by the spirituality of St Ignatius of Loyola, and by the Charismatic Renewal which appeared in France around 1970....

Right from the start the Community was marked by the presence of brothers and sisters from several Christian denominations, seeking to be faithful to the prayer Jesus made before dying: "May they be one . .."

A future model for the Edmund Rice Network?

Laurie Needham

ERN Sundowner 2010

Early each year Jill Parker, ERN Co-ordinator for WA, organises a function, a Sundowner which has a twofold purpose. Firstly it is an opportunity for some members from all WA Province and EREA Ministries to gather, mix and share stories about the various Edmund Rice Ministries in WA. Secondly it is an

opportunity to acknowledge the work of long-time leaders in our ministries. In 2010 an extra significant purpose was introduced to the function.

A group, The Wisdom Group, was commissioned by the Oceania Director of Networking, Communication & Development, Br. Steve McLaughlin. The purpose of the Wisdom Group is to promote and encourage members of the ERN to be active in promoting the charism of Edmund Rice by supporting and encouraging existing Edmund Rice Ministries and by initiating new ministries. The 13 members comprising the Wisdom Group are, Gus Irdi, Jill Parker, Steve Bowman, Donella Brown, Trevanna Cooper, Gordon Dean, Richard Mavros, Chris Mousley, John Richards, Sandro Sandri, Catherine Tesoriero, Bernard White and Pat Kelly. It was good to have nine Christian Brothers present at the ceremony to take an active part in commissioning the members of the Wisdom Group to carry on the mission started by the Christian Brothers.

Pat Kelly



Left to right: Steve McLaughlin, Geoff Seaman, Leo Hassam, Jim van der Zalm, Peter Negus, Phil O'Loughlen, Laurie Negus, Gerry Faulkner, Bill Finegan and John Baldwin

Appointment to Mount Isa Flexible Learning Centre

A warm welcome to Gordon Christie as Coordinator of the Flexible Learning Centre, Mount Isa. Gordon will officially commence next term.

Gordon brings a broad experience base to this position. He has a demonstrated passion for Indigenous education and has had 17 years in the Queensland police force and 10 years teaching at Catholic schools in and around Townsville and Palm Island. In the last 3 years he was Assistant Principal at Shalom Christian College in Townsville. Welcome Gordon

Tim Young
Principal

New climate change website for Pacific Islanders

I would like to share with you the good news that the Pacific Calling Partnership has set up a website especially for all Pacific Islanders who are passionate about climate change.

The idea of creating this site is to bring Pacific Islanders to work together as a team to combat climate change.

The site is also for all those who are passionate about the issue. It provides a forum where we can work to:

- bring justice and a fair deal to Pacific Island nations
- make people aware of what is happening to each others islands
- find better responses by sharing our own stories and our own ideas
- help each other to become better informed so we can speak to our governments and communities with more knowledge

This is the site where you can share your ideas around the issue of climate change. You can advertise your climate change events.

There is also a chat room where people can openly share ideas about climate change and discuss how it affects our homelands.

So I am encouraging you all to come and join to support this website, all you have to do is just click on the link and sign up or go to <http://actionrightnow.ning.com>

A big thank you to Tiotee Ribabaiti who played such a marvelous role in the background creating this website. Thank you for your effort and your time that you have given to complete this website, and for your generous offer to continue to help maintain and develop the site. God bless!!

Maria Tiimon

Pacific/Copenhagen Report

This report from SPREP (Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Program) gives an analysis of the Cop 15 Conference in Copenhagen, its outcomes and possible next steps. SPREP provides support and technical advice to Pacific Island countries and will continue to do so in the lead up to Cop 16. http://www.sprep.org/att/IRC/eCOPIES/Pacific_Region/526a.pdf

Jill Finnane

Inter-faith Calendar

April	11	Yom HaSho'ah (Jewish)
	14	Baisakhi (Sikh)
	19	Yom Ha'Atzmaut (Jewish)
	21	First day of Ridvan (Baha'i)

South Australian Sundowner

The annual Sundowner to recognise and celebrate the achievements of 2009, the coming events of 2010 and the networking of the various Edmund Rice Ministries was held at St Paul's College, Gilles Plains, on Tuesday 16 March. Steve McLaughlin, the Director of Networking, Communication and Development, spoke on the network and future directions.

The representatives of the ER Wisdom group were presented and received a candle and prayed a Missioning Prayer. A plaque was presented to Tony McGuire recognising his ten years as Chair of the Associates and work for the ER Network over many years. The meal in the new St Paul's Staffroom was an excellent time for networking and enjoying the company of those from various ministries and members of the network.



Networking, Communication & Development SA Region
Co-ordinator Natasha Siebert and CBC Adelaide Deputy
Principal Shaun Clarke

John Webb

Birthday celebration



Leo Griffin

Leo Griffin who resides at Little Sisters of the Poor in Northcote celebrated his 90th milestone on Holy Saturday (3 April).

We rejoice with him on this blessed event and wish him a Happy Birthday and appreciate his sharing of his long life with us.

Ad multos annos

Kerrie Gilbert

Oceania Website

The website has been down for just over a week. We have now discovered what the problem was and it should be up again very soon. Some new features have been added and more can be expected in the near future.

Visit of Jan Novotka – revised schedule



Jan Novotka's visit has been shortened.

She will visit Brisbane and Melbourne only.

All other venues have been cancelled.

The revised schedule for these venues is shown below.

Brisbane

Tuesday	4 May	9.00am – 3.00pm	Two-day Workshop at Indooroopilly Support Centre
Wednesday	5 May	9.00am – 12pm	
	5 May	6.30pm – 9.00pm	Festival Edmund Rice (Founder's Day) at St Leo's Chapel & Board Room
Friday	7 May	10.30am – lunch	'Lunch with Jan Novotka - Celebrating Brotherhood with a new consciousness' at St Leo's (Brothers only)

Melbourne

Tuesday	11 May	12.30pm - 3.00pm	Two-day Workshop at OSC Parkville
Wednesday	12 May	9.00am – lunch	
Thursday	13 May	6.30 - 9.00pm	Edmund Rice Festival at Parkville
Friday	14 May	10.30am – lunch	'Lunch with Jan Novotka – Celebrating Brotherhood with a new consciousness' at OSC Parkville (Brothers only)

To register for this event please fill in the registration form and send to

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Or

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Oceania Updates

Please send any information or news items for Oceania Updates to the Province Publications Coordinator, Brother Nev Thornton, Email: ntthornton@edmundrice.org

I am particularly interested in receiving any good quality images of people, places, sights and faces throughout Oceania.