





OUR STORY

Edmund Rice Education Australia

Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA) is the network of schools, entities and offices of

Established by the Christian Brothers in 2007, EREA now has full

The logo features a stylized figure of a person in a blue and red striped shirt, holding a staff, positioned within a circular emblem. The emblem is composed of several overlapping orange and yellow rings.

**EDMUND RICE EDUCATION
AUSTRALIA**

OUR HERITAGE

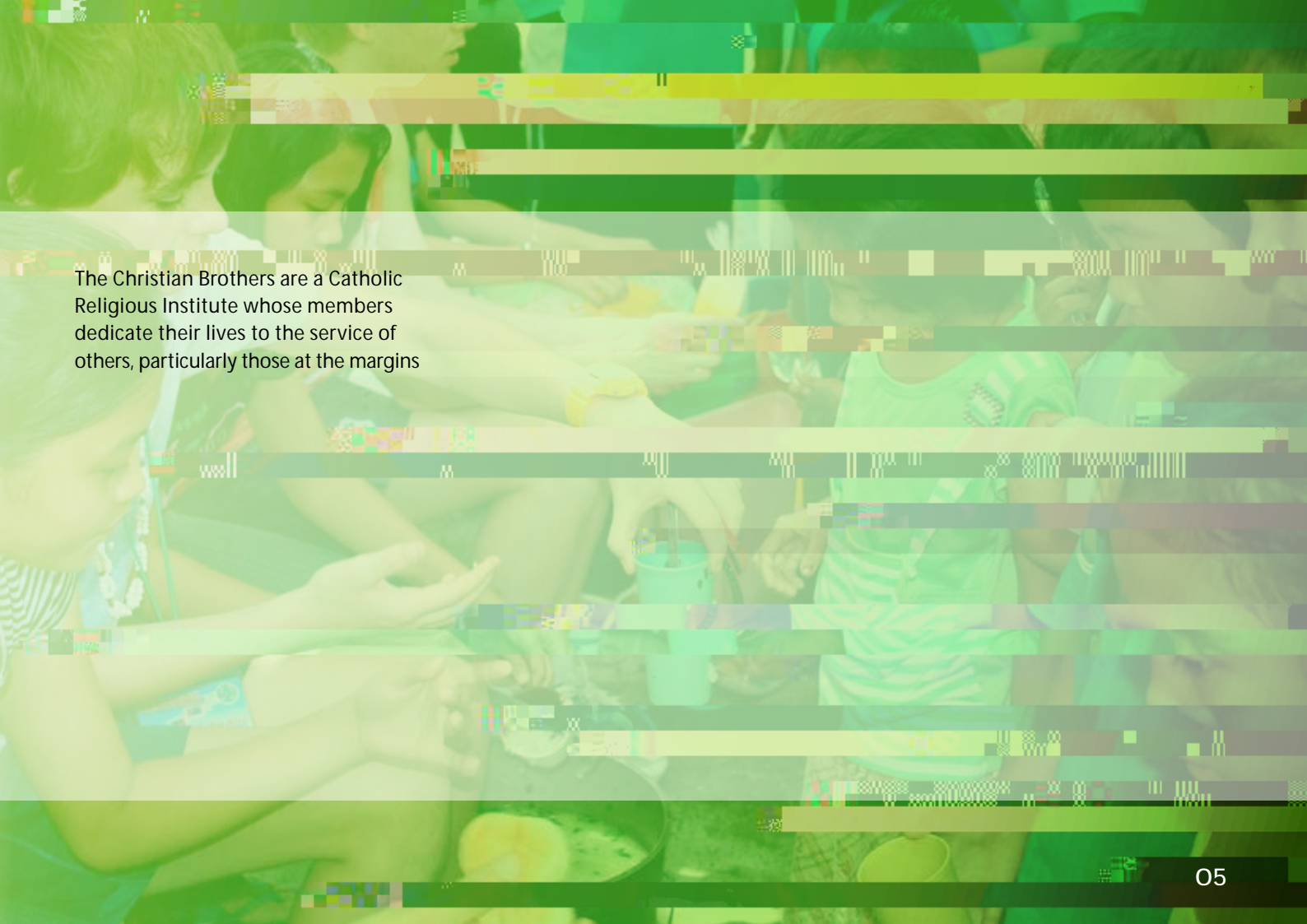
Who was Edmund Rice and who are the Christian Brothers?

Edmund Rice was an Irish man of the 18th and 19th Century who had the dream of creating a better world for poor young people through education.

Edmund was a deeply faith committed man inspired by the Gospel story of Jesus and who understood the unjust reality of his times. In 1802 he established a school in Waterford where many alienated youth were excluded from education.

A successful and wealthy businessman, he always had a concern for those who were poor and on the edges of society. He believed that education was essential to liberating young people from their circumstances.

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The Christian Brothers are a Catholic Religious Institute whose members dedicate their lives to the service of others, particularly those at the margins

OUR IDENTITY

The Charter for Catholic Schools in the Edmund Rice Tradition

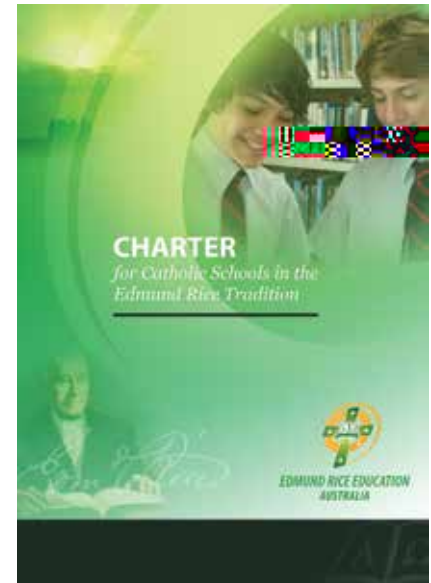
All schools and educational entities in the Edmund Rice tradition across Australia are bound by a Charter which identifies touchstones authentically linked with the charism of Blessed Edmund Rice and which underpins the ministry in our schools and educational endeavours.

These touchstones help us set our direction and define our goals as, following Blessed Edmund's example, we continue to reflect and to seek to make the Gospel a living reality in our communities. Living these touchstones gives Edmund Rice Education Australia a special position in educating for liberation and possibility.

Each school and educational entity within Edmund Rice Education Australia is called to be authentic to the Charter.

As a living document, the Charter continues to evolve through review and reflection as the demands of our changing times are read and interpreted in the light of the unchanging Gospel.

This Charter document was proclaimed by the EREA Council on 22 August 2011 and can be accessed at www.erea.edu.au/abo.



OUR STRUCTURE

Governance and Management

To facilitate mission, EREA is governed by a Council which holds the canonical authority of EREA as canonical stewards and the civil authority as Trustees of Edmund Rice Education Australia. Appointment to the Council is made by the Congregation Leader of the Christian Brothers.

The Council appoints a Board which has the responsibility for the strategic direction and oversight of management of EREA. This Board meets six times each year and has a number of standing committees.

The Executive Director of EREA is appointed by the Board with the approval of Council, as the Chief Executive Officer of EREA.

EREA has three National Mission Areas:

- Identity and Liberating Education;
- Community Engagement and Support;
- Stewardship and Resourcing.

There are 4 Regional Offices:

- North (QLD);
- South (VIC & TAS);
- East (NSW & ACT);
- West (WA, SA and NT).

Youth +:

- coordinates a national flexible learning network.

The Leadership Team of EREA comprises senior national and regional leaders as well as two Principals.

An integral element of EREA is Youth+, which has oversight of a number of Flexible Learning Centres and other initiatives providing education to disenfranchised young people outside mainstream education.

OUR MISSION

EREA staff offer a range of services in support of mission nationally, regionally and at the local school level. These include:

Identity and Liberating Education

- staff formation and leadership programs;
- publications and resources

OUR NETWORK

Membership of EREA

Nationally there are many schools forming a large network with a common commitment to offering a Catholic education guided by the charism of Edmund Rice.

Members of EREA are schools which EREA directly owns and governs. There are nearly 50 of these schools, including a number of Flexible Learning Centres operated by Youth+, based in all states and territories of Australia.

Associates of EREA are schools which, although not governed by EREA, desire to keep a connection to the charism of Blessed Edmund Rice and the heritage of the Christian Brothers. In most cases these are schools which were owned or led by the Christian Brothers in the past but which now are Diocesan governed schools, frequently after an amalgamation

with schools operated by other religious orders. Around 30 schools have become Associate Schools of EREA.

In addition EREA is closely partnered with the ve Catholic Schools in the Edmund Rice tradition in New Zealand. Across the wider world, there are over 250 schools inspired by the Edmund Rice charism operating in over 20 countries.

For a full listing of membership of Edmund Rice Education Australia see

www.education.ed.ac.nz/education

Youth+ is the arm of EREA which offers a flexible education for young people disenfranchised from the education system and from many aspects of society.

Youth+ operates a number of Flexible Learning Centres, each of which is a registered school, small in size and providing a range of learning pathways to connect young people with education and positive futures.

Flexible Learning Centres rely on authentic relationships, a staff dedicated to working with young people who may be facing

multiple challenges, and an engaging program that balances



