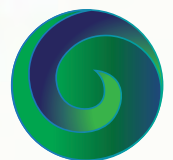


Invitation to
potential
collaborating
organisations

Celebrating
and supporting
teenage transition
into positive
adulthood



rites together

Rites Together is a well-established and highly regarded not-for-profit, community-based company based in Perth WA. We provide professionally delivered outdoor camps and other events for families who wish to be involved in supporting the transition of their sons and daughters to positive adulthood.

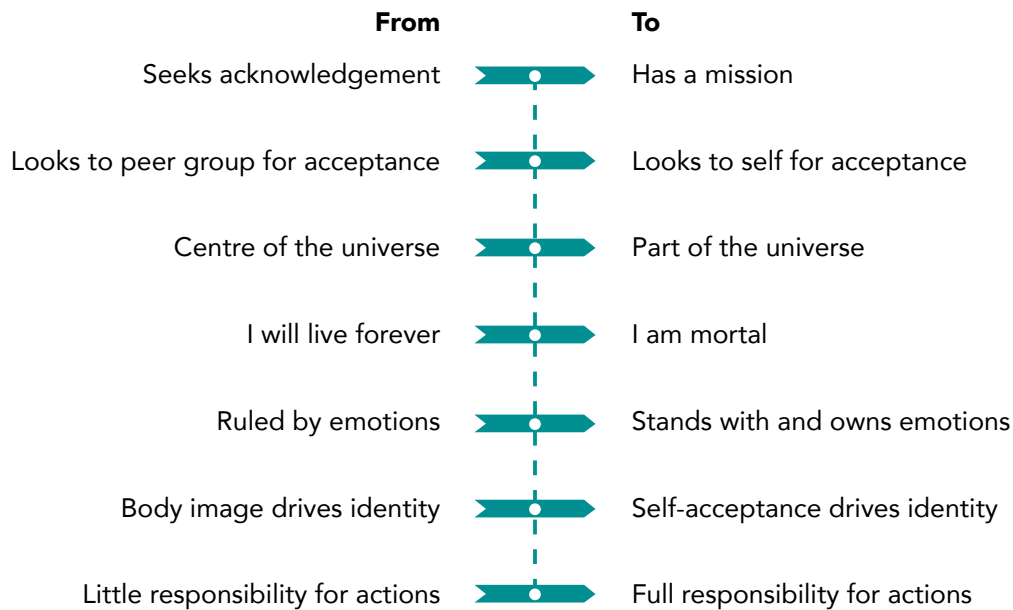
A rite of passage

is a ceremonial event, common in almost all societies, which marks the passage from one social status to another. For thousands of years, communities around the world have created ceremonies to acknowledge, support, and celebrate their teenagers becoming adults. These ritual events are designed to help teenagers transition, in a healthy way, into the world of positive adulthood.



POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF A RITE OF PASSAGE EVENT

Teenage to adult rite of passage...



WHY CHOOSE RITES TOGETHER?

- Access to a high quality and expertly facilitated family-orientated process. Rites Together is welcoming of all types of families – biological, blended, one-parent, foster and all others.
- Offers the opportunity for direct involvement as a father, mother, step or foster parent, or other key adult mentor in the rite of passage of a teenager.
- As part of the process, all teenagers will be challenged within their capability, and this will be balanced with care, supervision, respect, and compassion.
- Provides families the opportunity to witness their teenager's development and clearer sense of purpose, increased understanding of personal and social responsibility, and emerging identity as an adult.
- Involvement in an inclusive process that welcomes Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families, those with culturally diverse backgrounds, people with disabilities and members of the LGBTIQ+ community.
- Opportunity to help some teenagers avoid "self-initiation processes" including substance misuse, sexual promiscuity, or other anti-social behaviours and high-risk activities.



Other programs in WA and across Australia offer camps and in-school programs to address the need for a rite of passage.

Rites Together offers the opportunity for parents, carers, and mentors to actively participate and support their sons and daughters through a rite of passage process.

WHAT HAVE PARTICIPANTS REPORTED ABOUT THE RITES TOGETHER EXPERIENCE?

“

It was a little bit like my own rite of passage because the camp celebrated and recognised the importance of the mother. I don't think I've ever been celebrated like that before.

”

“

It was professionally run and was safe. It is excellent value for money and lots of fun!

”

“

Sitting in a circle and sharing, listening, and reflecting on these discussions was very meaningful. And even more so years later...

”

“

You have these things bottled up inside and when other people have the same issues, it's like finding out that you're normal.

”

“

It was the first time as a developing teenager that I had to stop and get a broader picture of where I was as a person.

”



WHERE ARE CAMPS HELD?

- Camp Leschenaultia in Chidlow,
- Murchison House Station in Kalbarri,
- Manjadal Activity Centre in Jarrahdale,
- Buena Vista Function Centre, Gidgegannup, and
- Private properties in rural WA as required.

WHAT EVENTS ARE AVAILABLE?

Stepping into Manhood/Womanhood camps

– cost on a sliding scale between \$1200 and \$1500 dependent on income. Scholarships and payment plans are available.

An opportunity for families to celebrate their sons and daughters and help them create a healthy vision for the future.

The camps are delivered for 4 days (including 3 nights) with the fee covering catering and accommodation costs for two people as well as access to expert facilitation by Rites Together leaders. Transport to and from the camp needs to be managed by participants although carpooling is offered.

Connection Weekends

- cost on a sliding scale between \$650 and \$800 dependent on income. Scholarships and payment plans are available.

These events are scheduled for fathers/sons, mothers/daughters, fathers/daughters, and mothers/sons to deepen their connection and further their understanding of each other in a safe and supportive environment.

The weekend events are delivered from Friday to Sunday (including 2 nights) with the fee covering catering and accommodation for two people as well as access to expert facilitation by Rites Together leaders. Transport to and from the camp needs to be managed by participants although carpooling is offered.

Rites Together Leadership Training

– cost on a sliding scale between \$650 and \$800 dependent on income. Scholarships and payment plans are available.

This event provides an opportunity for trainees to learn about the Rites Together approach to community-based rites of passage camps and weekends and how to facilitate this journey as a volunteer.

The weekend events are delivered from Friday to Sunday (including 2 nights) with the fee covering catering and accommodation for one person as well as access to expert facilitation by Rites Together leaders. Transport to and from the camp needs to be managed by participants although carpooling is offered.

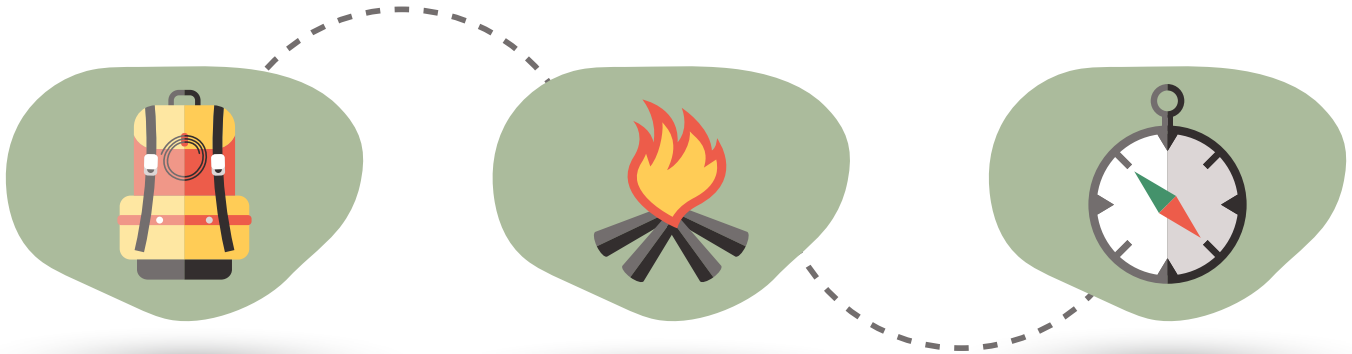
Presentations and workshops

– cost is negotiated dependent on what is required and capacity to pay. Rites Together can customise presentations as well as half-day or full-day workshops on rites of passage for children and teenagers with content developed to meet the needs of the audience or participants.

Please contact Rites Together to discuss.

WHAT IS THE PROCESS ON A CAMP OR WEEKEND EVENT?

A rite of passage acknowledges and honours the transition process from a boy or girl to a young man or woman.



Separation

teenagers separate from their normal life and community

Transformation

teenagers hear men's and women's stories about what it means to be an adult. They will also be challenged (within their capability) and recognised and honoured for their unique gifts, talents, and spirit

Return

teenagers are recognised and honoured as a young man or woman. They are encouraged to integrate all they have learned into their life and community.



ARE THE CAMPS EVIDENCE-BASED?

Qualitative research was undertaken by Stancome Research and Planning in March 2007 with outstanding results.

In 2020, Robert Nguyen undertook a qualitative analysis of the programs with very positive results as part of his Social Work Honours thesis (unpublished) while studying at Curtin University.



WHO DELIVERS THE CAMPS?

Rites Together has operated for many years in WA and involves volunteer men and women leaders committed to learning circles, facilitated group experiences, and the critical importance of providing teenagers with a rite of passage.

Rites Together has been informed by the work of international and national practitioners including:

- School of Lost Borders who provide nature-based initiation ceremonies in the Owens Valley, California, USA and
- Arne Rubinstein, CEO, and founder of the Australian Rites of Passage Institute

Additionally, many of the Rites of Passage leaders have professional qualifications in complementary areas including medicine, allied health, nursing, and counselling.

EXISTING COLLABORATORS:



SEEKING ORGANISATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Rites Together is committed to growing the organisation and taking these critically important rites of passage camps and events to the wider WA community. To achieve this, Rites Together wishes to collaborate with a broad range of organisations and is keen to begin these discussions.

We are keen to explore opportunities with:

- Primary and secondary schools (both single sex and co-educational),
- Sporting groups,
- Cultural groups,
- Service clubs,
- All churches and religious groups,
- Cultural groups, and
- Any other groups who have teenage members

We are particularly interested in working with vulnerable teenagers or those who may be disadvantaged. We recognise that we may need some input on child-safe approaches, trauma-informed practice or ensuring our camps and activities are culturally safe and are very open to this.

We are also keen to explore funding and sponsorship opportunities to ensure that no teenager and their family are denied this opportunity due to lack of funds.



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