



## About Rosies

Rosies provides unconditional acceptance and friendship to people who are marginalised within our community – especially those who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, or simply lonely. Rosies is a volunteer based organisation. We reach out to all our friends on the street, in the courts, detention centres, prisons, drop-in centres, and more. Rosies is non-preaching and non-discriminatory. It's amazing what a simple cuppa, bite to eat, and a chat can do.

## Quick Facts

- Commencing in QLD 1987
- Over 1,100 active volunteers (96,000 hours of community support/year)
- About 240 outreach services each month
- 11 branches
- Over 95% funded through kind donations from our local community
- Ministry of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate
- Support Office (FTE): 3 staff

## A bit of history

**//** 1987 Moya (foundation volunteer)

**The need for our mission is strong. For me what we are about isn't just to take the guy who has been bashed up to hospital but to be with those on the streets as friends - like the guy with a cut hand who wasn't worried about it and preferred to just talk.**

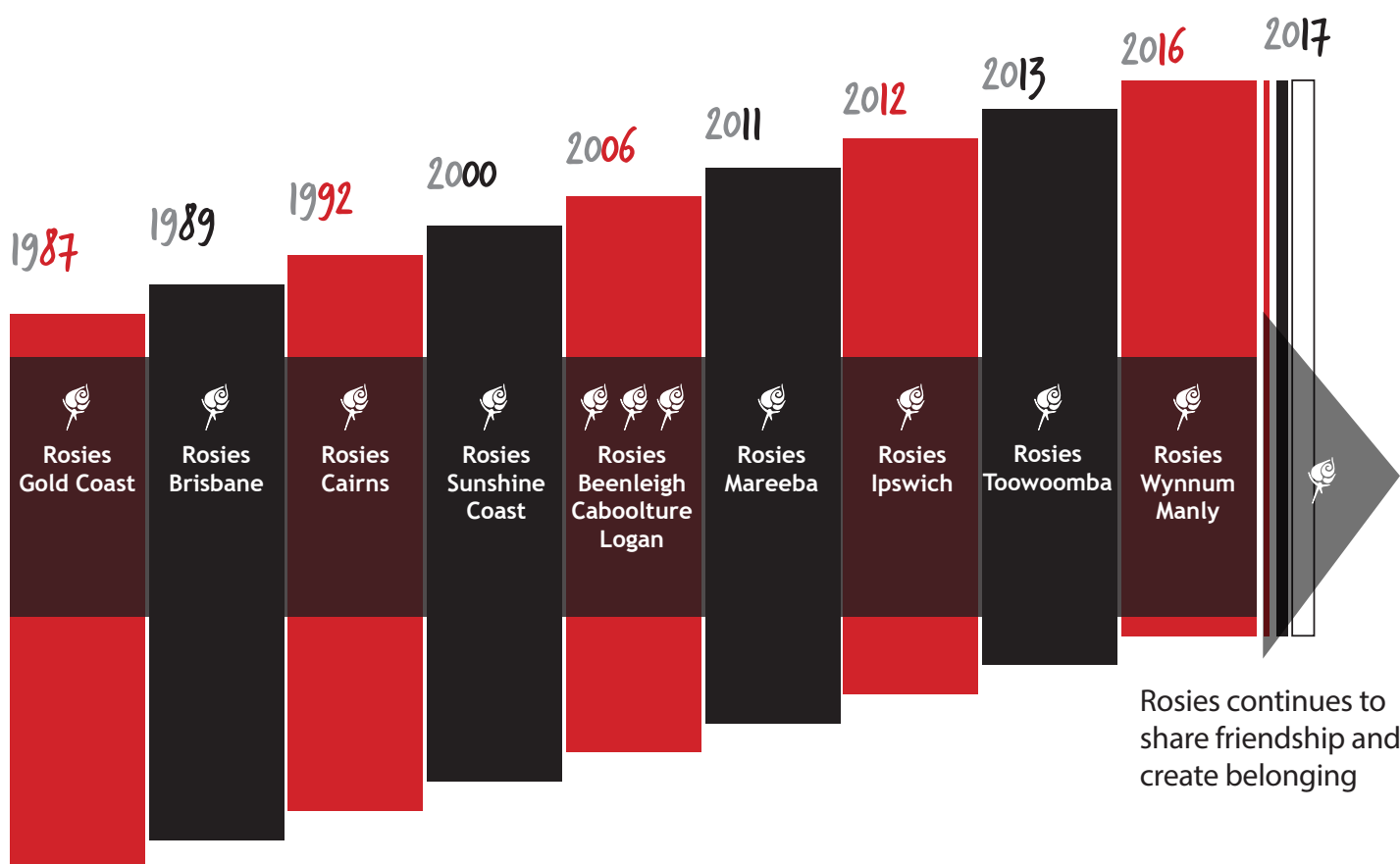
**//** 2017 Nicole (Annerley team)

**I believe friendship and feeling a sense of belonging in your community is very important, regardless of what people's circumstances may be.**

**//** 2017 Jake (patron)

**I recently moved to Brisbane to study. I've been using your free food van services & they've literally saved me from starving. I heard that you might need volunteers. I'm not sure what that involves but I'd be happy to give it a go.**

## ROSIES 30 years of friendship





# Rosies Spiritual Refresher

Friendship is at the core of Rosies mission. The spiritual heritage of Rosies proposes that friendship is not just a human encounter but also a divine, a spiritual encounter.

The Rosies prayer is an integral part of the outreach process. The prayer is about friendship: friendship among team members, friendship with patrons, friendship in and with God.

While Rosies was founded by and continues to be guided by the Oblates, it is recognised that not everyone shares the Christian faith. The two dimensions of human and divine encounter are not mutually exclusive which is testified daily by the friendships shared by all those in the Rosies family.

## THE ROSIES PRAYER

### O Jesus

this clearly expresses the faith that God is a person who shares our humanity; individuals may privately insert their own God or focus

### Make our hearts so human that others may feel at home with us

outreach is firstly a human encounter to which we bring human virtues, particularly respect for the inherent dignity of others and humility in our weakness

*(make our hearts)* So like Yours,

### that others may feel at home with You

the spiritual foundation of Rosies recognises that the divine is present in each of us, and recognises that there is a power beyond ours that will transform us and our encounters with others

*(make us)* So forgetful of self

### that we might simply become the place where you and they meet

expresses our hope that we all share in the ultimate encounter of friendship with God, and that we are instruments of God, of a transcendent goodness

### In the power of Your love and the joy of Your friendship. Amen

this concluding statement acknowledges that it is God's power, His gift, that makes possible, all we have and share.

Andrew O'Brien  
Rosies General Manger



Thank you to realestate.com.au, Golden Circle, the Hooper family, Gordon and the Mater Hospital, and the Red Rose Fund. They are a sample of the many individuals and organisations supporting Rosies and our many friends on the street!



## Mareeba

Our volunteers in Mareeba are a flexible bunch responding to shifting community dynamics. For the last half of 2016 they joined with other groups to support a new outreach venture in a different part of town. Now that is established, they are back in their usual spot near the skate park and the young patrons are pleased.

## Cairns

Thanks Kay Rivers and the team in Cairns who kept everything running smoothly while Lyall, the branch coordinator, took a well deserved break. Our volunteers and patrons are looking forward to autumn as the summers are always tough in tropical Far North Queensland. Our local committee are working closely with the Cairns Regional Council to secure a long-term venue for our well-patronised service reaching out 4 nights per week.

## Sunshine Coast

Christmas on the Street typifies the friendship network which continues to blossom wherever Rosies outreaches. In Caloundra, some 25 volunteers joined forces with Club Kawana (baked dinner), Barber's Shed (free grooming), Rotary Club (special hampers), family (special gifts) and Orange Sky Laundry. Of course, this spirit of giving continues in 2017 for our very appreciative patrons.

## Caboolture

Students from years 4, 5, and 6 at St Eugene College put a play on for the rest of the school and charged them to see it. The money raised was donated to Rosies to support our Caboolture branch. What a creative way to make a difference! Thanks to Caboolture News for running a great story on our services which has garnered more local support like realestate.com offering to patch up our old van.

## Brisbane

Our Brisbane services have expanded and we are contemplating additional outreaches. Growing support from many and varied individuals and organisations continues to amaze us. More importantly it enables Rosies, among other things, to supply our patrons at the Aspley caravan park with regular material support to add to our offering of friendship. Just the other day we received an email from a young man saying "I recently moved to Brisbane to study. I've been using your free food van services and they've literally saved me from starving. I heard that you might need volunteers. I'm not sure what that involves but I'd be happy to give it a go". Our guess is that the friendship is as important as the food.

## Ipswich

St Peter Claver College, in partnership with the University of Southern Queensland, presented Packages with Purpose to Rosies Ipswich Coordinator, Barry Rienecker. Led by the Social Justice Group, the entire school community donated hygiene items to Rosies. A tremendous contribution from the school and its community!

## Logan

Christmas on the Street in Logan is a tradition and 2016 was no exception. All our patrons and volunteers, young and old alike shared stories; and they can because they know we are friends all year round. Rosies' unique contribution to the Logan community was beautifully featured on the ABC TV Breakfast showing the wonderful collaboration between our team and other services to provide a one stop shop to our friends on the street. (You can watch the report on our website - [rosies.org.au](http://rosies.org.au))





## Beenleigh

New life in Beenleigh. It started with our first Christmas outreach in 2016 and has blossomed in 2017. The support of Logan Village Family Favourites Bakery and the Sikh community along with Chatswood Hills Sate School and some wonderful families has been crucial in catering for a growing number of patrons. Bob, a regular patron, has taken on the role of photographer capturing the smiling faces of the young patrons receiving their gifts.

## Wynnum Manly

Wynnum Manly shared Christmas on the Street for the first time in 2016 (photo below). Bags from Share the Dignity, hampers from Wellington Manor and Ausbuild were distributed amongst our patrons. Thanks everyone for helping us help others. The support keeps coming with the Port of Brisbane Rotary hosting an Auction of Promises at Villanova Park on March 18 which will extend the network of friendship and giving.

## Toowoomba

The branch has been nominated as charity of choice by the Red Rose Fund for their upcoming Gala Ball to be held in Toowoomba on June 16. What an inspirational group of women giving back to their community! (See photo p.3) The ongoing support from the Toowoomba community ensures that three nights a week friendship is shared around the community BBQ.

## Gold Coast

The Gold Coast Annual Christmas Party was once again a great success. Patrons came from far and wide to join with Rosies to celebrate this special time of year. Special thanks to Nonna's, Ardent Leisure (QI) and Gold Coast Community Fund for being the main sponsor. A huge thanks to Bekkie O'Connor for being our awesome singer who stepped in at only a few hours notice. A great time was enjoyed by all.

## EVENTS

### UPCOMING

- **March 18** - Wynnum Manly  
**Auction of Promises - Charity Partner**  
Port of Brisbane Rotary
- **March 24** - Brisbane  
**Broncos Vs Raiders - Charity Partner 50/50**  
NRMA Insurance Brisbane Broncos
- **April 5** - Gold Coast  
**Australian Timeshare Industry Foundation**  
Golf Open - Charity Partner
- **May 7** - Gold Coast  
**GC 100 Bike Ride - Charity Partner**  
Parkwood Rotary
- **June 16** - Toowoomba  
**Gala Ball - Charity Partner**  
Red Rose Fund
- **June 22** - Brisbane  
**St Vinnies CEO Sleepout - Charity Partner**  
Rosies shares a cup of soup
- **September** - Gold Coast  
**Rosies 30th Birthday Party**  
*back to where it all began on the beach at*  
Surfers Paradise





## Nicole's recipe to make a difference

Nicole is a 16 year old student at Somerset College.

Nicole's school project was aimed at developing her, somewhat lacking but much needed, skill of cooking. She decided that developing a cook book which went beyond toast and cereal would enable her to learn more about food and also learn the pleasure of cooking. She said her task was to *"collect one recipe representative of each country around the world and then select one country to represent each letter of the alphabet."* She then challenged herself to cook each dish and let her family be the judge of her efforts. *"It has been one of the best experiences of my life seeing how food can bring people together, both in happiness and, only very occasionally, in unintended disgust."*

Nicole again extended her task. She said, *"I wanted to make an impact on my community with my book so I decided to sell it with the funds going to a charity which reflected my goal of helping others in need."* Nicole had some knowledge of Rosies through her school so did some further research and found that *"Rosies sense of humanitarianism stood out from the rest"*.

Nicole said, *"I am hopeful that giving my time in creating this recipe book and sharing among others heightens the aspect of bringing people together and helping people less fortunate. To make a positive difference in this world is what I had hoped to achieve and through Rosies I was able to do that"*.



Nicole's recipe book raised nearly \$1,000 to support Rosies



## Rosies says thanks to Mrs Pagan

For years Maureen Pagan ( who is 92 years young) has supported Rosies from afar. Living 400 kms from the nearest Rosies branch in Toowoomba, has not stopped

this wonderful Rosies supporter. She has donated dozens and dozens of eggs which she purchases from a free range egg farm. These are used at the weekly BBQ's aligned with Rosies outreach. Our Toowoomba branch is quite unique in the way it has established partnerships with other community organisations and schools.

Each time Rosies has an outreach, a group is there providing the BBQ, using eggs supplied by Maureen.

Special treats of home baked cakes and biscuits are delivered by her and are always a highlight with the patrons. She has also provided the financial support for the past two Christmas celebrations which allowed the Toowoomba branch to purchase much for the Christmas Day outreaches. Maureen also assisted with the preparation of the Carnival float by feeding the volunteers for several days while everyone worked to complete the float. It was great to have morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea all prepared for the volunteers so that they could concentrate on decorations for the float.

Maureen did not stumble across Rosies, her daughter Fay has been volunteering since Rosies began in Toowoomba in 2013. Fay is now one of the Branch Coordinators in Toowoomba. Rosies thanks Maureen, a great example of the different ways you can support Rosies.



**// To make a positive difference is what I hoped to achieve and through Rosies I was able to do so.**



## Spotlight on Annerley in Brisbane

In 2016 Rosies started outreaching in Annerley, south of Brisbane City, on Tuesday morning and evening. A group of friends, Hamish, Dan, Nicole, and Nicholas represent the new generation of volunteers joining the Rosies family in Annerley. They offer their time while studying.

*Dan remembers an encounter with a patron who had just found out about Rosies. She was celebrating her first Christmas in Brisbane after fleeing Bangladesh with her son. "Her story of seeking refuge in Australia was fascinating, and to me highlighted that every patron has a story to share, whether they've lived in Brisbane their entire life, or have recently arrived on our shores. The fact that they have come to Rosies means that life hasn't been run of the mill, and I am glad that I have been there while they share their stories."*

*"So far, the experience has exceeded my expectations. I didn't expect it to be as easy to engage with patrons as it has been, but it has been so enjoyable and rewarding talking to people from different walks of life."*

Nicole has been moved by the optimistic behaviour most people tend to adopt despite circumstances in life. *"The majority of people that I have encountered are really friendly and optimistic, which I find quite uplifting, and always eager for a cup of coffee/ tea (and maybe a biscuit/ chocolate, or two).*



Nicholas, Nicole, Dan, and Hamish  
new generation of Rosies volunteers

## Chaplain's Corner

30 years ago the first Rosies mission to the Gold Coast was established. Since then the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate and Iona College have supported Rosies spiritually, financially, and practically. It is my privilege to have followed a line of dynamic and capable chaplains. I am inspired by the work of Rosies and the commitment and joy of its volunteers.

Having been on outreach a number of times per week across Queensland over the last two years, I am conscious of how God weaves his presence through the sharing of friendship that is the mission of Rosies. God's presence is one of hope.

Last month I was alerted to the sad death of Steve, 47 years old, who had been a patron for some period of his life. Steve seems to have come into the Rosies family and then gone, without leaving a footprint, but as is always the case with our patrons, he made friends. Steve's parents commented that he "regularly 'turned up' for meals ... sometimes barbeques, tea and coffee, etc which were provided by Rosies in such a caring, non-judgmental way."

In their sorrow Steve's family and friends have reached out by supporting Rosies so that others may be assisted. We share in the hope of eternal life for Steve and pray for his family and friends.

John David OMI  
Rosies Chaplain

## Supporters' Wall

BioPak • LJ Hooker Gold Coast • Iona College • NRMA Insurance Brisbane Broncos • Auspods • Flannery Foundation • Wal Giugni • Mc Mahon Family Foundation • Suncorp Brighter Futures

Rosies would also like to say thanks to the Local Governments in which we operate, and our various facility providers: The Sisters of Mercy; Catholic Dioceses of Cairns, Toowoomba, and Brisbane; Beenleigh Uniting Church; Manly Anglican Church



## 484 years of service!

Here are some of our Gold Coast volunteers receiving their certificates for long term service. Not all recipients were able to join us, but they were there in spirit!

The recipients have contributed nearly 500 years of service to Rosies. It was great to see Tom who recently retired from Rosies at age 91.

Thank you doesn't seem enough.

Ceremonies are being rolled out across all our branches during 2017.



### Our Patrons

- His Excellency the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd)  
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia
- The Honourable Mrs Leneen Forde AC,  
Rosies Honourable Life Member



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\* To protect privacy names may have been changed, stories summarised, and pictorial models used. See online for further details and sources.



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