

THE SKY'S THE LIMIT FOR ROSIES!

The inaugural Q1 Skypoint Sea to Sky Stair Climb was held in Surfers Paradise on February 22.

It was the first time the iconic building has been opened to climbers, with the event run by Active8Change with Rosies as charity partner.

Participants all pledged to fundraise a minimum of \$35 above their registration fee, with donations going to Rosies - but many participants raised more, with the two top individual fundraisers, father-son duo Adam and Rylan Tonakie, generating a combined total of almost \$4000.

Rosies volunteers turned out in force both as competitors and volunteers on the day, with red shirts and encouraging cheers in abundance!

Proceeds from the event will provide a much needed boost to Rosies' funding for 2015, allowing us to train more volunteers and increase the assistance we can provide patrons each week.

Rosies is grateful for being selected as the charity partner for the event - we'd like to thank Active8Change, and major sponsors Skypoint, Dreamworld, Q1 Resort and Spa, Goodlife Health Clubs, 102.9 Hot Tomato and Channel 9 for their support.

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ROSIES AUTUMN 2015



Unity and community

Cairns creates recipe for friendship

A partnership with Rosies intended to promote and maintain unity between the Muslim and non-Muslim communities has grown into a community-wide effort to feed Cairns' homeless.

When Rosies Cairns branch coordinator Lyall Forde mentioned to Alma Mohammed he was looking for some volunteers to cook food for outreach, she thought she knew some women in the community who could help.

The biggest challenge ahead of her would be to raise money for ingredients.

Alma enlisted the help of her friend Renee Walker to come up with a solution – and from that partnership the Muslim Women's Association of Far North Queensland was born.

'Renee and I came up with the idea to create a market stall, which we have at the Gordonvale Markets once a month,' Alma said.

'It's been great, and all of the food is

homemade and cooked by women in the local community.

'In fact, my mum has been doing most of the cooking!'

The pair sell home made sweets and pastries, with the proceeds used to buy ingredients to cook into meals for the homeless.

Those ingredients are then turned into meals which are distributed to Rosies patrons in Munro Martin Park once a month.

The Association's stall has become a fixture at the markets, with the wider local community rallying around to support the fundraiser.

'We have regulars, we take orders - we have people who come to Gordonvale from Cairns.

'When we do miss a market, people send messages – "Where are you? Can I just give you the \$10 instead?"'

The women were scheduled to provide meals to Rosies patrons on New Years Day, but there were no markets in December so no funds had been raised for ingredients.

The first of January was coincidentally also Alma's daughter's fourth birthday and she thought it would serve as the inspiration for a wonderful gesture of community spirit.

'When I spoke to my 4 year old

daughter, and said, "What would you like to do for your birthday?" she said, "We have to feed the homeless!"'

With that decided, the Association put out an appeal for food through their local mosque and then to the wider community.

The donations came flooding in, and a New Years Day banquet was assembled: roast chicken, crumbed Spanish mackerel, potato bake, and vegetable stew.

Festive fruit mince pies and quintessentially Australian lamingtons finished the meal, which was served to some of the local community's most socially isolated individuals and families.

Most importantly, each person was provided with the opportunity to eat a hot meal from a plate in a communal environment of acceptance and friendship.

'At the end of the night, everyone took away one or two meals with them – families with younger children took more,' Alma said.



Rain, hail, wind or shine – Rosies volunteers are out on the streets where they're needed.

But when the weather turns cold, being there is more of a challenge – which is why Rosies offers hoodies as a uniform option for our volunteers.

The hoodies are made of warm fleece in our signature red, with the \$40 cost of each currently fully borne by our volunteers.

We'd like to start subsidising our hoodies to make them more accessible to our volunteers, helping to ensure a warm, friendly presence on the streets even on freezing winter nights.

To do this, our volunteers need your support - can you donate \$20 towards a Rosies hoodie?

Worth a thousand words

Art therapy classes at the Gold Coast's Drop In Centre have been helping men get in touch with their emotions - and make friends at the same time.

Encouraged by facilitator Rachel, patrons spend time drawing images that represent their thoughts and experiences.

The men are asked to create without judgement, making the activity about expression and feelings rather than artistic ability.

'I'm lonely, and this is better than sitting at home staring at the walls,' said one Rosies patron.

'It's been nice to get to know some of the other blokes who come here.'



New life, new home

With up to a third of supported accommodation seekers women fleeing domestic violence, the link between homelessness and domestic violence is clear – and the need for assistance is pressing.

Rosies Gold Coast branch has been forging links with local DV services, including Assist A Sista, to help women to rebuild their lives and move back into the wider community.

While food parcels are a regular offering for Rosies on the Gold Coast, for women who are leaving a refuge and trying to establish themselves in a new home, Rosies offers something a little different.

'Part of feeling like you're really home is being able to do those small things without thinking.'

- Wendy, Gold Coast Branch Coordinator

Along with regular food parcels, volunteers put together 'Pantry Boxes' to help establish a woman in her new kitchen.

The boxes are intended to help defray the initial costs of setting up a pantry, containing larger items that are used frequently but replaced only occasionally.

Gold Coast Branch Coordinator Wendy Coe says the boxes are made up of pantry staples rather than fresh fruit or vegetables.

'They're more items like flour, sauces, coffee, sugar, spices, cake mixes, or even washing powder,' she said.

'Not just something to get you through the next few days – these are items which help to set up a home.

'If you have to go out and buy them all at once, it's quite expensive – and for someone who's starting out again with very few resources, just being able to go to the cupboard and add a few dried herbs to a meal or whip up a batch of pikelets is a big thing.

'Part of feeling like you're really home is being able to do those small things without thinking.'

Our Patrons



'At a time when our attention is understandably occupied with very grave international events let us never forget there are many young people on the streets experiencing isolation and discrimination.

Through Rosies let us do everything we can to help them.'

Patron in Chief, General Peter Cosgrove AK MC



'That young people who are homeless know they will always be welcomed and accepted at Rosies provides a very important sense of belonging.'

Patron, Leneen Forde AC

Yes,

I want to make a difference!

There are several simple options you can choose from below to improve the lives of people on the street.

Step 1: Fill in your details

NAME

POSTAL ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

Step 2: Choose your donation

I'd like to give:

☐

\$25

☐

\$50

☐

\$100

☐

\$200

☐

Other: \$

☐

Yes! I'd like to be part of the Sandra Hazel Pledge Fund by making a monthly donation

☐

Please send me some information about leaving a bequest to Rosies

Please direct my donation to:

☐

Hoodies

☐

My local area

☐

Where most needed

Step 3: Payment details

☐

Please find enclosed my cheque made out to Rosies Youth Mission Inc

☐

Please debit my credit card

☐

Visa

☐

Mastercard

☐

AMEX

☐

Diners

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

CARD NUMBER

☐☐☐☐

EXPIRY DATE

Step 4: Send

Please send your completed form to Rosies:

Post: PO Box 908, WYNNUM QLD 4178

Phone: 1300 ROSIES - 1300 767 437

Fax: 07 3396 3205 **Email:** admin@rosies.org.au

Donations \$2 and over are tax deductible.

CONTACT US

If you would like to make a donation, find out about our volunteering program or further information on Rosies:

P: 1300 Rosies (767 437)

Rosies State Support Office
PO Box 908
Wynnum QLD 4178

P: 07 3396 4267

F: 07 3396 3205

VOLUNTEERING

volunteer@rosies.org.au

OTHER INFORMATION

admin@rosies.org.au

www.rosies.org.au

ABN: 68 041 152 768

Charity Number: CH1146

Recently a person discerning a vocation as Missionary Oblate of Mary Immaculate commented to me: 'I like the way you Oblates respond to St Eugene de Mazenod's call – "Leave nothing undared for the Kingdom of God".'

The human dignity of all we encounter on our outreaches - patrons and volunteers, is the Rosies response to the 'Kingdom challenge'. Times of friendship, listening, a smile, or an encouraging word can be healing and empowering. In the Gospels we meet Jesus welcoming people - healing and encouraging those He encountered to move on with their lives.

At a recent meeting of the Outreach Coordinators, I found myself in awe of the work being done in each of the Branches.



From the Chaplain

Bequests: Giving to the future

Many of us want to feel like we've made a difference in our lifetimes, but sometimes our circumstances are such that we don't have time to volunteer or money to give directly right now.

A bequest is a way that you can make a difference that will last into the future. It's also a lasting gesture that embodies your beliefs and values in a very tangible way.

Choosing to leave a gift to Rosies in your Will is a wonderful way to make a difference to the people who most need the unconditional

love that Rosies gives. It's an ongoing gift of compassion to the homeless, imprisoned, and disenfranchised adults and children that Rosies serves. You can continue to care for people beyond your lifetime – it can be your legacy of love.

If you would like to leave a gift to Rosies in your Will, but are unsure how, please talk to your solicitor, or give the Rosies office a call on 1300 ROSIES (1300 767 437). Your enquiry will be confidential, and there's no obligation involved.

Besides being chaplain to Rosies in Queensland, I am also Oblate Vocations Coordinator. It is indeed a privilege to meet wonderful people who are prepared to discern a call from God for special work.

I see each Rosies volunteer as having a special call to play a part in the miracle of helping people to appreciate how beautiful they are. St Eugene puts it this way - 'know who you are in the eyes of God.'

As we move through the season of Lent, in this busy and sometimes very noisy life, I invite each of you to seek some quiet time. In this quiet time allow ourselves to be renewed by the Presence of our God. This renewal will then flow out and touch the lives of all we encounter. Indeed it will also allow us to be open to the Presence of God wanting to touch us through the lives of others.

Fr John Sherman OMI
Rosies Chaplain

Rosies is generously supported by:

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