

Spring 2019

# ROSIES

Friends on the Street



Sharing friendship creates belonging. Dare to reach out together



## CAIRNS **Gearing Up**

Over a decade ago Gina started making some delicious treats for teams to share on the street. She soon decided to join as a street volunteer. A few years down the track her team needed a driver for the manual van and Gina suggested to her husband Werner he might like to do that. He agreed without hesitation.

When the branch required a new Coordinator in February this year, the dynamic duo stepped in and have been incredibly active ever since: organising logistics, getting new supporters, building strong connections with agencies, inducting new volunteers, and sharing the Rosies story around Cairns. Exciting times ahead as Gina and Werner build on the great history of Rosies in Cairns.



*Gina and Werner showing Andrew (GM) some items recently purchased with an Australia Post grant.*

## Court **Outreach**

Rosies reaches out to people where they are, accepting them as they are and welcoming them into our community. Each week teams of volunteers are a presence at court houses, just to be there should someone need a friend; a mother waiting to hear the outcome of her child's court case, a young man finding out if he'll lose his licence and therefore his job. Whatever the reason we know it is some support to see a friendly face reaching out to comfort, to console or just to be with.

Gold Coast volunteers began visiting the Southport courts each Tuesday way back in 1998, now they are a presence every morning.

Logan volunteers have attended the Beenleigh Children's Courts every Monday since 2009.

In Mareeba they started visiting the local courts in 2018 pulling up in the park opposite the courts with their tea and coffee and homemade sandwiches.

## A Regular **Patron in Toowoomba**

"Charlie is a regular patron who often walks quite a distance to be at the Rosies outreaches.

He thoroughly enjoys the company of the volunteers and enthusiastically greets us when he arrives - Rosies outreaches are a very special time for him.

When Georgia arrived to donate a glazed ham and Charlie realised a photo shoot was eminent, he was delighted to be included with his Rosies friends."



*Charlie with Coordinators Jim & Fay, and Apex friend Georgia.*



*Southport Magistrates court is a busy place.  
Elaine, Darla & June, sharing friendship and morning tea.*



## BAYSIDE TOP 30 INFLUENCERS

### The power of friendship

Our humble and unassuming joint coordinators of Wynnnum Manly branch are #6 of the top 30 influencers on the Bayside according to the Wynnnum Herald. "The Wynnnum and Manly region has a history full of key figures who played big roles in what the Bayside has become", the special report said. Judy Hamilton and Bruce Corrie lead a great bunch of 100 volunteers who have quickly become an integral part of this caring community. Board member and Oblate, Fr Michael Twigg OMI came in at #13 and is particularly proud that two-third of the nominees have a connection with Iona College, the home of Rosies.



Bruce making friends on Monday mornings in Wynnnum.

### Sir Peter continues patronage

We are delighted that Sir Peter Cosgrove has agreed to continue his patronage of Rosies following the conclusion of his distinguished service as Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia.

Peter and his wife Lynne love to attend outreaches and share the friendship that is Rosies. Patrons and volunteers alike feel privileged that Sir Peter and Lady Lynne are willing to be a part of the Rosies family and share their stories too.

### Rosies Prayer

*O Jesus, make our hearts so human, that others may feel at home with us,  
So like Yours, that others may feel at home with You, So forgetful of self that we might simply become  
the place where You and they meet. In the power of Your love and the joy of Your friendship. Amen*

### OVER THE YEARS

30 years ago homelessness was a concern, not a crisis. 30 years ago loneliness, now an epidemic, was not on anyone's agenda.

Rosies didn't need a concern, a crisis or an epidemic to realise that a basic human need we all share, is the need to belong, to connect with others.

Today issues of homelessness and loneliness have reached crisis proportions meaning Rosies mission is needed more than ever before. Our supporters including volunteers and financial and in-kind donors continue to champion our grass root's nature and practical response to peoples' need for human engagement.



2003

While Rosies has grown enormously since its very humble beginnings back in 1987, the nature of our organisation has not changed. We are dependent on the goodwill of the community. Our approach is humble engagement.

There is no fanfare, no expensive marketing, no trumpets blaring how wonderful we are. It is this softly, softly approach which is admired and respected by the wider community including both financial and in-kind donors. Volunteers are not looking for glory and indeed whether they know it or not they are truly walking in Saint Eugene de Mazenod's footsteps.



## BEENLEIGH

Commencing outreach in 2008 under the banner of Logan branch, Beenleigh volunteers have been out on the street two nights a week which is more than 1200 outreaches in total. In 2017 Beenleigh became a branch in its own right under the leadership of coordinator Lisa Hingst. While still spending two nights a week with our friends on the street they have recently changed their Thursday night outreach to Wednesday to accommodate a change in local demand.



## CABOOLTURE

Outreach report June 14th "Was a wonderful evening tonight, the atmosphere was very lively with everyone out socialising, the evening was a warmer one.

Donna was the happiest we have seen her in the last 2 years and was accompanied with a new man in her life named Fred. Mark turned up this evening and is now pleased to be working. With the larger cups, we ended up running out of hot water 30 minutes prior to the end of evening. There were a handful of new faces we hadn't seen previously.

John is having his gal bladder removed in surgery this Wednesday and shared, "I am very scared." We were accompanied in the beginning of the evening by Chaplain Father Casmir OMI and Father Scholto OMI (missionary in Africa) - thank you for visiting us".

*Patron names have been altered as a measure of privacy.*

## BRISBANE CITY

### Reflections from Russell Thirgood

Rosies is a wonderful organisation.

The simple concept of our volunteers and patrons sharing friendship produces its own magic. I remember one Fathers Day speaking with a patron who shared his life journey with me.

He lost his partner and 3 children in a horrific road accident in Melbourne on Fathers Day exactly 10 years earlier to my chat with him.

Quite obviously the day brought so much pain for him. All I could do was to listen to his story and be present in his sadness. I wasn't sure if that process was useful or helpful for him. But after our discussion he looked at me with a big smile on his face, told me that he felt much better and went on his way. I have not seen him since. I thought of our Rosies' prayer and particularly the part which says that we can be the place where "You and they meet". I feel as though this is what happens when we share friendship especially with those in our community who are in very vulnerable situations. I have been blessed to have been part of the Rosies mission. I have enormous respect for everyone involved and will hold you in my thoughts and prayers.

*Russell is farewelling Rosies and dedicating his energies and skills to other activities. He has been a great contributor to the governance of Rosies for six years especially as Board Member Secretary of the Association. His dedication as a street volunteer in Brisbane has been a crucial aspect of his service to Rosies. We wish him every blessing as we say, Thanks Russell.*



## BRISBANE NORTH

One of our baby branches, commencing in 2018, volunteers are on the street each Monday and Wednesday evening.

In addition to street outreaches volunteers have been making their presence felt in the local community attending St Kevin's fete, the Everton Park Parish and more recently at the Moreton Bay Reconnect event held in Redcliffe to share the Rosies story.

On the street patrons are enjoying the monthly pop-up-BBQ, which is being greatly appreciated and enjoyed by all.



*Pictured from Left to Right: event guest Angela Whiteley, Brisbane North Coordinator Claudia, Dan Nebe from Rockin'4TheHomeless and volunteer Clare.*



## GOLD COAST NORTH

When Madison of Aquinas College entered a writing competition, she wrote about Rosies work with the homeless in the community. She won first prize of \$500 for the school! Instead of using the money for the school budget, she asked if the money could go towards supplies for the Rosies patrons. What a generous and kind heart.



## LOGAN

Branch Coordinator Karen recently received this email, "I am a Girl Guide leader and for Term 3 and would love my girls to help and learn about the homeless issue that Queensland has.

My girls are ages 6 to 10 and I was wondering if there were care baskets, or starter kits or something that they could collect and provide and or if someone from your organization would like to come out one night and be a guest speaker to talk about your organization and what it does."

Karen has been in touch and will be visiting the Girl Guides in the near future to share the Rosies story.



## OUR NEWEST DAYTIME OUTREACHES

While the vast majority of Rosies work is done out on the streets at night we have a growing number of daytime outreaches. Often Coordinators have made connections with other agencies and now partner together during outreach.

*Brisbane City* volunteers partner with the Church of Christ Emergency Food Service each Tuesday morning. While patrons wait to access the food service they share a cuppa and a chat with Rosies.

Report from July 23rd, "Lovely outreach, Mary was showing us lots of photos of her trip. Hot chocolate sachets were popular and so were the mini apples". (Apples supplied by *Second Bite*). Volunteers also visit a Yeronga boarding house each Friday. A patron visiting the Tuesday outreach invited Rosies to come along to the boarding house to meet the residents and it has now become a regular event.

*Names been altered as a measure of privacy.*



*Wynnum Manly* volunteers partner with the local Anglican and Lutheran Churches each Monday morning. St Peter's Anglican Church provides the venue for the Lutheran Church to conduct their emergency food relief program. Rosies volunteers share a story and a bite to eat.

Over the past 3 years this has become a very successful outreach with regular patrons attending each week. A real sense of community has developed with various organisations supplying a pop up BBQ and the local Police Liaison Officer visits from time to time.





# THANKS JOHN

## Wisdom + Communication + Organisation

These are some of the vital attributes John Scoble has contributed to Rosies starting way back in 2001 when he led the development of a new association constitution and structure that is Rosies Youth Mission Inc. Since 2013 John has been the President (aka Chair of the Board) leading Rosies through a period of sustained growth and consistent delivery of the mission. Underpinning John's leadership has been a commitment as an outreach volunteer on the street and a strong faith in Jesus Christ. John's voluntary efforts – often very demanding of his time and skills - reflect the true heart of Rosies. A few highlights give a glimpse of his contribution:

- clear strategic approach reviewed biennially
- comprehensive and current suite of policies
- updated constitution promulgated in 2018
- sound balance sheet underpinning future growth
- enviable safety record
- cohesive and mission-driven organisation

Our board members offer their skills and time voluntarily. While this short acknowledgment seems inadequate to describe John's contribution his humility would demand nothing more. We look forward to John's final report at the AGM in November.

**Thank you John and many blessings.**



John was delighted to present Sunshine Coast Coordinator Carolyn Wilson with her Gold certificate of recognition in 2017.

## ***A message from John Scoble...***

*"On a personal note, I want to thank the Rosies community for the significant contribution it has made to my life. While it is a cliché, I have gained more from Rosies than I have contributed as a volunteer. I have made many personal friendships. I have been taken out of my comfort zone and learned a lot about the plight of the abandoned and disadvantaged in our society. I have embraced the charisma of St Eugene de Mazenod and the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, enriching my spiritual experience. I have witnessed the extraordinary generosity and welcoming behaviour of our volunteers on the street. Above all, I have experienced the resilience of our many patrons and shared moments of joy with many of them.*

*I want to especially thank the Oblate priests, fellow board members and management with whom I interact regularly and through whom I was able to make my contribution to the Rosies journey. As I will be stepping down from the role of Board Chair in November, I want to wish you all well. I encourage you to continue our focus on the patrons and the volunteers who share friendship with them. I will be watching the organisation's progress with great interest from the sidelines."*



At a recent strategic planning session the Rosies board determined our path for the next 3 – 5 years. Essential to this was that Rosies remain true to its very nature, the simple, humble, human approach, that being inviting others to join us to be a presence on the street for those most in need within our communities.



# Thanks to our supporters

Our mission is only possible through the support of over 1,500 donors (in-kind and in cash).

A heartfelt thanks to the 7 Parishes and 6 Primary Schools from Cleveland to Wynnum, who were again part of the Redland Bayside Deanery Appeal. We are very grateful to be one of the recipients of this appeal. Wynnum/Manly Branch Coordinator, Bruce recently collected some much needed supplies for Rosies and delivered them to Head Office. Many of their helpers drop in to Head Office from time to time, feeling part of the Rosies family.



Unfortunately, we cannot mention everyone but here are a few:

BioPak • JA Charity Foundation • LJ Hooker • Club Kawana • Community Benefit Fund • Hilton Hotel (Surfers Paradise) • Lions Clubs • Rotary Clubs • John Laing Charitable Trust • MacPherson Kelly Foundation • Fleming Foundation • McMahon Family Foundation • IONA College • OZ Harvest

• Catholic Church Insurance Ltd • CM & JA Whitehouse Foundation • Karen & Gavin Bird • Daryl & Carole Pryke • Heritage Bank • Skypoint • Paul Gorrie • Halpin Partners • Aston Milan Homes • Uniting Church in Beenleigh & Aspley • Anglican communities in Wynnum, Manly & Toowoomba • Catholic Parishes in all our communities • Super Butcher Oxenford • Indooroopilly Golf Club • Marymount College • Western Wholesalers Charleville • Thursday Craft Group Coorparoo

## WHAT A LIFT FROM THE WHITEHOUSE FOUNDATION

Beside our army of volunteers in their striking red t-shirts, Rosies ubiquitous vans are our single most important and identifiable presence. They are our workplace. For four years we have been steadily renewing our fleet to the standard necessary to maintain a safe operation and provide the necessary hospitality, logistical, and transport capability.

In late June we received an incredible grant of \$100,000 from the CM & JA Whitehouse Foundation which will fast-track completion of this program.

We are so grateful to all our supporters enabling us to share friendship and create belonging in a safe, consistent and presentable manner.



*Our vans are professionally fitted to ensure maximum functionality and safety.*

## IONA College - Term 2 Contributions

IONA's Term 2 Social Justice focus was Rosies and raised a massive \$11,141 plus 160 bags of groceries. This is a fantastic effort! Many thanks to all the staff and students who organised an event or supported Rosies in any way. There was; Yatala Pies, Old Boys Days, State of Origin/Wear your Colours Day, Run for Rosies, Anzac Biscuits, Raffles, House BBQ's, Footy Doubles, Spiders plus many more. We are blessed to have Iona's ongoing support through office facilities and Chaplaincy. The boys cannot miss the Rosies presence each day as they walk through the entrance to the college.

## Where can you find us on the street?

Beenleigh – South Brisbane – Nundah – Brisbane CBD – Caboolture – Cairns – Southport –  
Surfers Paradise - Nerang – Burleigh – Ipswich – Logan Central – Mareeba – Caloundra –  
Toowoomba – Wynnum Manly




In July 1894, three men aged 46, 27 and 26 arrived in Fremantle from Ireland to share the gospel and provide pastoral care for the poor in the port city. Their dedication and daring spawned missionary activity in all mainland states of Australia and into China. They and their successors are members of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate. As you know Rosies is one of the ministries established by the Oblates. Three Rosies members were honoured to gather with representatives from the other ministries in August 2019 to celebrate, connect and commit to the continuing outreach of the family founded by St Eugene de Mazenod.

Rosies mission of sharing friendship to create belonging is primarily a commitment of time and self. In our society the most valuable commodity is time. The Oblate priests continue to give all of their time, their whole lives to the mission of serving the human and spiritual needs of all patrons, students, parishioners, co-workers, and supporters . They are an inspiration and a model of sharing the friendship of Jesus Christ.

The Oblate priests of today recognize the incredible contribution of all associated with their mission and invite all to feel part of the Mazedonian family in Australia. It only takes a little time.



*Fr Christian Fini OMI (Provincial of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate) encouraging fellow priests and associates in Fremantle for the next 125 years of mission.*

 General the Honourable  
Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC  
(RETD) Governor-General  
of the Commonwealth of Australia



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# ROSIES

First name Surname

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode

Position	Organisation (if applicable)
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Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Gift details - I would like to donate (over \$2 tax deductible)

☐ \$25      ☐ \$50      ☐ \$150      ☐ \$ 500      ☐ \$ 1, 000      ☐ Other: \$

☐ **Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)**  
Commonwealth Bank BSB 064 451 Account  
No. 1003 7818 Reference No. <your name>.  
Please also email us a copy of your bank  
EFT receipt to [finance@rosies.org.au](mailto:finance@rosies.org.au)

☐ **Cheque / Money order**  
Enclose and make payable to Rosies Youth  
Mission Inc.

☐ Debit / ☐ Credit Card

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Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
Expiry date

Name on the card

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Rosies is there when someone needs a friend**