

## Old friends New beginnings



Sharing friendship creates belonging. Daring to reach out together.



# Give a little, change a lot

Following our story in the Winter edition, Rosies has continued partnering with Brisbane Bayside State College (BBSC) to support students who are working towards their Certificate I in Active Volunteering. The young volunteer students were recently recognised for their contribution to the local community by local MP for Lytton Joan Pease and Councillor Peter Cummings.

Also, Raelene Javier was awarded the Queensland Active Volunteering 'Student of the Term' for her ongoing selfless efforts as a volunteer. Raelene volunteers her services at Rosies local Wynnum Outreach Centres, at the BBSC Chaplain's Breakfast as well as with her local parish. Raelene's work with the Rosies team involves sharing friendship and hospitality with the disadvantaged and homeless members of the community. Well Done Raelene!



Raelene holding her Queensland Active Volunteering Award and Gradu8 teacher, Coral.

## Spring brings a spirit of youth in everything

Spring is upon us and already buds of kindness are blossoming through Henry and Jaylan's generosity.

Five year old Henry decided to support Rosies by asking his friends to make a donation to the organisation instead of bringing him presents for his birthday.

Meanwhile, it took Jaylan months of hard work to gather and pack the 48 bags of personal care items for both ladies and gentlemen. He spent many hours in the shed getting it all organised and ready for delivery. Jaylan visited the Rosies outreach room with his Mum and Dad with their car filled with his donation to personally deliver them to us.

Both are an inspiration to us all with their kindness to those facing challenges in their lives.



Jaylan made 48 bags of personal care items for our Toowoomba branch

Grandin House (Iona College) collected donations and presents from family members and friends for our friends as 'Christmas in July' gifts.





# Jordan's Story



Jordan had no motivation at school. He dropped out and started working long shifts at the local fast food shop in New Zealand. He experienced burnout and his family advised him to go to Australia to find a better life. He joined his mother in Queensland aged 20 and stayed with her for a while. However, he could not find any work and soon realised his mother could not afford to look after the both of them with the little she earned. He felt guilty and left home.

Jordan lived on the street without being aware of any services that could assist him. During the next couple of years he slept rough in South Brisbane, had cold showers in winter at Southbank near the pool or threw himself in it in

**//Rosies is personal. The reason I keep coming to Rosies is for the people and the conversations.**

summer. The state library became his hub for sleeping during the day or to browse the internet looking for work. He begged for food near a fish and chips shop in Redcliffe, sometimes “dumpster diving” in the nearby bins. He received many fines for train travel, appeared in court and did community service. After two years, he was introduced to the various services that could help him including Rosies in Brisbane. He became one of our most regular patrons and always stayed for a chat until the van left. Jordan would then head back to the shelter accommodation he had moved into. Thanks to his resilience, things were finally going his way. He completed a certificate in hospitality including 80 hours of practical placement. He finally found a job in Brisbane. His work ethic impressed his employer, who offered him a permanent position. He has been working since November last year, has his own accommodation and keeps coming to Rosies when he can: *“Rosies is personal. The reason I keep coming to Rosies is for the people and the conversations.”*

## I volunteer with Rosies...



Angela Quigley, Julie Porter and Catherine Barber

Julie Porter has been volunteering with Rosies on the Sunshine Coast for the last 4 years. She shares with us her Rosies experience.

“My first outreach was a very enlightening experience. I was so nervous, but as I was talking to the patrons, I noticed they are no different to me. All of us need someone who cares enough to see us, especially when we are feeling invisible ourselves. Whether we decide to give our time or money, we know this, one small gesture from us can make a huge difference in someone else’s life, even if it is a blanket for warmth, kind words, undivided attention to a story that has been retold many times. It does not make us any better than any of our patrons, it just makes us different.”



## Ipswich

Staff and students at St Edmund's College and St Mary's College raised awareness around homelessness by hosting a Winter Sleepout at the Colleges. Donations of instant coffee, sugar, biscuits, Milo, noodles and soup were made to Rosies at this occasion.



## Cairns

"A great outreach with engaged and thankful patrons. Exciting conversations with a family from Weipa who shared some wonderful dreaming stories about their traditional homelands near the Wenlock River. 'Jan' spoke about how Cullen Point represented an Eagle that looked over the

shores and sands of the area. 'John' spoke about the rainbow serpent that moved between the beaches and the mangroves and ate all the bats that swarmed round the area. 'Liz' told us about the crocodile that patrolled the waters of the area and fought with turtles. The family were really happy to share their stories, and we felt privileged to be able to hear them."

*Outreach report August 2 2018*

## Brisbane City

Our Annerley outreach continues to be popular with our patrons. It is a celebration of diversity with patrons from a broad range of backgrounds. All are extremely grateful to engage with our volunteers. The branch also just hosted a pop-up outreach at the Brigadoon Boarding House in Yeronga, a different way to meet new friends.

On another note, the branch received the support of both The CM & JA Whitehouse Foundation and LendLease to refurbish our outreach room in Woolloongabba. We now enjoy a lot more storage and have new flooring.

## Wynnum Manly

The Annual Redlands Appeal brought some much needed supplies. Once again the Catholic churches and schools of the deanery joined forces to support organisations such as Rosies. Rosies is deeply grateful to the parishes and schools of Guardian Angels, St Mary MacKillop, Star of the Sea, St Anthony and St Luke's, St John Vianney's and St Rita's for yet another tremendous effort.

## Logan Central

"The night was cold, dark and filled with an eerie air of dread. A portentous wind heralded a night filled with much suspense and heart pounding excitement. Upon arrival at our destination, patrons ambled forth from the shadows, hungry for bountiful chests of delicacies carried within the hold of our vessel. We were accompanied by intrepid travellers from the far land of Sheldon. They were surprised by the ferocity of our patrons. The long standing leader of our patrons Ed, left our team spellbound as he regaled us with stories of time long past..."

*Outreach report July 27 2018*

The Rosies outreach in Annerley is very multicultural







## Beenleigh

Board games are an excellent way to engage with our patrons, especially the young ones and the young at heart. Children love them, while enjoying a cup of hot chocolate. Patrons and volunteers enjoy some very sociable outreaches.

## Caboolture

Fr John David OMI often takes part in the local Rosies outreach on Friday night at the Caboolture train station "Great to have Fr John David with us. He did a great job pushing the pram belonging to a patron around for a while, putting the baby to sleep!"

Bishop Ken recently joined our Rosies team for prebrief and gave us his blessing before leaving for outreach.



## Mareeba

The branch held its Rosies liturgy in July. Many volunteers took part in the celebration in the presence of our Chaplain, Fr John David and Rosies General Manager and Deacon, Andrew O'Brien. Following the liturgy a warm country feast was enjoyed by all.

## Gold Coast

Rosies Gold Coast coordinator, Kathleen was interviewed by the ABC regarding the steep increase of homeless people on the Gold Coast (+27%). The Rosies drop-in centre in Southport is a haven for those who are marginalised. The drop-in centre is a place to share friendship while enjoying a cuppa and a bite to eat. Read the full interview at [rosies.org.au/spring18](http://rosies.org.au/spring18)



## Toowoomba

A new beginning at Wilsonton - Rosies together with Youth Connect and the Regional Council started a new outreach on Tuesday afternoon at Wilsonton Heights Park in Wine Drive between 4.30pm and 6pm. The Rosies team engaged with young people offering drinks - coffee, milo & cup of soup.

## Sunshine Coast

*"It was a real honour to attend on Friday night and personally see the strong spirit of helping that we have within our community. I have great respect for the volunteers at Rosies and I am continually amazed at how wonderful members of our community are in helping others. Being able to attend as Ian Stewart, not as the Commissioner, enabled me to see first hand the positive impact these charities have within our community."*

*The Commissioner of Police Ian Stewart*

The joy of outreach on the Sunshine Coast



## Rosies Coming Liturgies

Each month one Rosies branch holds a commissioning rite for volunteers as part of a local liturgical celebration. This quarter they are:

### Sunshine Coast

September 16

### Toowoomba

October 21

### Gold Coast

November 18

Details to be posted on the website soon  
[rosies.org.au/events](http://rosies.org.au/events)

## The 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



## New branches

### Gold Coast South

Plans are continuing for the Gold Coast South Branch. A recent meeting saw more than a dozen volunteers come together with Head Office staff and members of the Burleigh Catholic community to discuss 'next steps'. We hope to soon find out if we have secured an outreach base and then it will be full steam ahead. Locations are being scouted to find suitable outreach venues in Burleigh, Palm Beach and the Tweed area. It is important to not only find locations which are accessible and convenient for our patrons but ones which also complement the local area and community.

### Brisbane North

Finding an outreach base has been somewhat problematic as many of the parishes approached are at capacity. We continue to seek out an appropriate venue for the outreach base and are also considering appropriate outreach locations. The Aspley BBQ outreach (cover) is currently held on the first Sunday of each month and this may be expanded to an additional fortnightly BBQ. Word on the street suggests that Rosies will be welcomed in the Brisbane North area with many people already expressing interest to volunteer once the branch is functional.



## OUR SUPPORTERS

Looking back over the last financial year we continue to be humbled and grateful for the amazing support of so many. We are conscious that the strength of Rosies brand is built on the simple mission of friendship delivered in the community for the community.

Over 1,350 (333 new this year) supporters provide us with the cash to fund our operational costs and the in-kind supplies to share with our patrons. Your cash donations totalled \$787,000 (\$813,000 in 2016-17) and in-kind support is estimated at approximately \$1.5M.

We can't list everyone so would like to share a sample of donor stories.

'Mary' shares the little she has in her purse and carefully wraps a \$5 note in alfoil and posts it every year.

Aleisha has been donating a significant amount every month for four years. She told us why she has been doing so on p.7.

On p.2 you would have read the stories of our very young supporters Henry and Jaylan. LJ Hooker, Q1 Stair Climb, Red Rose Fund and Lloyds Auctions ran wonderful charity of choice events on our behalf. These events not only provided significant funds for operations and expansion but just as critically extend the community of friendship.

Eileen, our famous egg sandwich maker continues to provide her much sought after fresh delights every Friday in Mareeba.

A range of foundations including QCF, Flannery, LUCRF Super, Catholic Religious Australia, McMahon Family, CommBank, Knappick, Neumann, Heran, and Reuben Pellerman have been significant in ensuring our infrastructure and operations are efficient and up to date and assist with our expansion.



## OUR SUPPORTERS (continued)

Numerous small businesses like Crust Bakery and Rendezvous Café share their produce on a regular basis adding something special to the sharing of hospitality.

In spite of the sadness associated with the passing of some long-term supporters, we were delightfully surprised to receive sizeable bequests from the estates of Kevin and Wunda Whelan, Fr Leonard O'Rourke and Dolour Reid. It was wonderful to catch up with Kevin and Wunda's daughter who shared the pride she and her siblings had in the generosity and commitment of their parents.

We haven't had to buy a cup since November 2015 thanks to BioPak. Oz Harvest have been consistent and significant suppliers of fruit and vegetable for years. Our many school supporters also ensure we have a steady supply of the essentials like tea, coffee, Milo and biscuits.

Workplace giving is an important source of funds and thanks to all those individuals and businesses contributing this regular income.

Lastly, tremendous thanks to Iona College and the Oblate community who continue to provide our head office premises and IT support along with our well-loved and travelled Chaplain Fr John David.



*I strongly and passionately believe that every person deserves to feel as though they are valued and cared for and that they matter - this is what Rosies does. I don't have the time to volunteer but I want to support the wonderful people who do and who make our community better and more hopeful because of their actions. I work within a branch of the Catholic church caring for children and I once walked in to the Gold Coast Rosies branch and saw a mother there with her children having breakfast and the volunteers so kindly interacting with her and her children - it could've been any one of our families we care for or even someone from my own family and I want to do the little bit I can to ensure that I can help the people making a difference in these lives.*

*Aleisha (monthly donor since 2014)*

## THANK YOU

**To our many supporters large and small for your valuable support this year. Special mention to:**

Ashmore State School • Aspley Uniting Church - ACTS • Banjo's Bakery Café • Biocups • Bronwyn & Emile Young • Calanna Pharmacy • Caltex Refinery Lytton • Catholic Religious Australia - Queensland (CRAqld) • Club Kawana • Crust Bakery and Patisserie • David Kirkegaard • Estate of Dolour Reid • Estate of Kevin and Wunda Whelan • Gold Coast Concrete Designs P/L • Gold Coast University Hospital - HIBA • Insurance House • Heran Building Group • Iona College • John Laing Charitable Trust • Jumbo Interactive Ltd • Kanga Couriers • Knappick Foundation Pty Ltd • Lanternshop Pty Ltd • Lions Club of Carrara Inc. • Lions Club of Toowoomba-Wilsons Inc. • LUCRF Super • McMahon Family Foundation Pty Ltd • Oz Harvest • Patricia Griffin • Price Attack • Priestley's Gourmet Delights • Redland Bayside Deanery • Robert Baker

**Last, but not least, we can never thank our volunteers enough for their commitment and generosity.**

## THANK YOU FROM ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS & PATRONS



## OUR MISSION REQUIRES GOOD LEADERSHIP

"Love [charity] needs to be organised if it is to be an ordered service to the community."<sup>1</sup>

On outreach in South Brisbane recently, I mentioned to a young volunteer that she might be interested in our proposed North Brisbane Branch. She lives north of Brisbane and travels over an hour each way to join the team at Justice Place. She said she wasn't sure about moving because she loves her current team.

Teams of friends are a central principle to Rosies model of outreach. In fact, they are central to why Rosies is a charity of choice for volunteers and supporters alike. The major strategic focus of the board and management for the last 12 months has been the support of our Team Leaders as they are the key to friendly, functional teams and thus friendly and effective outreach.

Each year Cathy Lindsay (State Coordinator) conducts a team leader refresher program rolled-out across the branches over a three month period. Attendance rates are high, conversation is robust and the essence of Rosies mission is reflected upon. These sessions help us stay true to our mission and share stories and insights. They also provide opportunities to share friendship among teams and thus with our patrons on the street.

<sup>1</sup>. *God is Love, Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI, n20*

## OUR MISSION REQUIRES GOOD GOVERNANCE

Rosies is blessed to have a competent skills-based board with members not only volunteering their governance competencies but most are also street outreach volunteers. Their sense of mission is acute.

The Board meets regularly, receives comprehensive reports, and conducts a strategic review every two years. A substantial suite of policies has been adopted including expenditure and delegatory authorities. An annual budget is approved and reviewed half-yearly. The Financial Statements are audited and an Annual Report prepared for the AGM which is conducted in November each year.

**THANKS TO ALL OUR  
TEAM LEADERS WHO  
GO THE EXTRA MILE TO  
ENSURE FRIENDSHIP  
IS SHARED IN A SAFE  
ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL.**



### 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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**Thank you for your support!**