

SUMMER 2020/21

# ROSIES

*Friends on the Street*



Sharing friendship creates belonging. Dare to reach out together.

Photo by Arisa Chattasa on Unsplash

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## Message from the CEO

### Christmas Wishes



As the 2020 year comes to a close, we reflect on the year that has been which is certainly like no other in recent history. The pandemic hit our shores early in the year and has impacted everyone in some way. It has caused unprecedented social

isolation, financial pressure and health implications, with these stressors putting further pressure on overall health and wellbeing.

As restrictions continue to ease and we slowly adjust to a new socially distanced normal – with lots of hand sanitiser, fewer handshakes and even fewer hugs – we enter the 2021 year with a renewed sense of hope. Hope for a vaccine to protect against COVID-19. Hope for a greater appreciation for each other and the things that are so precious in life. Hope for an increased understanding in how easily someone can become displaced and end up in difficult circumstances beyond their control. Hope for awareness of the impact that social isolation and loneliness can have on someone. Hope that this season of change and awareness continues to call even more of us to open our hearts and make a difference to the lives of others as Jesus did for us.

With this sense of hope and in the spirit of this Christmas and holiday season, we give thanks. Thank you to the incredible Rosies volunteers who generously give the gift of their time, service and friendship every day of the year. Thank you to all of our friends that we meet on the street for sharing themselves and their stories and enriching our lives. Thank you to the wider Rosies Community and our supporters, big and small, for your ongoing support - financially, in goods and services, and in prayer and spirit. We are so very grateful to our entire community which allows us to keep our vans out on the street providing regular outreach. And a special thank you to the Oblates of Mary Immaculate for their vision, for daring to make a difference, and for their continuing support of Rosies.

Wishing all of you love, peace, goodwill and all of the blessings of the Christmas season - and the wonder of hope and faith as we move into the new year. I will leave you with this thought: "Christmas is most truly Christmas when we celebrate it by giving the light of love to those who need it most" - Ruth Carter Stapleton

Best wishes,

**Jayne Shallcross**

Chief Executive Officer

## Father Michael's Reflection

### Dear Rosies Community,



I write this message of encouragement to every member of our Rosies family and community in this time leading up to Christmas. It almost seems as though dates, months and times have very different meanings this year in 2020 and it is

genuinely hoped that some of the restrictions we have been living with, continue to ease. We know that throughout our country and the world, people have been significantly impacted by the pandemic.

St Eugene de Mazenod (founder of the Oblates, who founded Rosies) indicated that whenever there were new needs, we needed to find new means and while this had great significance in rural France after the French Revolution, it also has some great wisdom for us in this new era as well.

It has been particularly uplifting to see, hear and feel, Rosies finding a way to connect and re-connect with people all over our state. We have many new volunteers joining existing teams and we also have some volunteers who are taking a break during COVID-19, but who continue to find other ways to be of service to the community. These generous hearts are definitely helping individuals and communities feel a sense of belonging again. Our Rosies prayer invites us to share in the heart of Jesus and help bring a coming together of hearts for friendship, service and community.

As we head towards Christmas, many people of faith feel a building sense of joy and purpose that the God who loves them into existence, continues to walk side by side through life's journey. Christmas invites people to believe that God became one of us (in the person of baby Jesus), so that we could become one with God (eternal life).

All belief and non-belief is welcomed at Rosies and wherever you are on that journey, I sincerely thank you for the tremendous witness of GOOD that you bring to each of our outreaches and beyond and especially to our patrons who are an integral and core part of our Rosies family.

On behalf of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate (the Religious Order founded by St Eugene de Mazenod and who founded Rosies), and the Rosies Board, I sincerely wish you all a very safe, happy, holy and inclusive 2020 Christmas. Whatever hope and challenges 2021 brings, I look forward to it knowing I am part of this wonderful Rosies family.

Thanks and Merry Christmas

**Fr Michael Twigg OMI**

Acting Rosies Chair of the Board

# Stories from The Streets

## Rosies Logan nominated for Volunteer Organisation of the Year



Caption: Stacey, Karen and Judith

The City of Logan held its annual awards ceremony, and we are pleased to report our very own Rosies Logan branch were nominated for Volunteer Organisation of the Year! Karen, Janelle, Stacey and Judith were absolutely honoured to represent their volunteers at the ceremony.

## Tony The Barber



Rosies patrons were treated to free haircuts by Tony from the Goodfellaz Barbership in Benowa. The response from patrons was incredible and the turn-out exceeded expectations. We could hardly believe mullets were the cut of the night!

# Stories from The Streets

## FAREWELL TO OUR FRIENDS – WENDY AND FRANKIE

### Wendy Beikoff

For close to 14 years, I have served as a volunteer in Logan Team D. I have found my time with Rosies to be both a learning curve and a rewarding experience. It has been beyond humbling to assist people less fortunate and see their gratitude when we provide them with food, blankets and friendship.

Some of our oldest patrons give us a hug when we arrive at outreach and know us by name! This has always been very special. I have enjoyed hosting the students from local schools and helping them understand a world outside of their experience, assisting Margaret Harvey – former Logan Branch Coordinator and Rosies Life Member – in training new volunteers and hydrating the young school graduates at Schoolies events.

It is with some sadness I finish my time at Rosies, but I'd like to wish Rosies, and especially Logan Rosies, all the best for the future and thank them for the opportunity to be part of a great organisation.

### Frankie Little

I will never forget the recruitment for Rosies volunteers at our Church, when I thought 'Yes, this is for me!' Now, 14 years later, Rosies has evolved into an incredible experience.

Getting to know regular patrons, as well as the others that come and go, has been very rewarding. Some of the stories shared make you appreciate all in life. This is especially so with the incredible visits of the Year 11 and 12 students and teachers – they are our future and I feel very confident that the world will be in a good place in the hands of these young people.

It was a pleasure to work with Margaret Harvey, with many special moments shared – from the Christmas Committee year-after-year to the afternoon teas at the cathedral musical afternoons, raising money for Rosies and promoting Rosies at various organisations.

There are many things I will miss, including working with Wendy, but I wish Rosies all the best.



Caption: Frankie, Wendy, Alicia, Mackenzie, Olivia, Jan



Caption: Wendy and Frankie



# The Rosies Impact - Young Patron Experience

By Sarah, Brisbane Branch Coordinator

For around 4 years, I've volunteered regularly at a location where we are lucky to have a very diverse range of friends visit. Like a young girl who would come along with her dad and brothers to get some food from the pantry assist program alongside us. Each time she visited, I would make sure to say hello, offer her a hot chocolate, or compliment her stylish shoes or sunglasses she chose to wear (usually incredibly oversized - we think they belonged to mum). Anyway, our little friend was always really shy and would have her Dad answer questions for her.

When she started to go to school, we stopped seeing her as often. On the weeks that she didn't come with her dad, her dad would let us know that she would ask after me by name! Here I was thinking that she was super shy and that I wasn't making much of an impact on her.

She is now about 7 years old and has hand-drawn some incredible pictures for me! She wrapped them up inside a cardboard box, covered in purple sparkly contact so I really had to work to unwrap the present!

It just goes to show how easy it is to make a difference, often when we don't know that we are. All it takes is a compliment here, a question there and using a person's name: Appreciation, interest and recognition are valuable for everyone.



## Patron's Story – Joe from Cairns



Joe was employed as a bus driver for many years, but when he unfortunately began to suffer with cataracts, he lost his ability to drive. Driving was Joe's livelihood. Along with losing his job, he was told that there was a six-year wait for medical assistance to improve his eyesight. Unemployment and the complications around his medical issues created a very challenging and difficult situation for Joe, and he sadly found himself on the lonely road to homelessness.

As a result, Joe arrived in Cairns some 12 months ago, not knowing a soul and living on the street. Joe found the Rosies outreach not long after arriving and has not looked back.

"I come here all the time because I have made many friends, and the volunteers are very helpful," said Joe.

The Cairns outreach team continue to work with Joe to help him get the support he needs, and as Joe said, he is very fortunate to have found Rosies.

## Miami High – Mental Health Expo



It was such a treat for Rosies to share our experiences with staff and students at Miami High's Mental Health Expo.

The school's Deputy Principal shared her own personal story and association with Rosies with students.

# A Chance For Change

## Mental Health Week – A Chance For Change



### Song Released By Rosies Volunteer

The song 'A Chance for Change' came out of a place to share a message – that it is okay to talk about the hurt, to reach out to someone nearby and reach out in your community. The song was released for the launch of Mental Health Week in Australia with the goal to educate and encourage young people to know it is okay to ask for help.

Written by Rosies Surfers Paradise branch volunteer Steve Stemp and recorded in a local studio, the song aired on Juice Radio in its original recorded version, as well as version performed by Trinity Lutheran College Ashmore's Youth Choir.

Life such a special gift  
Ours for a short time  
I sure hope you're living it  
Time just keeps going by  
Sometimes our gift don't seem so right  
A fine line every day  
All alone confused I'm done with it  
Take your gift back today, but I say

Stand up, reach out  
Your voice is a chance for change  
Stand up, reach out  
Your voice is a chance for change  
Talk to your mother  
Your brother or your teacher  
It doesn't really matter, it's a chance for change  
Talk to your father  
Your sister or your preacher  
It doesn't really matter, it's a chance for change  
Talk to your aunty  
Your uncle or an elder  
It doesn't really matter, it's a chance for change  
Talk to the hurt, talk about the hurt, it's ok  
Talk to the hurt, talk about the hurt, it's ok  
When you are ready, let the hurt go

Stand up, reach out  
Your voice is a chance for change  
Stand up, reach out  
Your voice is a chance for change  
Talk to your mother  
Your brother or your teacher  
It doesn't really matter, it's a chance for change  
Talk to your father  
Your sister or your preacher  
It doesn't really matter, it's a chance for change  
Talk to your aunty  
Your uncle or an elder  
It doesn't really matter, it's a chance for change  
Stand up, reach out  
Your voice is a chance for change

Search for the song on iTunes, Spotify and  
YouTube or visit [achanceforchange.com.au](http://achanceforchange.com.au).

# Rosies Heroes

## Club Kawana Donation



The Caloundra branch is ever so grateful for the support of Club Kawana during the past 8 years for donating hot roast meals each week and serving a two course meal at our Christmas on the Street parties. With the changes brought about by COVID-19 and the food safety regulations with serving hot foods, the President of Club Kawana, Barry Wolgast willingly handed over a cheque in the sum of \$1,500.00 to the coordinator Carolyn Wilson to make up for the loss of support during the past 8 months.

## St Mary's College - Ipswich



Before the impacts of the COVID-19 were felt, St Mary's College Ipswich were regular participants in the School Engagement Program, coming out on outreaches to provide support to our patrons. While they can't come out with us at the moment, students at the college put together 150 care packages for our patrons. A lot of thought went into deciding what went into the packages, ensuring that they would have an impact on the recipients' day. Most importantly, each package carried a message of love, hope and support that would have been delivered in person had circumstances been different.

## All Henry wanted to do was GIVE on his birthday

Marissa wanted to share that her son, Henry, turned 6 in October and instead of presents, he asked for donations for Rosies. His friends were incredibly generous and Teresa from the Gold Coast branch gratefully collected Henry's thoughtful contribution.





# Rosies Heroes

## Leilani and her BIG heart



Seven year old Leilani knew that Katie had just started volunteering with Rosies and wanted to support our patrons. She put together some packs for us to hand out. They contained water bottles, some toiletries and other things our patrons need. Since this initial donation she has come back with another lot. A massive effort for someone who is just seven years old.

## P4 Group & Hilton Brisbane



Local businesses P4 Group and Hilton Brisbane held a donation drive for Rosies earlier this year. The team at P4 Group said it was a heartfelt moment meeting the Rosies team and listening to all the great volunteer work they do for our community!

Gather your donations or hold a fundraiser and call Rosies to collect! Our friendly outreach team will stop by to personally thank you and collect your donations.

## Thanks to the Lions Club and IGA at Caloundra!

The Lions Club of Caloundra West has sent out a HUGE thank you in their local October Volume of 'The Reconnector' to all of the wonderful people who supported their Rosies Winter Appeal. A big thanks went out to the Caloundra West community and their sponsors Positive Property People and IGA Bellvista for their amazing effort. The generosity of this community during a very difficult time was simply inspiring. The Caloundra branch extends our gratitude to the Lions Club of Caloundra West for organising this massive appeal to support our patrons.

## Unity College continues to support Rosies on the Sunshine Coast



Caloundra Rosies was invited to attend a morning assembly with Unity College's Year 7 students which featured slides relating to the homeless community and the Rosies prayer, which was said by all in attendance.

A very humbling experience by Carolyn Wilson and Sue Daly to be in the presence of students and teachers to chat about how Rosies reaches supports our local community.

This is the third year the Year 7 students have supported Rosies with donations of non-perishable food items. Caloundra Rosies is so very thankful for the College's amazing ongoing support.



## All in a day's work for this crew

Zoe and Harvey got together with some of their friends to sell plants in front of their house to raise money for Rosies after learning about homelessness at St Peters and Pauls school in Bulimba.



## Pete's Pantry @ St Peter's Anglican Church - Wynnum

St Peters Anglican church in Charlotte Street Wynnum, where Rosies conduct their Monday morning outreach, have started "Pete's Pantry"

Patrons can have a cuppa and a small breakfast pack before we arrive at 9.00am to start outreach

Rosies and the church have a strong relationship to support our friends on the street and the benefits can be seen by the smiles and thanks from patrons.

## New Life Member

Congratulations our newest Life Member, Eileen Lander, who embodies the Rosies spirit day-in, day-out – caring for people forgotten or ignored. While Eileen is a woman of many gifts, perhaps her greatest has always been the ability to make anyone feel comfortable and accepted.

Eileen has held many roles in her lifetime such as the principal of St Monica's Catholic College and the Chancellor of the Marriage Tribunal in the Cairns Diocese. Regardless of her role, be it in the Bishop's office or on the street, her focus is on serving people.

Although she's now retired from Rosies, friends of Eileen speak of how Rosies always came first in her busy calendar. One friend says when discussing dates for social outings, Eileen was always firm that Rosies was her key priority. When on outreach, Eileen's presence was the main service – strong and compassionate. Still, she would always try give more – a homemade lasagne and ice-creams were a regular addition to the nights Eileen served.

Unfortunately, Eileen had to stop serving as a Rosies volunteer two years ago because of ill health. However, it is a privilege to acknowledge the love and joy in which she has offered friendship to our Cairns patrons and is why she has been awarded an honorary lifetime Rosies acknowledgement.



# Rosies Summer Appeal

## We need your help to keep our patrons connected this Summer!

Now that we are back on the streets in full force with fewer COVID-19 restrictions, we are in need of some Summer essentials for our patrons.

Please help us to help our friends on the street by making a donation that will see our offering extend beyond conversation and connection to bring real cheer to all.

### We urgently need the following items:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bottled water                           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cordial                           |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individually wrapped toilet paper       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Light weight sleeping bags        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coffee                                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Men's shaving cream (non-aerosol) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Instant Noodle Cups                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forks (bamboo preferred)          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Multipacks of chips                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Muesli Bars                       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Multipacks of sweet and savory biscuits |   |

Please note, we can only accept new items only for hygiene purposes.

Donations can be dropped at head office Monday through Friday between 9am and 3pm. Should you need to make alternative arrangements, or are sending donations direct from a store, please contact us via phone 07 3396 4267 or [info@rosies.org.au](mailto:info@rosies.org.au).



# Happy Christmas

If you are blessed you will be spending the Christmas season with family and friends. Rosies will be out on the street as usual making sure everyone has the chance to share the Christmas spirit.

Wishing all our volunteers, patrons, donors, supporters and friends a safe, happy and blessed Christmas season.

## 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.

## 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

## Thank You

We extend our sincerest thanks to all our sponsors in 2020. Without your generous hearts, Rosies would be unable to help individuals and communities feel a sense of belonging again.

# Donations Needed

Over 95 per cent of our work is funded through kind donations from our local community – such as you! Not able to donate goods? Provide funding instead! That funding could be for our outreach, to help us purchase and maintain our vehicle fleet or to train and support our volunteers.

\$25 will provide a Care Pack

\$50 will provide a BBQ hospitality along with a chat for 10 patrons

\$100 will keep an outreach van on the road for a week

\$250 will meet all the costs for a full outreach

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

ROSIES IS THERE WHEN SOMEONE NEEDS A FRIEND

## Friendship – A good investment

Please return your completed form and donation to PO Box 908, WYNNUM QLD 4178

First name \_\_\_\_\_ Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

## Payment options

☐ **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**

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ AMEX ☐ Diners

Card No. \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Name on the card \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_



Rosies.org.au  
P (07) 3396 4267  
PO Box 908,  
WYNNUM QLD 4178



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