

ROSIES

Friends on the Street



SUMMER 2015/16

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, and drop-in centres. Rosies is non-preaching and non-discriminatory.

Our Branches



Cairns
Mareeba
Sunshine Coast
Caboolture
Brisbane
Ipswich
Logan
Toowoomba
Gold Coast

Quick Facts

- Commenced in QLD 1987
- Friend interactions every year 52,000
- Active volunteers 1,000
45,000 hours of community support / year.
- Over 95% funded through kind donations from our local community.
- Catholic Charity of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate (OMI)



lder people, particularly
older women like Jane are
increasingly at risk of, or are
becoming homeless...



HAVING NEW EYES

We are invited over Christmas, more than ever, to spare a thought, a prayer, or even a visit to our neighbour who will spend Christmas alone. According to Marcel Proust 'the real voyage of discovery lies not in seeking new landscape but having new eyes'. Let us adopt a different attitude towards our brothers and sisters. Let us look at them beyond our prejudices, beyond the surface and misleading appearances. Christmas is a time of hope and compassion. Let us value our neighbours for who they truly are and we will find Jesus Christ dwelling in them.

I thank all of you who support Rosies. Whether you give time, money, or in-kind donations, you all make a difference. Rosies is a living community and you are part of it. I wish you all and your loved ones a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Fr John David OMI
Rosies Chaplain

Rosies is a Catholic Charity of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate (OMI) formed by the love of Jesus Christ

A SHOUT OUT TO YOUTH AND STUDENTS TO GET INVOLVED!

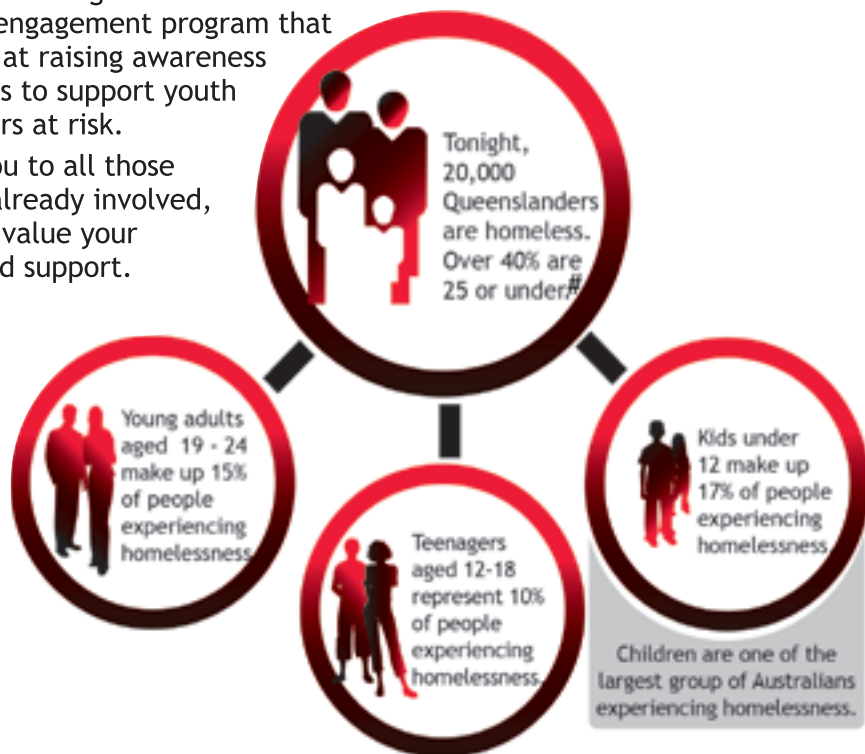
Of the 20,000 Queenslanders who are homeless tonight, over 40% are aged 25 or under. Of those 3,500 are aged under 12.

Education and awareness play a vital role in prevention and support.

Rosies has a long established student engagement program that is aimed at raising awareness and funds to support youth and others at risk.

Thank you to all those schools already involved, we truly value your continued support.

Our engagement program offers students and their school communities opportunities to get involved. So get involved. Youth and students make a difference. Find out how to get involved or donate now at rosies.org.au



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

*To protect the privacy of our friends that Rosies supports, names may have been changed, stories summarised, and pictorial models used. See online for further details. # See online for sources.

SCHOOLIES (HILL OUT WITH ROSIES

An estimated 25,000 young people will take part in this year's Gold Coast Schoolies Week 21 November - 5 December. A big thank you to our dedicated volunteers who are manning Rosies' 'Recharge zone'.

Our Rosies team of volunteers will provide a staggering 8,000 cups of water each night as well as comfort to many participants. Hydration is especially important for the youngsters who are enjoying themselves after a long day in the sun.

Plus, many of the participants will be from outside the Coast including from regional Queensland. For some it will be their first time far from home in a crowded environment. Rosies' presence will provide comfort for some overwhelmed by the sheer numbers or the hyper-

activity of the week.

Conversation with a responsible adult in a safe environment is often one of the greatest therapies.

Rosies is the longest serving community organisation supporting the Gold Coast Schoolies Community Safety Response Program. The program is a response to the week-long celebration with the aim to make it as manageable and safe as possible for school leavers and the local community. We thank all our volunteers who took part in the Safety Response, with a special mention to Vacen Taylor, our Schoolies coordinator, who also provided training for all our volunteers.

YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE THIS FESTIVE SEASON *(from cover)*

Jane's husband, David, recently passed away most unexpectedly*. He was only 59 and had been struggling after having been laid off work. Jane, 58, and David had worked hard their whole lives. Raised a family. Built a home. A life. Then it was all gone. It only took missing a few loan repayments and now Jane is about to become homeless.

Unfortunately Jane's story is not unique. Tonight, 20,000 Queenslanders are homeless. Nearly half are women. As our population is ageing new trends are emerging. Older people, particularly women are increasingly becoming homeless. Many do not have sufficient superannuation to fund retirement.

Whilst some may have a roof, many do not have a secure or safe home. Often they find themselves in and out of temporary shelter, staying with family or friends, or sleeping in cars. Most are not homeless by choice. It is their only option. Often they are hidden. Many more are simply lonely. Christmas can be one of the loneliest days of the year.

It's amazing what a simple cuppa, bite to eat, and a chat can do...

Your donation will make a difference to help Rosies do what we do best. A regular monthly gift will also enable Rosies the flexibility to plan for our future and respond to unexpected needs. Donate now or find out how at rosies.org.au



MAYBE HOMELESS, NOT HOPELESS

Encounters in my first year as General Manager make real the value of hospitality. Our 1,000 plus volunteers are wonderful friends as they create connections.

- Hospitality creates connection
- Connection builds friendship
- Friendship allays fear
- As fear recedes, hope emerges
- With hope ...

You will see from the snippets of our Rosies family story throughout this newsletter that hope is emerging. We thank all those who have supported us in our hospitality this year and wish you all every blessing the God of hospitality bestows.

Andrew O'Brien
Rosies General Manager

Rosies
Friends on the Street
www.rosies.org.au

HAVE A CUPPA FOR ROSIES!

Hold your own fundraising event this Festive Season and help Rosies support those at risk...

You make a difference to those who are homeless, at risk of homelessness or simply lonely.

rosies.org.au • 1300 Rosies (746 437)

MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

Christmas is not looking very good to Jane, featured here in our Summer 2015 /16 newsletter. I'm glad I'm not in her shoes. I'm also glad that our Rosies volunteers are out most nights providing a little bit of community spirit and cheer to Jane and those like her. As my mother used to say often "There but for the grace of God go I".

This festive season is also about New Year's celebrations and often, new resolutions. Change, as they say, is one of the constants in life. As you may be aware, there are many changes happening within our society, including our social services and the not for profit sector. Whilst Rosies is not directly impacted by the changes to government programs and funding, we are being dramatically affected by some of the flow-on affects to our many friends.

Rosies Board and Senior Management recently held a one day Strategic Planning workshop. This

planning has been informed by in-depth interviews and surveys with key stakeholders, including many of our active volunteers. More will follow. Rosies is alive and well, with lots of energy and enthusiasm for not only our current outreach, but for investigating additional ways of reaching those socially isolated members in the community. Our sub-committees are fine-tuning each of the key areas identified in our planning. We hope to share this with you, our broader Rosies family in the New Year.

In the meantime, may you all have a happy and holy Christmas.

John Scoble
Rosies Board Chair



SPECIAL THANKS TO

BioPak • BUSY At Work • Department of Communities, Child Safety & Disabilities • Iona College • Lions Club of Helensvale • LJ Hooker Gold Coast • Lake Placid Tourist Park • Lourdes Hill College • Neumann Benevolent foundation • Power Tynan charitable Trust • Queensland Government • St Bart's Anglican Church • Sunstate Cement

Please note that while our friends may not be able to say thanks themselves, Rosies endeavours to do so. We can't thank everyone and our stories reflect but a few. Thank you to all our volunteers, partners, donors, and wonderful supporters.

ROSIES UPDATES AROUND THE STATE



The Caboolture Branch volunteer mass at St Eugene de Mazenod, Burpengary, with parish priest Fr David Francis OMI.



Susan, our Coordinator in Cairns, visited the site of the new outreach room currently being refurbished.



Dr Wright holding one of the 40 backpack beds donated, with Rosies general manager Andrew and Gold Coast coordinator Wendy.

BRISBANE BRANCH - Welcome to our new Brisbane Branch Coordinator

Rosies would like to welcome Leigh Cusack as our new Brisbane Branch Coordinator. The role has been vacant for much of this year and with plenty of work in organising our new outreach location, reworking

our supply arrangements as well as assisting Team Leaders, Leigh is off and running. Brisbane is a sleeping giant and we look forward to a wonderful Christmas with our patrons and new opportunities in 2016.

CABOOLTURE BRANCH - The spirit of Rosies

A group of students at St Columban's College decided on their own merit to organise a BBQ to raise awareness about homelessness. The boys were inspired and wanted to get involved after learning about Rosies and its mission at school. One of the students, Liam who led the operation mentioned that there were challenges.

"We suffered from a few challenges whilst undertaking our fundraising initiative. It rained heavily on the day of the fundraiser. All the parents were however very supportive and proud of our fundraising initiative. Our school St Columban's was equally supportive supplying us with the BBQ and some cooking utensils." - Liam -

The boys enjoyed their experience and felt personal satisfaction from knowing that they have, in some way, contributed to supporting Rosies and *made* a difference to our many friends on the street.

This is the true spirit of having a cuppa for Rosies. Find out more about how you can too at rosies.org.au/cuppa4rosies

In other Caboolture news our Branch held a volunteer mass on October 10 at Burpengary at St Eugene De Mazenod.(pictured)

CAIRNS BRANCH - Cairns Branch gets a room!

Rosies is delighted to announce the acquisition of a new outreach room thanks to the Catholic Diocese of Cairns and Centacare. The new room is significantly more spacious for our Cairns Branch team meetings and increases our capacity to store more items for our

many friends on the street than the previous shed.

Rosies would also like to thank the Queensland Government's Community Benefit Fund for providing a grant that has enabled us to refurbish our new premises.

GOLD COAST BRANCH - General Practice gets practical

Dr Graham Wright (pictured) initiated an altruistic initiative with General Practice Gold Coast (GPGC) to donate 40 backpack beds to Rosies and our friends on the street. Our General Manager, Andrew O'Brien, and Gold Coast Coordinator, Wendy Coe, met with Dr Wright at the Gold Coast GP Super Clinic in Oxenford. We thank you so very much. Rosies would also like to thank the Gold Coast Primary Health Network (GCPHN).

It is estimated that over 4,000 people are homeless in the Gold Coast region. What our friends and Rosies need varies, often depending on the season.

Find out more or donate now at rosies.org.au

Plus in other Gold Coast news see our Court Angels story on page 6.

IPSWICH BRANCH - Rosies in a Mater of life and friendship

Our fantastic Ipswich volunteers - Michelle, Kathryn, Julia, and Ashley (pictured) - generously gave up their Sunday to participate in the official opening of the Mater Hospital at Springfield Central. Rosies was invited by local radio station River 94.9 to help whilst they broadcasted live onsite. River 94.9 kindly

supplied several loaves of bread for the 200 plus sausages the Rosies team cooked on the day - starting at the depot at 8am and finished by mid afternoon. Well done! Thanks also to River 94.9 for getting the message out to the local Ipswich community about Rosies. You all make a difference!

LOGAN BRANCH - A community achievement

Rosies' Logan Branch has been running for over ten years and is a model of community integration. The branch has built strong relationships with a number of key stakeholders. The local police regularly visit the outreach, which involves a real mix of volunteers, students from the local schools, refugees, other religious organisations, and many other friends on the street. It is particularly exciting when

the Mounted Police drop by with Hercules (pictured).

If you have taken part in the Logan outreach over the past 10 years, we would love to hear from you. Drop us a line or send us a photo for possible use.

Make sure you fill in a Consent form (see rosies.org.au/resources) and send with your photo to media@rosies.org.au

MAREEBA BRANCH - Atherton outreach to join the Rosies family

Rosies' General Manager, Andrew O'Brien visited with the community in November to finalise plans and approvals for a new outreach in Atherton. The project was initiated by the Catholic parish who contacted Rosies to provide services in the local area due to increasing needs within the community. Rosies would like to welcome our

new Atherton Branch Coordinator, Margaret Walby, who is an active member in the community. Rosies' Mareeba Branch will be actively involved in the new street outreach, including loaning their van to enable them to have a cuppa with our many friends on the street.

SUNSHINE COAST BRANCH - Give to win

Sunstate Jewellers nominated Rosies as charity of choice for their annual charity raffle. The prize was a \$1,799 pink sapphire and diamond ring. Sunstate Jewellers raised both funds and instant coffee during the competition. Find out more about how you can get involved or donate now at rosies.org.au

In other Sunshine Coast news Shelagh Brennand created poetry after overcoming a stroke. Shelagh had been involved with Rosies for years until she had a stroke. After suffering post-stroke depression she wrote a sequence of poems, *A Stroke of Poetry*, and generously donated \$1 to Rosies for every book sold at her recent launch.



Michelle, Kathryn, Julia, and Ashley at the official opening of the Mater Hospital at Springfield Central



Snr Constable Kate of the Queensland Mounted Police and Officer Hercules dropped by.



The Rosies Mareeba team getting ready for another outreach!



Rosies Toowoomba Branch ready for the Carnival of Flowers - more over page.



IT'S TIME TO CLIMB FOR ROSIES... GO ON, WE DARE YOU!

Rosies is the proud charity partner for Active8Change's SkyPoint Sea to Sky Q1 Stair Challenge 2016.

Thank you to everyone who kindly supported Rosies and our many friends at the inaugural 2015 event.

On Sunday 28 February 2016 you have the unique opportunity to climb the 1,331 steps of this truly iconic building to reach the final line at 230m above sea level. Get with a friend or two, register and start your training and fundraising for Rosies now. Go on, we dare you. We know you can do it!

Find out more at everydayhero.com.au/event/q1stairchallenge2016



You can do it - like Jacquie did at the inaugural event!

TOOWOOMBA BRANCH - Another blossoming carnival

Rosies' Toowoomba Branch team paraded for the Carnival of Flowers in front of 30,000 plus people for the second year.

Our volunteers and Swagman, one of our regular friends on the street, were delighted to see so many smiles coming from the crowd.

'Taking part in the event means a lot to our Rosies volunteers. It simply shows our deep connection with the community, between people giving their time or raising donations, and our many friends on the street. We are all part of the same bouquet despite our differences.'
-Jon Martlew Rosies Coordinator -

In other local community news, St Ursula's College has been nominated for the Anti-Poverty Awards for their commitment and involvement with Rosies supporting our many friends on the street. Congratulations to the students and their parents, staff, and teachers. Youth and students make a difference.

WYNNUM BRANCH - Search for our local Wynnum champion

Rosies is looking for a local champion to develop our new Wynnum Branch, which has significant needs. Wynnum is our spiritual home being the base for our Oblate Chaplain

at Iona College. The Iona College community is a very generous host of our State Support Office. We need you! Find out more about this unique opportunity at rosies.org.au

ROSIES COURT ANGELS - In action for a quarter of a century

Our Rosies 'angels' have been devoutly offering refreshments, snacks, and friendship at our Southport Magistrates Court outreach for nearly 25 years.

Rosies volunteers provide comfort and smiles, and a haven in a sometimes tense environment. Smiles can unexpectedly be seen on faces of those visiting what is known as the 'tea and sympathy room' located on the second floor of the building.

Everyone is welcome to join and share a cuppa, bite to eat, and a chat with our volunteers. In the words of one of our longest serving volunteer 'angels'...

'We meet plaintiffs and defendants and witnesses, families, and friends, lawyers and barristers, court staff and security officers. Everyone is equal. All can sit next to each other sharing the simple joy of a conversation while enjoying sweets and savouries. People walk in and share their stories. They feel relieved to talk through what they are going through whether it is a win, a loss, or an ongoing dispute. The room is like a little gem shining from smiles and laughs. Worries are not permitted and compassion is shared. It does not seem to be much. Yet, it makes a world of difference.'

Rosies is pleased to confirm, thanks to the support and goodwill of all involved, that our angels recently relocated to a new area within the Southport Magistrates Court to continue their wonderful work.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank our Beenleigh Court Angels for all their wonderful work.

Over 95% of Rosies work, including this court outreach, is funded through kind donations from our local community.



Southport Court Angels Irene, Marg, and Kathy.

PARTNERS

One person having a cuppa can make a difference to homelessness

Jacqui Green recently took up a call to action for donations of coffee and cups from Rosies. She decided to spend an hour a day for one week, blindfolded, on Surfers Paradise beach offering 'free hugs' to people in return for donations to Rosies. Jacqui also contacted BioPak asking them to provide cups.

As a result BioPak has kindly offered to donate 100,000 cups that Rosies needs each year and are looking into a longer term partnership. Adrienne Tasker, Marketing Manager at BioPak, declared it was 'the obvious choice to partner with Rosies after Jacqui's wonderful introduction'. It's amazing what a simple cuppa, bite to eat, and a chat can do.

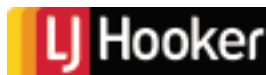


LJ Hooker Gold Coast saddled up for Rosies

LJ Hooker's Gold Coast offices saddled up to help the estimated 4,000 residents who call the streets their 'home', at the Gold Coast Turf Club's Stakes Day on Saturday 7 November. The leading real estate agent's Gold Coast network has partnered with Rosies to raise funds to support people who are marginalised within our local community.

"This is just the beginning of a longer term friendship we are investigating with Rosies with a view to making a positive impact", says LJ Hooker Ormeau Principal Nicole Hintz.

Partnerships such as this play a vital role in supporting Rosies and our many friends. Almost 100 volunteers provided over 650 connections with our friends during one cold July week alone on the Gold Coast - that's 1,000 cuppas for Rosies. Find out how or donate now at rosies.org.au



Sunstate Cement teed off for Rosies

Some 100 supplier and business representatives, managers, and CEOs took part in Sunstate Cement's annual Charity Golf Day at the Wynnum Golf Club on Friday, 30 October. Sunstate Cement and their golf participants were eager to give back to local community and kindly

nominated Rosies as their charity of choice. The Charity Golf Day was magnificently organised by the Sunstate Cement team and from Rosies perspective was a huge success!



Get your Christmas cards and make a difference

Worldwide Printing Solutions centres - in Fortitude Valley and Eagle Street, and Bundall, Burleigh and Robina - are making a difference supporting Rosies this Christmas.

Both have kindly nominated Rosies as their charity of choice for the festive season, including donating \$0.10 for every Christmas card sold.



From top to bottom:

- Gold Coast Coordinator Wendy, Jacqui, and Rosies General Manager Andrew having a cuppa thanks to Biopak.
- Blanche from LJ Hooker Robina/Varsity Lakes, Shrek, and Gold Coast Coordinator Wendy
- Thank you to all the participants at the Sunstate Cement Charity Golf Day.
- A sample of Christmas card designs from Worldwide Printing Solutions.

Donate now!

YES, I want to make a difference to the lives of those who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, or simply lonely...

Please indicate for receipt purposes if you are donating as an

☐ Individual ☐ Organisation

My details

First name _____

Surname _____

Position _____

Organisation _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Phone _____

Email _____

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

☐ \$28 ☐ \$45 ☒ \$150 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1,000

☐ Other amount \$ _____

☐ Please deduct (on 25 of each month) a **regular monthly gift** from my Debit/Credit Card of \$ _____

Payment options

☐ Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)

Commonwealth Bank BSB 064 451 Account No. 1003 7818

☐ Cheque/Money order

enclosed and made payable to Rosies Youth Mission Inc.

☐ Debit Card/Credit Card

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ AMEX ☐ Diners

Card No. _____ / _____ / _____ / _____ Expiry date _____

Name on card _____

Signature _____

Other information

☐ Please send me information on leaving a bequest in my will to Rosies.

☐ Please DO NOT send me further information from Rosies[#].

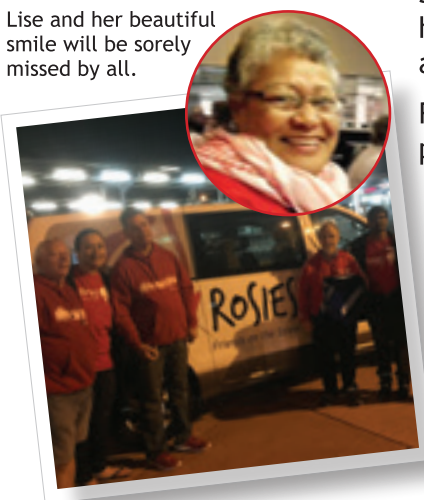
Please return your completed form and donation to Rosies.

Thank you for your support!

IN MEMORIAM

Rosies was greatly saddened by Lise Rosenthal's sudden death recently. Lise was one of the original volunteers at our Logan street van outreaches on Friday night. She completed her training for Rosies at St Pauls at Woodridge ten years ago. Our deepest sympathies are offered to Lise's husband Geoff, family, and friends. Lise was a beautiful woman in the prime of her life.

Lise and her beautiful smile will be sorely missed by all.



We would also like to pay tribute to one of our dear young friends on the street, Sam. Sam was a young teenager when she first encountered Rosies, one of the many young people meeting at our outreach on the Sunshine Coast. She openly acknowledged the friendship and encouragement she received from Rosies over many years. Sam moved to the West. It was with great sadness that we learnt Sam had taken her life at the age of 28.

Rosies would like to send a prayer of eternal rest.

'Grant unto all those we have lost, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon those also mentioned here'.

A WILLING GIFT

A gift in your Will to Rosies is a way that you make a difference, now and into the future. Sometimes our own personal circumstances do not allow time for us to volunteer, or the ability to donate, right now.

A gift in your Will, a bequest, is a very special way to support Rosies and the work that we do. Your bequest to Rosies will make a lasting impact to

the lives of those who are marginalised within our community.

If you would like to make a gift in your Will to Rosies, please talk to your solicitor or contact us. Your enquiry will be confidential, and there is no obligation involved.

Your support *makes* a difference to real people, real stories. Find out more at rosies.org.au.

Rosies' ABN68041152768 CH1146

[#]Rosies is committed to protecting your privacy in accordance with the *Privacy Act 1988 (Cth)* and the Australian Privacy Principles established under that Act.