



ROSIES HAS ROOM

Sharing friendship creates belonging. Daring to reach out together.



Andrew surrounded by his family, sons Daniel & Efrem, his mother Elaine and wife Colleen, the Archbishop of Brisbane Mark Coleridge and Rosies Volunteers - photo courtesy Purple Moon Photography

Andrew O'Brien ordained to the Diaconate

On Saturday, November 11th 2017, Andrew O'Brien was ordained to the diaconate. It was a great occasion with many of Andrew's family and friends, especially those from Rosies, gathered in St Stephen's Cathedral. Archbishop Mark gave a great homily on the current situation of deacons in the Church today.

I was delighted to attend as I had come to know Andrew from the time that he started his training. He is the first of a new bunch of men interested in working in this ministry in Brisbane. Currently there are ten deacons active in the Archdiocese of Brisbane and they are involved in a variety of works including preaching in parishes and conferring baptisms, weddings and funerals. They also work in

universities, hospitals, the police force, the military and with men and women who have returned from war and need spiritual guidance.

The Archbishop has two arms – one is the priests and the other is the deacons. So if you go to Mass where there is the Bishop, you will see the deacon walking along with him ready to help him if need be. Andrew will have to learn all the rules so that he will be standing in the right spot and not getting in the Archbishop's way!

Andrew has completed his Masters degree in Theology so when he preaches he knows what he is talking about. Explaining the Gospel is his passion. Helping people understand how much we are loved by God is one of his aspirations as a deacon.

The deacon is an image of Jesus who came to serve. I think Andrew's work in Rosies has been a great learning space for him and will continue to help him follow in Jesus' footsteps.

*Fr Trevor Trotter SSC
Director of the Diaconate Program*



All Rosies 11 branches were represented at Andrew's ordination. We are so proud of our General Manager. Congratulations Andrew!

Left: Andrew and Colleen mingling with Rosies volunteers - photo courtesy Purple Moon Photography



Do you have room?

"There was no room for them in the inn" (Lk2:7). Even back then there was a lack of room for Jesus. This passage of the Gospel challenges us in two ways. First it refers to the material need of having access to a safe dwelling; how would we react if someone knocks at our door asking for help? It also challenges us to reflect on the room we personally allow Jesus to dwell within us on a daily basis. In this day and age, we are constantly absorbed by technology, social media, and consumerism. How much room are we allowing Jesus and others to be present in our lives?

God speaks the language of love. He calls on us to be present to others. We can do so by being physically present, through prayer or material support. I invite each one of you to share a thought, a prayer, for our fellow men and women. In the Church we refer to **prayer intentions** as we pray for each other. It means that when we remember each other to bear in mind that we are part of the same human family. We are part of the same body and, although different, we serve the same goal.

So this Christmas and over the festive season let us welcome Jesus into our hearts, into our lives. Let us think of others. Let us be a presence to others and especially the lonely.

Fr John David OMI, Rosies Chaplain

Uni Students join Rosies

"I wasn't sure what to expect going into the outreach but the few hours I spent with the Rosies team were some of the most rewarding hours of my life so far. It was evident the friendship we were sharing was hugely appreciated by those in need and I felt so humbled to be a part of a much larger movement that was so positively affecting the lives of others. I would urge anyone wanting to volunteer to reach out to Rosies, you won't regret it"



Never too young to care

Throughout 2017 Rosies regularly receives calls from Good Start Early Learning Centre in Wynnum. The children, parents and staff have been holding food drives and every now and again the children pop in to visit bringing their collected donations. Our volunteers of the future!



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



They came 13,694km and found Rosies

Bachar and Emil, Syrian refugees arrived in Toowoomba less than a year ago. With the support of Pastor David they began engaging with the local community and found Rosies. At their first outreach they were concerned about the possible language barrier but soon found that friendship has no barriers, a smile is the same in every language and every nation.

Gold Coast

Rosies welcomes back Kathleen Vlasic as Branch Coordinator. The Drop In Centre has increased its service by one hour each day (M-F) and now opens from 8:30 – 1:00 (12:00noon on Monday). Monday, Tuesday and Friday outreaches have moved from the Esplanade to St Vincent's Catholic Church car park and the move has been well received by patrons.

Robyn Hunt, volunteer, team leader and Board member is currently undergoing serious training as she has been selected to carry the Queen's Baton for Rosies in the upcoming Commonwealth Games Queen's Baton Relay.

Ipswich

The branch held their Volunteer Recognition Ceremony with awards presented by Mark from the Rosies Board. Thank you to all our amazing volunteers in Ipswich for their fantastic work in Queen's Park and Brisbane Street over the past 6 years.

One outreach had a special visitor with gardening guru Costa Georgiadis popping by to see what was going on. He spent time with patrons and volunteers saying "Rosies is blooming in Ipswich".

Mareeba

Another new outreach for Rosies. Mareeba has commenced outreaching at the courts once a week. Support is provided in the form of a cuppa, a biscuit and a chat, with a hug thrown in when necessary.

Wynnum Manly

Soup Kitchen supports Rosies. 100+ residents from Wellington Manor Retirement Village recently came together for lunch interspersed with raffles and lucky door prizes raising over \$2,160 for Rosies. Wellington Manor has adopted Rosies as their charity of choice.

Caboolture

Students from St Eugene College who take part in our Student Engagement Program made some delicious cupcakes and brought them to outreach to share with our patrons. What a tasty initiative!



Beenleigh

Rosies Beenleigh Coordinator, Lisa Hingst recently met with Reverend Lu to discuss exciting opportunities with the Uniting Church. Rosies is hoping to extend the collaboration with the Church moving into emergency relief using the Wynnum Manly model. The branch is blessed by the generosity and reliability of many supporters such as Joy who provides pies each week and Kam and the Sikh community who deliver sandwiches and fresh fruit each Saturday.

Toowoomba

Farewell to Annette, founding member, team leader, branch coordinator and dedicated volunteer. Annette and her husband David are relocating to where the fish are biting. You will be missed. From Rosies to you, thank you.

Costa in Ipswich



Cairns

Cairns continues to receive tremendous support from its community. While Rosies focus is on sharing friendship Branch Coordinator, Lyall has worked tirelessly to recruit schools, community groups, locals and businesses to ensure that patrons can also enjoy a feed while chatting with their friends, Rosies volunteers. Much needed supplies, are frequently provided by the many schools supporting Rosies including St Andrew's and their blanket drive. Yes, even in Cairns you need a blanket now and again.



Sunshine Coast

Rosies Sunshine Coast was once again the charity of choice for the Sunshine Indoor Bowls Club fundraiser. A handful of Sunshine Coast representatives were present and shared much laughter during the day.

Logan

Continuing the tradition of Christmas on the Street, Logan will host its annual Christmas Party for Patrons on December 15. Massive community support is given to ensure a good time is had by all. This year particular thanks to Share the Dignity for providing 60 women's hand bags filled with essentials and treats for the ladies and 60 backpacks also filled with much needed supplies for our male patrons, provided by Making a Difference. Happy Christmas to all in Logan!

Brisbane

Following a period of extensive research and community meetings, Rosies has opened on Tuesday nights in Musgrave Park to meet the demand in South Brisbane. It is hoped that the service will extend to Thursday nights in 2018. On the first outreach patrons were waiting for Rosies as the van pulled up, excitement was high and the future for South Brisbane looks rosie.



Our first outreach in South Brisbane



Rosies at Schoolies: 30 years on

Thirty years ago a group of 28 young adults embarked on a unique and adventurous mission – to provide safe activities for schoolies flocking to Surfers Paradise. Little did they know that their faith, determination and sense of purpose that created Rosies Gold Coast would be alive and strong today.

"We converted the Surfers Paradise St Vincent's Church car park into our coffee shop and drop in centre," John Daly, original Rosies team member, said. "A DJ played music and everyone was welcome to come in for a break, a chat, and a cup of coffee. We used the Anglican Church hall next door as our base and communications centre, and had several loaned school buses which not only ferried our crew around but were also equipped as mobile coffee shops". Mr Daly said the original Rosies members had "fantastic support and a very real sense of purpose". "What the crew soon realised was that not only was there a need to mission to the schoolies, but that there were also homeless and needy youth on the coast who also needed a helping hand. This need became the direction for Rosies in future years."

The 1987 Mission ran only for the two weeks of schoolies at Surfers Paradise. *"The Rosies Gold Coast mission may have been a naive attempt to give the schoolies an alternative to the alluring lights and nightlife of Surfers Paradise, but in doing so it unearthed a more needy and real mission, helping those who were homeless and in need living on the glitter strip," Mr Daly said. "If they wouldn't come to us, then we went to them and so the concept of the travelling coffee vans was born, in the form of modified buses being parked at either end of Cavill Avenue and the Broadbeach Hotel."*

"From humble beginnings in a meeting room at Iona College and a car park at Surfers Paradise, Rosies has become a household name as a trusted charity involved with many apostolic works in numerous locations across Qld.

John Daly was an original Rosies team member from 1987-1989. He is currently teaching at Clairvaux MacKillop College, Mt Gravatt and has a daughter who has just finished year 12 and took part in Schoolies.



"Thank you Mr Hooker!"

Rosies has won the trifecta with the generosity of a bunch of LJ Hooker offices across the Gold Coast.

For the last three years, we have been the charity of choice at the LJ Hooker Stakes Day at Gold Coast Turf Club. This November was no different and the funds they have raised has become a pillar of our Gold Coast branch. This time around the sales agents, property managers and support staff dug deep to raise more than \$35,000 on the day. A number of their staff have also become volunteers since their involvement commenced. Thanks to the LJ Hooker teams from Broadwaters, Coomera, Currumbin, Nerang, Ormeau, Pacific Pines, Robina | Mudgeeraba, Southport, Yarrabilba and Beenleigh.

And the Hooker family up the road at Sunnybank are also wonderful supporters with their *night under the stars* another boost for Rosies in Brisbane.



Jamie-Leigh hairdresser extraordinaire on the Gold Coast

Once a fortnight Jamie-Leigh sets up her cutting table and is open for business. She chats away with her customers, our patrons. From the drop in centre you can hear stories being shared, laughter and conversation. When asked what motivated her, Jamie-Lee said 'There is more happiness in giving than receiving' Acts 20:35.



Margaret and Carolyn with board members Russell, Mark, and Fr Michael

Congratulations to Life Members

We are pleased to announce that Rosies Logan Coordinator Margaret Harvey and Rosies Sunshine Coast Coordinator Carolyn Wilson became Rosies Life Members in November. Both Margaret and Carolyn have dedicated much energy, enthusiasm and passion throughout the years and both of their branches incarnate the spirit of caring and friendship that Rosies has endowed on the street. Congratulations to the both of them for this achievement and we wish Margaret and Carolyn many more years at Rosies.

Gayndah 328 km north west of Brisbane population 1789

St Joseph's Catholic School held a *Wheel for Rosies* day on bikes, scooters, rollerblades and skates. They raced each other giving a gold coin to Rosies for each race they entered. \$189 was raised. Thank you.



Through the worst to the best

Chris is a long time friend of Rosies. He first met us on the streets in Brisbane some 28 years ago.

"I was hanging out on the streets in Brisbane when I saw this group of people. I asked what they were doing and they offered me coffee, we sat together and had a chat. They had an old van and used to ask the street people for a push to get it started".

"Rosies gave me friendship on the street, without them there was nothing, no one to chat to, share a story with. They gave me a connection when I had nothing else."

Chris' life has moved forward despite hurdles along the way. He now owns a successful lawn mowing business at the Gold Coast and occasionally employs homeless people when business gets busy. *"I keep going to Rosies, they still put up with me, I don't know how. But as long as they can put up with me I will keep going back".*



THANK YOU

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

Condev, Golf Day, Double Tree Hilton sponsoring hospitality in Cairns, Hope Within Reach, Iona College, John Paul College in Logan, Kunara Organic Markets, LJ Hooker, Moreton Bay College, Red Rose Fund Inc in Toowoomba, Seachange Home Owners Association for your great support as always on the Gold Coast, St Andrew's Catholic College Cairns, St Theresa's Catholic Primary School Toowoomba, Wellington Manor Retirement Village

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

BioPak
for delivering
a year's supply
of cups

Lloyds Auctions
for making
Rosies a big
winner at their
race day

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.

CHRISTOS
SE RODI
MILAD
MUBARAK

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

Nohelinziza

Feliz
Nazidad

Meri
Kirihimete

Joyeux
Noel



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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