

# ROSIES

Friends on the Street



## WINTER 2016

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, drop-in centres, and more. Rosies is there to offer friendship, support, and connection. Rosies is non-preaching and non-discriminatory. It's amazing what a simple cuppa, bite to eat, and a chat can do. *Inspiring dignity with a friend one cuppa at a time.*



Atherton Mareeba  
Cairns  
Sunshine Coast  
Caboolture  
Brisbane  
Wynnum Manly  
Ipswich  
Logan  
Toowoomba  
Gold Coast

- Commencing in QLD 1987
- Over 1,000 active volunteers (45,000 hours of community support/year)
- 240 outreach services each month
- 10 branches
- Friend interactions every year 52,000
- Over 95% funded through kind donations from our local community
- Ministry of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate.

I'M SO LONELY TONIGHT...

I NEED A CUPPA

WHERE WILL I SLEEP TONIGHT?

**A**t least one in ten of us will sleep rough in our lifetime. It could be you, it could be me, or it could be someone you know. And it's cold outside...





## A HUMAN HEART

I take part in as many Rosies outreaches as I possibly can. I am astonished to see so much generosity and

goodwill from participants.

How beautiful to see the warm hearts at work! How beautiful it is to see such willingness from everyone to set up a peaceful venue where all of us can meet, talk, and share our stories, challenges, and happiness in life.

This is the face of mercy. People who gather at an outreach come from such a variety of backgrounds. I am actually amazed to even see how diverse our team of volunteers are. Some might be business owners, others bakers, cooks, or university students. It does not matter once they team up under the same Rosies T-shirt and equally support one other.

The human heart is made to love and mercy is the expression of this love. Mercy reveals itself once the person disregards what sets him or her apart from a brother or sister and looks sincerely into the eyes of this other person. Mercy relies on understanding, patience, and compassion.

Rosies outreaches are a perfect way to put our mercy into practice. One can meet a perfect stranger, and yet give this person the time to listen; the time to talk. It is about acknowledging a person for who he or she is, a human being. This contributes to bringing one's dignity back.

Fr John David OMI  
Rosies Chaplain

## 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



## ROSIES MASSES

In the last few months our Cairns, Ipswich, and Logan branches each hosted a Rosies Mass celebrated with our Chaplain, Father John David. It was delightful to see the Rosies community gathering to celebrate the Holy Eucharist together and let the words of our Rosies prayer resonate in one's heart.

As mentioned in our previous edition, this year marks the 200th anniversary, 1816-2016, of the establishment of our founding Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate (OMI).

A special celebratory mass will be held at 7.00pm on Monday, 8 August 2016 at the Cathedral of St Stephen, 249 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane.

Every member of our Rosies community (including our friends on the street) is warmly invited to join this celebration whether you be Catholic, other Christian denomination, other religion, or of no religion. Please wear your Rosies T-shirt.

We also invite you to contact our Rosies Chaplain, Father John David by phone on 07 3396 4267 or email [davidj@rosies.org.au](mailto:davidj@rosies.org.au) if you would like him to offer a prayer for some special intention of yours. This may be an intention of thanks or one of help.



## OVER THE LAST YEAR, WITH YOUR HELP...

Rosies provided over 1,000 friends - who were at risk of or who were homeless, or simply lonely - each week with a cuppa and a chat with our volunteer friend.

Thanks to you we distributed donated items including a bite to eat for each of our friends, over 1,200 blankets, thousands of hygiene products, 120 plus backpack beds, and more. Rosies also started outreach services in Nerang, Atherton, and with Wynnum Manly coming soon.

Your donation pledge over 3-5 years will enable Rosies the flexibility to plan for our future and respond to unexpected needs and ensure our sustainability. Make a difference to real people, real stories.



INSPIRING DIGNITY WITH A FRIEND, ONE CUPPA AT A TIME.



## YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE THIS WINTER (from cover)

As winter approaches, imagine sleeping rough without any protection from the elements.

At least one in ten of us will sleep rough in our lifetime. It could be you, it could be me, or it could be someone you know. And it's cold outside.

As John, one of our many friends' story highlights, being homeless often leads to feelings of fear, anxiety, and social withdrawal. The sense of isolation that comes from not feeling part of our community can cause us to withdraw even further from activities critical to our wellbeing.

1st to 7th August is Homelessness Prevention Week. Whilst many organisations are increasingly providing awareness, support, and referral, the greater human need is for friendship and unconditional acceptance during such difficult times. Our wonderful volunteers aim to do just that, fostering a socially inclusive community at our many outreaches.

You make the difference to those who are homeless, at risk of homelessness or simply lonely. Inspiring dignity with a friend, one cuppa at the time...

Hold your own cuppa event this Winter and help Rosies support those who sleep rough this Winter.



## MESSAGE FROM OUR GENERAL MANAGER

My favourite tuckshop lunch at school growing up (in chilly Toowoomba) was a hot mince roll. Recently I had the opportunity to speak to a number of school groups and it struck me that Rosies is a bit like school tuckshop.

You line up and have a chat with a friend as you wait.

You are served by a volunteer - somebody's mum or dad.

You sit down in random spaces with whoever's company you like.

Some days are hot and sweaty, some are cold and windy.

Some kids are on their own and some the centre of attention.

Sound familiar? Of course a major difference on a Rosies outreach is that those who line up don't have \$5 or \$10 to spend ... today or tomorrow.

They may also not have a warm bed to sleep in after. Most of all they may have no one other than a volunteer to share their day's activities, joys and worries.

Because our volunteers are part of a regular team they have become friends on the street, not just random passers-by. Friendship is better than a hot mince roll but they go well together.

Thanks again for your support this winter.

Andrew O'Brien  
Rosies General Manager

## MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

Winter is a distressing time for our friends on the street. It's cold outside. It's the season when, as I tuck myself into my warm bed, I often think what it must be like to be sleeping on the ground with only my clothes or a thin blanket to keep the cold away. Sleepless nights are common for our friends in these conditions.

I am also reminded, as the statistics highlighted in this edition show, of the importance of the sense of community that our teams of wonderful volunteers provide to our many friends. Thank you.

I am happy to report that our Branch coordinators met with our State Office Support team on Saturday, 23 April 2016.

Everyone shared their knowledge and experiences as part of the implementation of our Strategic planning activities. It was truly amazing to hear their stories of inspiration that you, our supporters and wonderful volunteers, create. We look forward to working together to implement the initiatives that were raised at our forum. Finally, I would like to invite you to join us at our special celebratory Mass on Monday, 8 August 2016 at the Cathedral of St Stephen. I hope to see you there.



John Scoble  
Rosies Board Chair

### Quick facts

Tonight, 20,000 Queenslanders are homeless.  
Nearly half are women.  
Over 40% are aged 25 or under.  
More than 3,500 of those are kids 12 or under.

\*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.



You make the difference to those who are homeless, at risk of homelessness or simply lonely. Inspiring dignity with a friend, one cuppa at the time...

Hold your own cuppa event this Winter and help Rosies support those who sleep rough this Winter.

[rosies.org.au](http://rosies.org.au) • 1300 ROSIES (767 437)



## ROSIES COLLABORATIONS AROUND THE STATE



Rosies General Manager, Andrew O'Brien accepting a cheque from the Rotary Club of Jindalee for our new Brisbane branch van fitout.



James Cook University dental students recently joined one of our outreaches.

### Date claimers

- Gold Coast Airport Marathon ..... 2-3 July
- St Eugene de Mazenod's Birthday ... 1 August
- Homeless Prevention Week ..... 1 - 7 August
- Brisbane Marathon..... 7 August
- OMI 200th Anniversary Mass  
7.00pm Cathedral of St Stephen .... 8 August
- Bridge to Brisbane ..... 28 August

### ATHERTON MAREEBA BRANCH - New outreach services available

New Rosies outreach services are now up and running in Atherton. The team takes the van out fortnightly, on the first and third Saturdays of each month. Rosies Mareeba branch team is kindly offering support and mentorship. Teams from both locations are also sharing resources, including the same Rosies

van. Several young adults are already turning out to meet with the Rosies team on Main St, Atherton and word is quickly spreading about our much needed outreach service. Several local organisations have expressed interest in supporting our newest Far North Queensland outreach.

### BRISBANE BRANCH - Another Bite

Rosies is collaborating with Second Bite in Brisbane to deliver fresh produce more regularly on outreach. Although providing food is not Rosies' main objective, we know too well how welcome fruits are with our many friends.

On another note, our faithful old outreach van is being replaced with a grant from the Department of Communities (Gambling Community Benefit Fund) and a generous donation from the Rotary Club of Jindalee.

The new van will be fitted out with a stainless steel servery, cargo bay, and ten seats for the volunteers.

Our General Manager, Andrew O'Brien recently accepted a cheque from the Rotary Club of Jindalee [pictured] that will cover the fit out of the new van to ensure we are able to have a cuppa with our many friends. Thank you!

Find out how you can get involved at [rosies.org.au/what-we-do/our-branches/brisbane/](http://rosies.org.au/what-we-do/our-branches/brisbane/)

### CABOOLTURE BRANCH - new opportunities to be considered

Rosies new Volunteer & Program Outreach Coordinator, Cathy Lindsay recently visited the Caboolture branch. Cathy was most impressed with the great work and commitment evident

in the branch. The branch is looking to expand its role in the community. Watch this space for more updates or find out more at [rosies.org.au/what-we-do/our-branches/caboolture/](http://rosies.org.au/what-we-do/our-branches/caboolture/)

### CAIRNS BRANCH - Another reason to smile in Cairns

James Cook University (JCU) dental students [pictured] recently attended one of our Rosies Cairns branch outreaches. The students fully embraced the experience, listening and sharing stories with our friends on the street, and helping put a smile on their faces. The branch also recently received

goods and services donations, as well as monetary donations from local primary and high schools.

The support all of our branches receive from students and their communities is simply wonderful, and greatly supports our ability to support our many friends. Thank you, you all make a difference.

### GOLD COAST BRANCH - The Gold Coast community joined forces

A big thank you to Cross Promotions International for recently leading a food drive to support our Gold Coast branch as supplies were extremely low. Thank you so much to every single one of you in the local Gold Coast community for your support. Friends and strangers alike walked through the doors of our Southport Drop-in centre to provide tinned goods and hygiene products.

Local students joined the effort by conducting their very own fundraiser events. You made a difference.

Our branch coordinator, Wendy Coe, will be a guest panelist at the Vinnies CEO Sleepout. Wendy's wealth of knowledge about issues affecting homelessness is highly regarded.



## IPSWICH BRANCH - Cordially yours

Rosies Ipswich branch volunteers are always inspired by the ongoing support they receive from their local community. Recently members of the Ipswich Catholic Community, which is made up of the parishes in the region, kindly collected donations of biscuits, noodles, and cordial to support Rosies. Thank you!

Students at Bremer State High School also held a fundraiser and donated toiletries and cordial. Barry, the local Branch Coordinator, talked to the students about how the things they donated would be used to support our friends and inspire dignity. We are looking forward to the time when these wonderful students are able to volunteer on our outreach.

## LOGAN BEENLEIGH BRANCH - outreach room renovation

Our Logan team are most excited to have a new storage room. None more so than our wonderful Branch coordinator, Margaret Harvey, as for the last ten years she has been using her own garage to store items. A big thanks to you Margaret. Thanks to the generosity of the Department of Communities (Gambling Community Benefit Fund), renovations of the new demountable were completed over Autumn.

Matt Byrne, Q99 Constructions and Brisbane branch volunteer, was extremely accommodating to schedule the works around the needs of the St Paul's Primary and other users of the area. The team are now enjoying their new spacious storage facility, which in turn will enable more material support for our many friends on the street. What a brilliant way to mark our ten-year anniversary of our Logan Beenleigh branch!



The new Logan team storage room.

## SUNSHINE COAST BRANCH - it is about giving and sharing

It is often said that 'there is more happiness in giving than in receiving', and at Rosies we could not agree more. Our Sunshine Coast branch not only experiences it while on outreach, we also share the kind support for emergencies (such as drought and flood relief) with the Sisters of Mercy. This order assists people who are most in need in the outback. This collaboration enables our local Rosies team to assist in answering many calls received

beyond our branch outreach ability. We know it makes a difference to the many families who live remotely. They are certainly not forgotten!

We are also very thankful to Express Print & Mail (EMP) for kindly providing a brand new A-frame sign to help our many friends locate us at our various outreach venues on the coast. More proof that there is great joy in sharing and equally great joy in giving. Thanks.



The team on the Sunshine Coast with their new sign.

## TOOWOOMBA BRANCH - Thank you Jon!

Jon Martlew is moving on from his role as Rosies branch coordinator in Toowoomba. Jon made an enormous contribution in developing Rosies in Toowoomba. From small steps Jon has been instrumental in establishing Rosies activities and profile in his home city in the space of a few short years. His embrace of all those he engages with is

legendary as is his selflessness in giving of his time and more. In that time Jon has trained a couple hundred volunteers, drawn the support of numerous individuals and organisations, and trebled the outreach activity. Rosies is a wonderful presence in the Toowoomba community for which Jon and his committee can be justifiably proud.



Thank you to Jon Martlew for your enormous contribution as Rosies Toowoomba branch coordinator. The team will miss you.



# 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 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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Single gift

☐ Regular gift (deducted 25th of month)

☐ Other regular gift - quarterly/six monthly/ annually

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

## Other information

☐ Please contact me about leaving a bequest in my will to Rosies.

☐ Please DO NOT send me further information from Rosies (see below).

Please return your completed form and donation to Rosies.

Thank you for your support!

## HAS ANYONE SEEN MARGARET?

Our Brisbane Branch coordinator, Leigh, thinks this would have to be the single, most asked question by a great number of our 224 Brisbane branch volunteers! Has anyone seen Margaret?

Margaret is an articulate, chatty, happy, intelligent, much loved woman with an extraordinary memory. Margaret has been a friend of Rosies on and off since 2012.

She remembers any date

and name you have ever cared to share with her. Birthdays, anniversaries and not just yours... your family's too!

Margaret will tell you funny stories, like the time she gave the Stafford policeman a run for his money when he asked her if she knew where she lived and she replied 'yes I do'!

In my time as Branch coordinator I have been asked if anyone has seen this much loved friend of ours many times. The question appears on the whiteboard, via emails, or when we're out on outreach.

It didn't take long for the Rosies extended network of past and present volunteers to find out recently that our beloved Margaret was on her way from a stay in hospital to a transitional home.

As Scott [pictured] pointed out, Margaret is probably in the best place possible for her circumstances, but she felt she had lost all control, including her connection with Rosies.

Luckily we have reconnected with her again through a home visit.

Margaret is just one of many friends who touch our hearts on our Brisbane outreaches.

“he asked her if she knew where she lived and she replied ‘yes I do’.”

Some make us laugh, some make us worry, and some even make us frustrated at times! All, like Margaret, have become our friends.

Whether they are on the street or in a temporary home, the time I see our Rosies volunteers spend with our friends, is invaluable. I am so proud and grateful to be a part of Rosies. And a special thank you to Margaret for keeping us on our toes and making us smile!



Scott, Margaret, and Brisbane Branch coordinator, Leigh

## A WILLING GIFT

A gift in your Will, a bequest, is a very special way to support Rosies.

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

Find out more about leaving a willing gift at [rosies.org.au](http://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.