

## MOVIN' UP IN CAIRNS

*New South Wales native, regular Rosies patron and new volunteer Hayley holds the work of the organisation in very high esteem.*

'It's a meeting place for people in the community, to catch up with friends and to make new ones over a coffee and a bite to eat.'

Hayley, 35, moved to Cairns just over a year ago to get a new start and heard about Rosies through church.

She attends nearly every night and has been volunteering for two months.

'I love helping other people - those who cannot afford to pay their rent, food or power bills.'

She says the volunteers are kind and friendly and everyone wants Rosies to stay.

'It's a pleasure to work here. It's great, I love it!'

She says that other patrons are proud that she is a volunteer.

Animal lover Hayley plans to volunteer some more, aims to become a Team Leader and encourage other patrons to join.

She would eventually like to find other ways to help in the community.

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ROSIES  
WINTER 2015



*I met Hayley on outreach in Cairns.*

Following her journey from patron to volunteer, I ponder the attraction of the Rosies mission.

In the first three months of 2015, we received over 700 volunteer enquiries.

The need of our patrons is visible to all yet there are many excellent organisations playing their part.

The Rosies emblem is easily identifiable on our vans. It seems though the simple joy of friendship resonates strongly in the community.

I am privileged to feel that joy of friendship as I meet our patrons and volunteers across Queensland - Jesus is alive in the hearts of his people.

We hope you also experience this power of friendship as you browse through some of Rosies' stories this winter.

There is action in Mareeba with an impressive group of students from St Augustine's school meeting with Coordinator Anne Serra and me as they begin their outreach program. Read on page 3 about the effort of school captain Josh, who's taken on a huge solo mission to raise money for Rosies with great support from his schoolmates and community.

The indefatigable Jon Martlew is going homeless for a week in August in Toowoomba - read about it on page 3.

Gold Coast generosity continues to astound exemplified by Dan Marino of Hickey Lawyers getting some lads to put their best foot forward - see page 3.

Logan is proud of its hospitality to people of all cultures and origins which you can get a glimpse of on page 4.

There's a great photo on page 5 of Steve, one of Caboolture patrons who has an issue he'd like your opinion on.

Our Team Leaders in Brisbane had a great Q&A with two Queensland Police Service officers at their

## **REFLECTION:**

I recently spent fifteen minutes listening to this reflection by Fr John Chalmers on Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* - The Joy of the Gospel: *'Embracing with Tender Affection those who are Poor and Vulnerable'*.

It seems especially relevant to the Rosies mission - to listen, visit <http://bit.ly/JoyFilled>

# From the Manager

quarterly meeting - a bit more on that on page 5.

I would like to welcome our new Chaplain, Fr John David - and although Fr John Sherman has been called to a new role in Victoria, he shares his reflections on Rosies and one of our much loved volunteers on page 6.

After 2 weeks as Acting General Manager I was besotted with the work of Rosies and now nearly 6 months on, I marvel at the pure goodness given every day by our friends on the street, in the courts and at the prisons.

Finally, I must appeal to your generosity and seek your financial support. In order for Rosies to continue its mission of simple hospitality and friendship for another year we need ongoing financial donations. Please give what you can.

**Andrew O'Brien**  
General Manager



Andrew and Shiva attended the Governor's reception for organisations working with youth. Shiva, a refugee from Sri Lanka, has volunteered with our Logan Branch for over 18 months.

## Jon hits the street for Homeless Week

*Things are about to get a little cooler for Toowoomba Branch Coordinator Jon Martlew – and we're not talking about a stylish new haircut!*

In August, Jon will spend a week 'sleeping rough' to help raise awareness for Homelessness Prevention Week.

Given the icy temperatures for which Toowoomba is renowned in the middle of winter, Jon's commitment to the cause certainly can't be questioned.

Joining Jon on the streets will be Nat Spary from the City Church in Toowoomba.

Nat has firsthand knowledge of homelessness, having experienced life on the streets in his youth – experience that will no doubt come in handy for Jon.

'As an advocate for people who are homeless, I think it's important to be able to

articulate from first hand experience just how tough it can be," Jon said.

"I won't say I will be able to speak with authority by the end of the week, but at least I can convey some of my experiences when seeking to raise awareness of homeless issues."

**Homelessness Prevention Week runs from 3-9 August.**



Wendy Coe, Dan Marino, and patrons

## Marino fleeces lads to warm the homeless

**Gold Coast lawyer Dan Marino (Hickey Lawyers) was delighted to deliver some back-pack beds to patrons at a Rosies Monday breakfast on Marine Parade in May.**

Dan's Lads' Lunch initiative has been raising funds for six years for local charities and Rosies is the latest beneficiary.

Rosies patrons are effusive in their gratitude for the generosity of our donors and the numerous supporters Dan draws together will ensure a more comfortable and warmer sleep for many, especially this

winter.

'The funds raised of \$44,179 will contribute enormously to our outreach to the homeless in 2015,' said Wendy Coe, our Gold Coast Coordinator.

'Just as importantly, the continual building of the Rosies family is tangible.'

The hearts of patrons and volunteers and supporters are all enlarged through the sharing of our gifts.

In chatting with Dan, General Manager Andrew O'Brien said it is inspiring to witness his enthusiasm and determination.

## Josh takes on 'wheelie' big challenge for Rosies

**Dealing with the rigours of completing Year 12 would be considered more than enough for most teenagers to deal with, but Joshua Priestly isn't your average teenager.**

At a time when many students are rightly focused solely on their studies, Joshua selflessly pushed himself to the limits to help people who are homeless in his hometown of Mareeba.

In May, Joshua spent three days pushing a wheelbarrow 140km to help raise funds for Rosies Mareeba branch.

What makes the feat even more admirable is that he completed the Great Wheelbarrow Race solo – when many compete in a team.



The St Stephens Catholic School captain said Rosies was a perfect fit for his fundraising campaign.

"Rosies helps Mareeba youth and is associated with the church, so I thought it was the best charity to support," he said.


Rosies General Manager Andrew O'Brien said the

organisation was impressed with Joshua's initiative.

"It is encouraging to see young people take such a strong interest in lending a hand to those in the community who have found themselves on the fringes," he said.

Joshua raised over \$1600.





On Wednesday nights at the entrance to Woodridge railway station, Rosies volunteers arrive to the eager faces of patrons from every continent bar Antarctica.

Ruby, from her wheelchair, tells Andrew he must be a new volunteer because she hasn't seen his face before.

Robbie, from the local Islamic temple turns up with home cooked meals for about 20 patrons.

New Rosies Chaplain Fr John David (recently arrived from India) joins Robbie as they engage with Sri Lankan, Iranian and other refugees.

Fr John speaks Tamil easily which facilitates some animated conversation.

Ed tunelessly fills the backdrop with a variety of harmonica solos, and cheerfully tells a tale in spite of now being on his own and not in the best of health.

The Street Doctor (a Bangladeshi migrant) and his nurse (a delightful young Somali woman) tend professionally and happily to an array of patients who would otherwise be reluctant to seek medical attention.

A young woman from Caboolture, looking rather lost, couldn't believe the service on offer.

'We have 216 nationalities in Logan,' Logan branch coordinator Margaret Harvey says proudly, 'and many of them are represented among our patrons and of our volunteer ranks.'

'The diversity ensures its never a dull moment.'

Yet it would be easy to get subsumed in the general camaraderie.

The dangers are obvious for some of the more vulnerable and we pray they have the strength to stand their ground.

The bond of our volunteer teams no doubt gives them hope.

# **Rosies Logan Branch**



# COVERING THE ISSUES



## SEPARATED AT BIRTH?

### *Greetings from the Caboolture outreach!*

Things have been going along nicely up here although we did have to cancel a few outreaches with the very wet weather we experienced earlier.

We have welcomed a couple of new volunteers to the teams and now that they have their “new” Rosies shirts feel part of the Rosies family.

For this edition I would like to introduce one of our patrons, Steve, who sells the Big Issue in our area.

Steve recently tried to convince us that he was the guy on the front page of the Big Issue, albeit a few years ago.

What do you think?

Helen Mangano  
Caboolture Branch Coordinator

## POLICE HOST VOLUNTEER Q&A

**SAFE IN BRISBANE** are fully supportive of our Outreach in Brisbane and met with our Team Leaders to Q&A about ensuring the safety of our patrons and volunteers.

Rosies has a wonderfully simple way of being friends on the street, but navigating changing trends in public policy as well as practical concerns about safety and other issues create complexities requiring additional resources.

Our location under the Turbot St overpass is not a long-term option for various reasons and there has been a greater number of ‘NOW’ events - emergency evacuations - in the last six months.

The Queensland Police Service have been very supportive and cooperative and attended a Q&A with our Brisbane Team Leaders.

They provided some interesting background to modern policing approaches initiated by Senior Sergeant Corey Allen and championed by the young Senior Constable who attended our meeting.

Clearly the growing prevalence of crystal methamphetamine - ‘ice’ - is a significant concern.

They gave the meeting general tips on the how to recognise the symptoms of certain drugs and other conditions and emphasised the need for following safety protocols - and commended Rosies on our safety procedures.

We acknowledged we have some work to do but are encouraged by the approach and attitude of the Queensland Police Service.

*Recently, Senior Sergeant Corey Allen spoke with Richard Fidler, which you can listen to at your leisure at <http://bit.ly/CoreyAllen>.*

*“By focusing on crime prevention his programs have dramatically altered the way police and services work together to help people at risk.”*



# Reflection: Fr John Sherman OMI

*Recently together with Fr John David Raj OMI the current Chaplain of Rosies, we celebrated the life of Claudette Neave with her family and friends, which included many from the Gold Coast Rosies Outreach, at Mary Immaculate Church, Ashmore on the Gold Coast.*

Claudette's association with the Rosies Outreach went back to its founding years. As I listened to the eulogies given by her children, I felt I was journeying into the life of a woman whose passion for helping people in need was at the heart of what it means to be a Rosies volunteer.

Besides being a 'friend on the street', she opened her heart to those in need far beyond Rosies.

Being a Missionary Oblate of Mary Immaculate, I need to be available to respond to the call to serve wherever my Oblate community calls me.

This has meant moving to Melbourne Easter 2015 after an all too short time as the Rosies Chaplain.

I thank all those in Rosies I have

met during my time with you.

You have deepened in me the call to serve. I was tempted to say 'to serve the needy' but we are all needy.

Coming away from any outreach we hope to have given something of ourselves in friendship to those we meet, but my experience is that those I have spent time with have enriched me.

Pope Francis calls us to encounter the Jesus of the Gospel. This Jesus calls us 'friends'. He forgives, heals, encourages, listens.

The Rosies prayer helps to ground us all in the Jesus of the Gospel:

***O Jesus, make my heart so human  
that others may feel at home with  
me;***

***so like yours, that others may feel  
at home with you;***

***so forgetful of self, that I may  
simply become the place***

***where you and they meet in the  
power of your love***

***and the joy of your friendship.***

***Amen***

## BLANKET APPEAL 2015

With the nights getting colder it is great to snuggle up under the doona - but spare a thought for those sleeping without a roof over their head.

For these people the onset of winter adds another problem to the already difficult situation they endure.

Faced with a range of problems, being able to stay warm enough to get some sleep at night is a necessity to function - something we take for granted.

On any given night there are 20,000 people sleeping rough in our local communities. Add to this those sleeping in cars or in a friend's garage and the demand is huge.

Rosies is taking the initiative to help homeless people by conducting a blanket appeal.

For just \$28 each, Rosies will purchase and distribute good quality warm cotton blankets to those most in need - to donate, head to page 7 for details.

# From the Chair

***Hello to all our volunteers and supporters. As we approach the colder months of the year, a most difficult time for the vulnerable in our society, I am able to share with you both good news and bad news.***

The good news is that Rosies has increased its service to the homeless by 10% in the past year, with additional outreach evenings in Caloundra, Toowoomba and Cairns and a new Sunday brunch outreach in Toowoomba. Thanks to all those who help to make this happen. The bad news is that the demand

In contrast, the Rosies mission is to be outwardly focused and, in the spirit of tithing, to provide friendship and material comfort to those less fortunate.

I'm reminded of the film "Les Miserables", during which the lead character, John Valjean, played by



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for our services is increasing. Apart from requests for additional time in existing locations, we have had requests to open new outreaches in Wynnum (Brisbane) and Atherton (North Qld). At the same time, the mood of the Australian population seems to be for belt-tightening and reductions in discretionary expenditure.

'I fear that we are in danger of catching the "austerity" disease that is gripping much of Europe. This turns people inwards and focuses them on financially supporting their family first.'

Hugh Jackman, is taken into the house of the local bishop for a meal. He steals some candlesticks and when discovered, he is forgiven by the bishop. It is speculated that the inspiration for this part of the "Les Mis" story came from an incident involving the then Bishop of Marseilles, St Eugene de Mazenod, founder of the Oblates.

I pray that this winter, we can all embrace St Eugene's example and turn outwardly towards our Rosies patrons.

**John Scoble**  
Chair of Rosies Board

***Rosies would like to acknowledge some of our generous supporters and partners:***

Iona College  
 AMAQ Foundation  
 Flannery Foundation  
 Queensland Government  
 Gold Coast Mayoress Charity Committee  
 Banksie Pty Ltd (Financial Planning)  
 Dan Marino (Hickey Lawyers)  
 Epic Pharmacy  
 I Luv Coffee  
 Reuben Pelerman  
 Benevolent Foundation  
 Daryl & Carole Pryke  
 Nonnas Restuarant  
 St Vincents Primary School, Gold Coast  
 Martin Paterson  
 Logan Mayoress' Community Service  
 ACTS - Aspley Uniting Church  
 Rotary Club of Parkwood  
 Missionary Franciscan Sisters  
 Splosh (Michael Kendall)  
 Heran Building Group  
 Wal Giugni  
 Barton Motors (Don Barton)  
 All Saints Anglican School Ltd, Merrimac  
 Fran Clayton in memory of her mother Jo  
 BUSY Inc  
 St Andrew's Catholic College, Redlynch  
 St Ursula's College, Toowoomba  
 Energex Limited

## Our Patrons



*'At a time when our attention is understandably occupied with very grave international events let us never forget there are many young people on the streets experiencing isolation and discrimination. Through Rosies let us do everything we can to help them.'*  
**Patron in Chief, General Peter Cosgrove AK MC**



*'That young people who are homeless know they will always be welcomed and accepted at Rosies provides a very important sense of belonging.'*  
**Patron, Leneen Forde AC**

## 2015 VINNIES CEO SLEEPOUT THURSDAY 18 JUNE



Rosies Youth Mission is proud to be an organisation that volunteers our services in the CEO Sleepout.

Our staff and volunteers provide service from our street outreach vans to serve soup and a bread roll to those participating.



# Yes,

## I want to make a difference!

There are several simple options you can choose from below to improve the lives of people on the street.

### Step 1: Fill in your details

NAME

POSTAL ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

### Step 2: Choose your donation

I'd like to give:

\$25    \$50    \$100    \$200

Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Yes! I'd like to be part of the Sandra Hazel Pledge Fund by making a monthly donation

Please send me some information about leaving a bequest to Rosies

Please direct my donation to:

Blankets    Outreach development    Greatest need

### Step 3: Payment details

Please find enclosed my cheque made out to Rosies Youth Mission Inc

Please debit my credit card

Visa    Mastercard    AMEX    Diners

CARD NUMBER

EXPIRY DATE

### Step 4: Send

Please send your completed form to Rosies:

**Post:** PO Box 908, WYNNUM QLD 4178

**Phone:** 1300 ROSIES - 1300 767 437

**Fax:** 07 3396 3205 **Email:** admin@rosies.org.au

Donations \$2 and over are tax deductible.

## Bequests: Giving to the future

Many of us want to feel like we've made a difference in our lifetimes, but sometimes our circumstances are such that we don't have time to volunteer or money to give directly right now.

A bequest is a way that you can make a difference that will last into the future. It's also a lasting gesture that embodies your beliefs and values in a very tangible way.

Choosing to leave a gift to Rosies in your Will is a wonderful way to make a difference to the people who most

need the unconditional love that Rosies gives. It's an ongoing gift of compassion to the homeless, imprisoned, and disenfranchised adults and children that Rosies serves. You can continue to care for people beyond your lifetime – it can be your legacy of love.

If you would like to leave a gift to Rosies in your Will, but are unsure how, please talk to your solicitor, or give the Rosies office a call on 1300 ROSIES (1300 767 437). Your enquiry will be confidential, and there's no obligation involved.

## CONTACT US

If you would like to make a donation, find out about our volunteering program or further information on Rosies:

P: 1300 Rosies (767 437)

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PO Box 908  
Wynnum QLD 4178

P: 07 3396 4267

F: 07 3396 3205

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