

Winter 2019

ROSIES

Friends on the Street

God knows our desire to be known, to be loved. He made us for companionship. Our friends can be our greatest source of love, healing, joy and encouragement.



Sharing friendship creates belonging. Dare to reach out together

The Juggling Scholar



Matty, also known as the Juggler, is your go-to person for anything related to: history, archaeology, juggling, unicycles, robbing beehives, television, film and the many things going on in Brisbane.

Often seen outside of the Law Courts in George Street or King George Square, he is a local identity. People approach him to chat as if they have known him his whole life that is always a pleasant surprise.

Matty does not waste his time or skills when joining a Rosies outreach. Many a Rosies volunteer benefited from his generous instruction, particularly in the art of juggling. It seems these are essential life skills for the modern world.

A thirst for learning is not determined by your circumstances, is Matty's motto. He studied archaeology at University and fondly remembers many a debate with lecturers about the importance of accurate information. Matty says he fully intends continuing to visit his friends at Rosies to share a story and a cordial.

Young and Daring

As a little fella, Liam used to watch his dad go off to volunteer at a soup kitchen. This laid a foundation for Liam as he saw this example demonstrated over and over again both at home and at school.

Liam began volunteering with Rosies while still at school in Brisbane. Since graduating he has moved to Cairns and taken the volunteering spirit with him. Now, not so little but still very young, **only 19**, he is currently on 4 outreach teams each month. This may seem a lot for one so young but Liam doesn't think so. He enjoys doing it – developing friendships with patrons, remembering their names, hearing about what's going on and... don't forget, making new friendships with the other volunteers. Each night after outreach he reflects on his good fortune, a warm meal, a shower, a bed to sleep in, simple things often taken for granted until you see others without such basics.

The Quiet Achievers

On February 5th 2006, Rosies began outreaching at the Aspley Acres Caravan Park. This started as a regular BBQ with a trailer supplied by Brisbane City Council. Padua and Mt Alvernia Colleges were invited to join Rosies for this new adventure. The patrons commented recently the owner has made significant improvements to living conditions - great news!



For thirteen years, Lyn and Wally Gaggin have picked up the BBQ trailer each month from its Wynnum home and transported it to Aspley. They no longer need to pick up the trailer as the branch has its own based in Geebung, yet every month they can still be found at the outreach. Wally in charge of the BBQ and Lyn assisting with the food preparation, both doing so with smiles and hellos for the many people who join the outreach.



**Liam (pictured left) and friends
Liam we appreciate what you do.**



Welcome Father Casmir OMI

Our new Oblate Chaplain grew up in Devakotti, India and at 17 began his initial priestly studies in Chennai. In 2012, he travelled to Melbourne to undertake his theological studies and was ordained a priest in 2017.

Priests and nuns from his local area demonstrated a commitment to friendship and consistent concern for the community which inspired him to join the Oblates. Following in the footsteps of Saint Eugene de Mazenod, the founder of the Oblates, he intends to fulfil his dreams of leading a meaningful life.

Fr Casmir's first mission in Australia will see him splitting his time between Cannon Hill Parish and Rosies plus a presence around Iona College. He has previous experience with Rosies joining our sister organisation in Melbourne and Schoolies 7 years ago. The work of Rosies will enable this young missionary help make a connection with the marginalised and abandoned within our communities. Following the example of many wonderful Oblate Chaplains, he is eager to put on the Rosies red and be a presence on the street in his new home state.

OUR FOUNDATIONS IONA COLLEGE

While the Oblates provide the spiritual foundation, Iona has long been the physical home of Rosies, providing facilities for our Head Office and much appreciated technical support.

Established in 1958, Iona College seeks to provide a dynamic Catholic learning community within the Oblate spirit, so that its members are faith filled, resilient, courageous, well balanced and prepared to make a difference.

Each year, during Term 2 Iona dedicates their social justice program to Rosies. Throughout the term, the boys gather many non-perishable foods to be used on outreach and also raise funds for Rosies. Some of the events they are hosting include:

Run for Rosies Wear Red for Rosies Pie Drive Milo mornings Rosies Sleep-out

Teams from Iona joined Rosies outreaches in 2000 and continue under the dedicated guidance of Mr Wayne Wilden. Iona's involvement with Rosies has been replicated by over 65 Schools statewide.

Run For Rosies

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- \$5 Entry
- Soft Drink and Snags will be included.
- Friday 10 May 3:30-5:15pm (Week 3)
- The Lourdes Hill Cross Country team will be joining us.

Brisbane City

Earlier in the year a young woman attended a Rosies outreach in the city. During the course of the evening, she began to experience stomach cramps that quickly became serious. The volunteers called for an ambulance and with our best wish she left for hospital. Often volunteers never find out what happened after the ambulance drove away.

However, some weeks later the same woman arrived back at outreach carefully carrying her bundle of joy. The stomach cramps were actually labour pains and her young child joined her only a few short hours after leaving Rosies. Mother and child are doing well.



“News of the night, Michaela is in a **house** with her youngest son **Donald** and she is **over the moon**”



Gold Coast Drop In Centre

The Gold Coast North hosts the only drop in centre across Rosies 15 branches. The drop in centre has been active since November 2011 providing friendship and simple meals to those in need within the local community.

The centre is located in a small area of a central car park in Southport. While the external ambience may be somewhat drab, once you walk through the door the warmth, friendship, smiles and G 'days abound. The sense of Rosies mission is almost palpable.

Recently small but significant renovations have been undertaken making the centre even more hospitable for patrons. While the environment has been enhanced it is the dedication of volunteers which brings the place alive, this is truly a place where friends gather to share friendship, a place of real community.

Gold Coast South

Full steam ahead at one of our newest branches. While there has been rather a lot of rain lately, and always on outreach nights!! This has not deterred the volunteers from their mission. Even with rain dripping the spirits are high and music from the newly donated guitar wafts through the area. Singing in the rain, just singing in the rain.

“Connor was in a **great mood** but is starting to go over the top with the **hugging**”



SUNSHINE COAST

Ditching the winter coat

A wonderful team from Hair Aid have recently joined our outreach on a trial basis. Over the last three sessions, 26 patrons have walked away from Street Outreach with a wide brimmed smile looking dashing. Who doesn't feel good after a great haircut? Apparently, the Mullet style is 'in' now, but then did it ever fade. A huge thank you to Natalie and her team for making the patrons feel that little bit extra special." Gauging the response of our patrons Natalie and friends will be back often.



IPSWICH



It's getting cold out Ipswich way too, and the patrons welcome those great coats the Order of Malta supply us every year. Thankfully, they fit all sizes keep the chill out and the rain off. Barry and the local crew have also had to shift camp on Friday nights due to reconstruction of the mall. Our friends from the Anglican Church have come to the rescue and allowed us to use the beautiful front drive.

CAIRNS

Arriving to a large number of patrons on a rainy night can be challenging. Many of our volunteers are old hands and taking it in their stride - interacting with the patrons, keeping spirits high and serving a hot shepherd's pie. The patrons are very appreciative especially in the wet, and while the meal is filling, the friendship creates the sense of community for all those attending. With the dynamic Coordinating duo of Gina and Werner, relationships with other key services are developing strongly. On top of that we they have welcomed a great new bunch of volunteers and the amazing array of supporters all over the City.

TOOWOOMBA

As our Toowoomba branch prepares for the approaching chilly 'Downs weather' the outreaches have been experiencing a few changes. Due to circumstances out of Rosies control a couple of outreach locations had to be changed at short notice. "No time to whinge or complain, just tell us the new plan and off we go". Both volunteers and patrons were quickly informed and a smooth transition was made for all.



Gold Coast Coordinator (Drop-in Centre)



After retiring from the University of New South Wales, Kathleen and her husband relocated to the Gold Coast. The kids wouldn't move out of home so we did!

Ensnconced in Surfers Paradise, she would walk past St John's Church and often see a group of men sitting outside. The men were always polite and would always call out 'Good Morning'.

Sometime later Kathleen found herself in Church. She has been wondering what she would do to keep herself busy in retirement – always with a desire to help those less fortunate than herself. Lo and behold! At mass that day, there were two people from Rosies seeking to sign up volunteers. She took this as a sign! Kathleen signed up for Rosies to volunteer at the drop in centre.

Well, whom should she see on her first day? The gentlemen she says hi to each day on her morning walk past St John's.

Kathleen is dynamic, incredibly caring, yet not frightened to demand good manners. Her commitment and skills quickly saw her take on leadership roles in the Court outreach and then the branch. She has made the drop-in centre home for so many patrons as she leads teams tirelessly in sprucing it up regularly. This is Kathleen's second stint as Coordinator following some years back in Sydney on family duties. Seven years with Rosies and counting.

What drives Kathleen to continue volunteering with Rosies? "Being able to make a difference. Be a friend. Try to make another's life softer. **My best advice is, talk from the heart**".

Behind the Scenes

Behind-the-scenes there is a quiet group of talented staff and committed volunteers who are responsible for taking care of 15 Branches. Head office is run on a tight budget with our part time staff (2xFTE) providing support in training, rostering, logistics, communications and much more for coordinators, team leaders and volunteers.

Cath Lindsay - State Coordinator

Lee McKaskill – Finance Officer

Judy Hamilton – Project Officer

Claudia Rivera – Admin Officer



LOYAL FRIENDS

During an annual holiday at Broadbeach many years ago, Ken and Lois from Pymble, NSW heard about Rosies at church. Ever since their donations have been regular as Queensland sunshine. It was great to chat with Ken on the phone – his voice is steady at 90 – and it seemed like we'd known each other for years. Unfortunately, Lois is unwell and she is mentioned especially in our monthly prayers for supporters, patrons and volunteers.

Steve from Riverhills can't remember when he started supporting Rosies but it's before our available records. "Homelessness is a cause that needs addressing and Rosies does a great job", he said. "It's obvious what Rosies does and how they care is so valuable". Your contribution Steve is also so valuable.

Over 500 supporters have been consistent givers for more than 10 years.

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

Thanks to our supporters

Our mission is only possible through the support of over 1,500 donors (in-kind and in cash) like Logan Diggers Club (pictured) with the indefatigable volunteer, Brian. Unfortunately, we cannot mention everyone but here are a few:



BioPak • LUCRF Super Community Program • LJ Hooker • Club Kawana • Queensland Community Foundation • Community Benefit Fund • Hilton Hotel (Surfers Paradise) • Lions Clubs • Rotary Clubs • John Laing Charitable Trust • MacPherson Kelley Foundation • McMahon Family Foundation • Iona College • OZ Harvest: Catholic Church Insurance Ltd • CM and JA Whitehouse Foundation • Don Barton OAM • Flannery Foundation • Karen and Gavin Bird • Daryl and Carole Pryke • Heritage Bank • Skypoint • Activ8 Change • Paul Gorrie: Halpin Partners • Aston Milan Homes • Uniting Church in Beenleigh and Aspley • Anglican communities in Wynnum, Manly and Toowoomba • Catholic parishes in all our communities • Iona College • St Andrew's Catholic College, Redlynch • St Ursula's College, Toowoomba...

Safe Travelling - safe hospitality



The only significant asset owned by Rosies is our fleet, 18 outreach vans and 4 BBQ trailers. The vans are not only the crucial tool for our mission but also provide our premier advertising medium.

Each van has the triple function of transporting volunteers, providing a built in hospitality bar and carrying supplies. In 2015, we embarked on a fleet renewal process to enhance volunteer safety, ensure clean and efficient café service plus accommodate a range of consumables as well as seating, blankets and toiletries. Due to low mileage needs, we purchase second-hand vehicles and use an expert fit-out provider on the Gold Coast, Safe-t-Ride.



Toyota Hi-ace is the preferred model due to its dimensions and configuration. The total cost per van is around \$45,000. Fit-outs now include a solar panel and back up battery plus distress alarm.

Thanks to a number of generous donors/grantors (acknowledged on back page), we have been able to upgrade the vans in Beenleigh, Brisbane City, Cairns, Logan Central, and Ipswich as well as procure ones for our new branches at Gold Coast South, Brisbane North and Wynnum Manly.

Where can you find us on the street?

Beenleigh – South Brisbane – Nundah – Brisbane CBD – Caboolture – Cairns – Southport – Surfers Paradise – Nerang – Burleigh – Palm Beach – Ipswich – Logan Central – Mareeba – Caloundra – Toowoomba – Wynnum Manly



We highly value every donation.

Over the last 5 years we have managed to keep our operating costs at the same level whilst growing our activity more than 80%.

Friendship – A good investment

A friend of mine, who has for many years delivered bread and other essentials to a local boarding house, commented recently, "Since Rosies has started regular outreaches at the boarding house there has been a discernible shift in the mood of the place – much calmer and residents much friendlier."

Every year, through you, our generous volunteers and supporters, the mission of Rosies continues. Because of the time, money and effort you offer, the reach of friendship continues to grow. In the last 12 months, teams have commenced sharing friendship in the communities of Palm Beach, Burleigh and Nundah. Sadly in 2019, we have also seen a noticeable increase in the number of patrons and more varied behaviour.

As members of the Rosies family, we are blessed. Whatever our own circumstances, we are blessed by friendship and belonging to this remarkable organisation founded and supported through the Oblate spirit. A friendship that Jesus Christ offers us through each other and in him.


Let us continue the blessings. It is a good investment.

Deacon Andrew O'Brien, General Manager

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



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



Friendship – A good investment

Please return your completed form and donation to the address above

First name _____ Surname _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Position _____ Organisation (if applicable) _____

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

☐ 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 is there when someone needs a friend