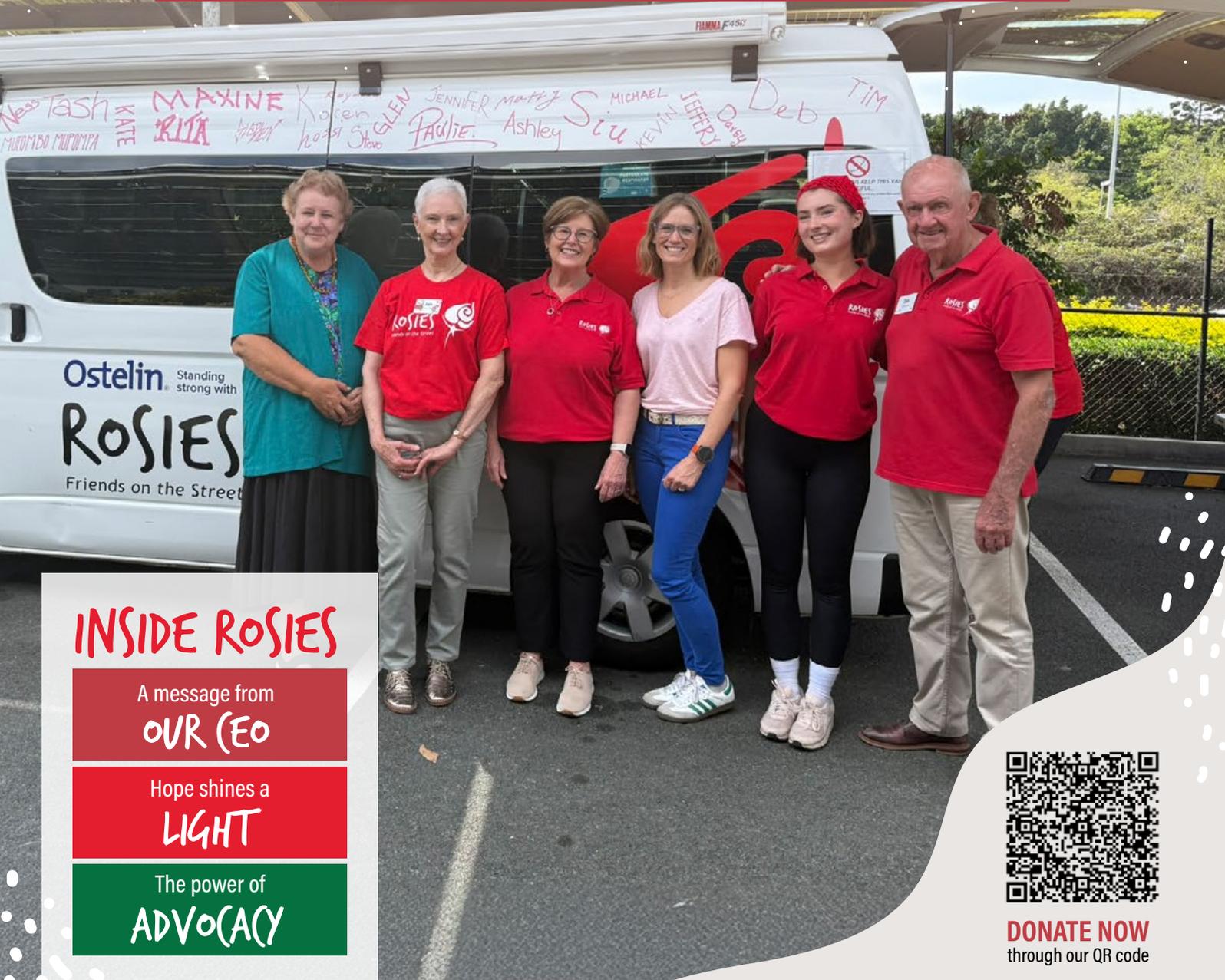


ROSIES



Friends on the Street

SHARING FRIENDSHIP CREATES BELONGING. DARE TO REACH OUT TOGETHER.



INSIDE ROSIES

A message from
OUR CEO

Hope shines a
LIGHT

The power of
ADVOCACY



DONATE NOW
through our QR code



A MESSAGE from our CEO

When we look at the statistics, the outlook can seem bleak. There are 3.3 million people in Australia living below the poverty line. Here in Queensland, 1 in every 8 people lives in poverty and we have the fastest growing homelessness rate in the country at 22%, three times the national average. In regional areas, it's even higher at 29%. These numbers are sobering, and they can feel overwhelming.

But when I attend outreach and speak with our patrons, I'm reminded that behind every number is a person. Outreach is so often a joyful experience, even amid hardship and uncertainty. There's laughter, warmth, connection and the deep humanity that shines through in the simple act of sharing time.

At Rosies, our mission has always been about more than a hot drink or a bite to eat. It's about presence — being there for those who need it most. A warm smile. Calling someone by name. Remembering how they take their coffee. Listening to their story without judgement.

Through these small but powerful gestures, our volunteers create moments of belonging, moments that say *"you matter, you are seen, you are valued"*. Moments that bring light into the darkness and hope into the hardest of times.

As we enter the holiday season, I encourage you to carry that same spirit with you. Bring light and hope to those around you. Each of us has the power to make a real difference — to change a moment, a day, or even a life — through a single act of kindness.

Thank you for your continued support of Rosies - Friends on the Street. We are an extraordinary community of compassion and connection, changing the world one kind word, shared smile and human moment at a time.

With gratitude,

Jayne Shallcross
CEO

Rosies - Friends on the Street

WHAT ROSIES MEANS TO ME...

Messages from our patrons

Rosies is my lifeline when I'm out here with no one else. When I see that van, I know I'll get a cuppa and someone who actually talks to me like I'm human. They don't judge how I ended up here. Without them, I reckon I'd have given up a long time ago.

- Mark

When it gets dark and cold, I know they'll be here with a hot drink and a smile. Those few minutes talking to the crew can make the night feel less heavy. Without that, the street would swallow me up.

- Jess

Rosies is everything to me. When my family turned their back, Rosies didn't. They say my name, they ask how I'm doing, even when I'm not doing too good. That little bit of care keeps me going.

- Jakob

Rosies is so much more than free food or coffee. It's the only place I feel welcome when everyone else wants me gone. They'll sit with me, have a yarn, treat me like I matter. Sometimes that's all I need to get through another night.

- Kyle



SHARING HOPE AND SALVATION THIS CHRISTMAS

A message from **Fr Joshua Nash OMI**

When Christ was born on Christmas Day, to whom was the message of hope and salvation announced? Was it to the rich and powerful? To kings, lords and ladies?

Heaven to people suffering oppression and proclaiming salvation, freedom and liberation. It gave hope at a time when many were about to give up and it shone like a bright light dispelling the darkness. This message not only announced the birth of a baby boy but the beginning of a new age where the "mighty are cast from their thrones and the lowly are lifted up" (Lk 1:52).

The angels delivered their message to shepherds because they were the ones who needed to hear it.

Who needs to hear a message of hope this Christmas?

Is it the kind woman who sleeps in her car night after night? Is it the man alone with his greyhound who is just trying to make a new life? Is it any one of the thousands of patrons that Rosies meets on the streets?

The work of Rosies is not just about food and drink or blankets and toiletries. These are wonderful gifts to someone who doesn't have them but Rosies offers something more profound.

Rosies' volunteers spend hours on the streets, late at night and early in the morning; in the heat of the sun or in pouring rain.

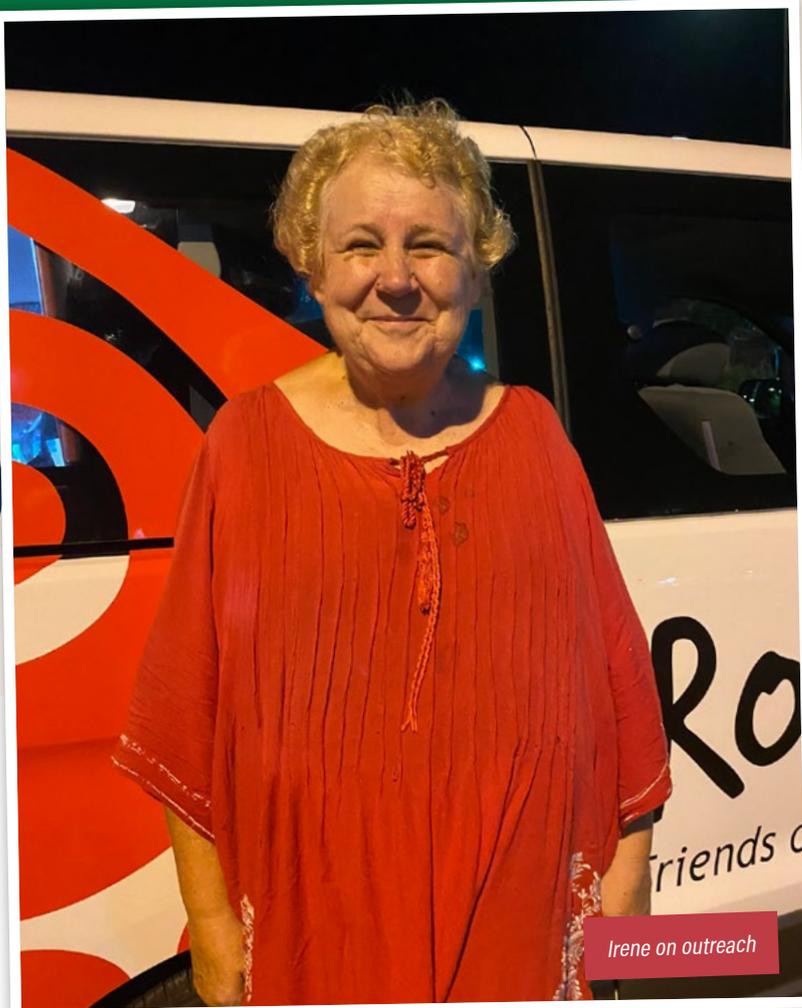
They are there, listening to the voices of the ones to whom the angels proclaimed the birth of our Messiah. They are there to bring hope, to be a light in the darkness, a companion, a friend.

Rosies volunteers don't appear in heavenly light, but in simple red t-shirts. Rosies volunteers don't sing like choirs of angels but they do offer the same message of hope.

Your support this Christmas will ensure that our Rosies volunteers can continue to bring hope and light to those whom God looks down upon with love. May the message of Christmas resound from heaven once more to those who need to hear it now.

May your
GIFT OF HOPE
be the difference in someone's
life this Christmas





A LIGHT IN THE DARKEST TIMES

Irene's Next Chapter

Irene arrives at Caboolture train station on a crisp September night in her car, her home for the past few years. The passenger seat is reclined for sleep, with makeshift curtains drawn for privacy. Yet despite the harsh reality of living without a house, Irene steps out gracefully, dressed in a lovely red blouse and long skirt, carrying a fruit platter she'd collected from another community service to share with others.

At Rosies' Caboolture outreach, Irene has become a familiar face and a source of comfort. She moves through the group like a mother hen, speaking gently and offering hugs to those who need them. From her car, she hands out noodles, blankets, cookware and jackets to patrons. Her care for others is endless, even when she has so little.

We introduced Irene in our 2023 Christmas Newsletter, where she shared her story of resilience and finding friendship through Rosies. In 2024, Irene joined us at the first Rosies Long Lunch, where she spoke about how far she'd come and the community that walks beside her. And in the past year, Irene has become a passionate advocate for people experiencing homelessness across the Moreton Bay Region.

This new role began when she discovered that the local council had passed laws penalising people for sleeping in cars or camping in public spaces. "One night I was feeling unwell and parked at a local park to rest," she recalled. "I woke to find 12 officers surrounding my car. I was fined and told to move on but they had no suggestions for where I could go."

Through the friendship and consistency of volunteers, she has found a sense of belonging that no fine or eviction notice can take away, transforming her pain into purpose.

Just days later, when a cyclone struck the region, Irene quickly rallied others sleeping rough, helping them find safety at the local evacuation centre.

During those four days, I became a friend, a mother and a counsellor. When it was time to leave, many had nowhere to go. We had lost so much.

With the temporary shelter closed, Irene started speaking out. She joined rallies in Brisbane and Strathpine, was interviewed by *The Courier-Mail* and began working with the advocacy group Street Up. "My life took on new meaning," she said. "I wasn't just standing up for myself anymore, I was standing up for everyone doing it tough."

Irene continues to highlight the daily realities many Queenslanders face: the exhaustion of constant movement, the danger of sleeping outside and limited access to showers, meals and safety.



Irene at the Rosies Long Lunch 2024



Caboolture Branch Coordinator Jan Youngman & Irene at Ostelin Purpose Day

"Homelessness is survival," she said. "You get tired, hungry and scared and many lose hope. But without community support, many more would simply give up."

That's why Irene still shows up at Rosies' Caboolture outreach every Friday night. "Rosies has been a lifeline," she said. "Their kindness, care and consistency, that's what keeps people going. The volunteers don't judge. They listen, they smile, they remind us that we matter."

As Christmas approaches, Irene's message to the community is simple.

“ We can all make a difference. Like a light bulb, one small act can brighten someone's world. The more of us who care, the more hope there is for change. ”



Irene, the Rosies Team and Sarah Potheccary from Ostelin (White Shirt)

For Irene, Rosies is not just a place to share a cuppa or a chat, it's a place where compassion can outshine even the darkest nights. Your gift this Christmas helps ensure that people like Irene continue to have somewhere safe to turn, somewhere to feel seen, valued and loved.

PLEASE DONATE TODAY

Help Rosies be the light for those experiencing darkness.



WHAT ROSIES MEANS TO ME

Messages from our patrons

Rosies is where I cook my veggies in a cup of boiling water 'cause I got no stove, no kitchen, just this street. Might look silly to some, but it's all I've got to fill my belly. No one laughs or makes me feel bad about it. Rosies lets me feel normal for five minutes. And over time, it became so much more. It became the hug I needed when no one else wanted to hug me.

- Leslie

Rosies is connection I never thought I'd find again. You lose a lot living out here... friends, family, hope. But Rosies remembers my name when no one else does. Makes me feel like maybe I ain't invisible after all.

- Pete



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

Friendship - A good investment

Please donate online at www.rosies.org.au OR return your completed form to PO Box 431, Cannon Hill QLD 4170

Full Name _____

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Phone _____

Email _____

Donation options

Please debit my credit card: (circle one)

Visa American Express Mastercard Diners

Card Number _____

Expiry Date _____ CCV _____

Name of Card _____

Signature _____

Option 1: I'd like to make a monthly gift of \$ _____

Option 2: I'd like to make a single gift

\$50 \$150 \$500 \$1000 Other \$ _____

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Reference NO <your name>

Please send me information on leaving a gift in my Will.



Rosies.org.au
P (07) 3396 4267
PO Box 431, Cannon Hill QLD 4170



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