



ROSS HOUSE
ASSOCIATION

**2017 RHA
COMMITTEE**

CHAIRPERSON

Valerie Elliott
(Handknitters Guild)

VICE CHAIR

Christine McAuslan
(COSHG)

TREASURER

Keith Bettles
(U3A City of Melbourne)

De Grebner
(TreeProject)

Charles Brass
(Futures Foundation)

Samantha Thornton
(Appointed Member, Staff
representative)

Michael Griffiths
(Ex-officio, RHA General
Manager)

IN THE HOUSE

OCTOBER 2017

We are seeking your support to
develop a new **STRATEGIC PLAN**
for Ross House Association.

**All members are encouraged
to participate in the conversation.**

The process runs from October 2017 until June 2018. We will soon commence a community engagement process so that all voices can be heard, and reflected in the final Strategic Plan.

WORKING WITH US...



Desley Renton & Martin de los Rios
Both are very experienced
community engagement specialists.

**SURVEY DUE OUT
EARLY NOVEMBER**

**What can you expect in...
NOVEMBER 2017**

There will be a number of ways
to participate including;

- ⚙️ face to face interviews
- ⚙️ a survey

All members will receive the survey, keep an eye out in your inbox for your chance to contribute. Paper copies also available.

Ross House Association AGM

The Ross House Association AGM will take place on Wednesday 15th November 2017 in the Hayden Raysmith Room (from 11am). Registration will be from 10.45am, with lunch to follow. Our Community Engagement specialists, Renton & Co, will also be presenting at this year's event, so we hope to see you there.



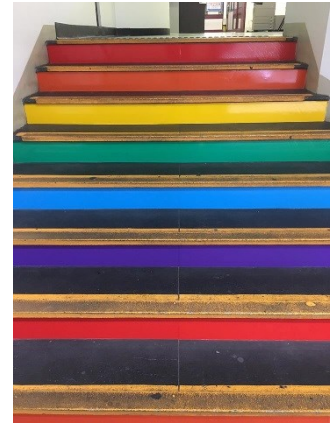
Building & Maintenance

There's always a lot going on in this big old building of ours, so please make sure you keep an eye out for the building maintenance emails that circulate regularly.

- ⚙ The Ground Floor meeting room has now been painted.
- ⚙ The Ground Floor corridor carpet has been replaced.
- ⚙ The Resource area on the Ground Floor has been opened up - lots more space now!
- ⚙ The entrance steps into Ross House are now the colours of the rainbow!
- ⚙ The Ross House Association membership renamed the Ground Floor meeting room The Rainbow Room.

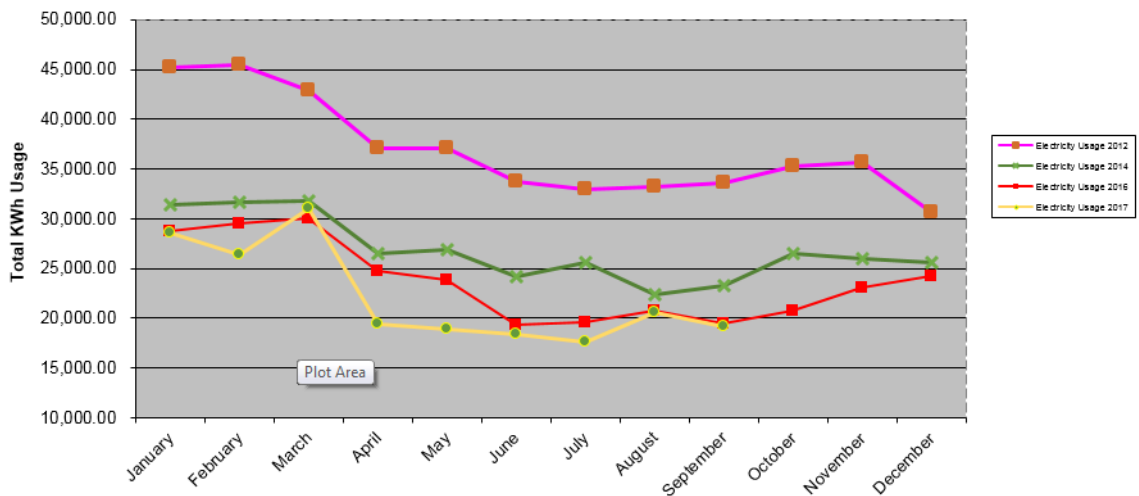
Upcoming works

- ⚙ Level 1, meeting room 1 will be soundproofed - this will take place from 31st October to 2nd November 2017.
- ⚙ The NBN is also making its way into the building - watch this space for more information.
- ⚙ Painting will continue throughout the building wherever necessary.



Ross House Association continues to make incredible energy savings as a result of sustainability works to the building, behaviour change and continued commitment from the entire Ross House community. Compared to 2012 the reduction is remarkable.

Electricity Comparison 2012 - 2017
 Ross House
 247-251 Flinders Lane Melbourne VIC 3000



Ross House 30th Anniversary Event

On Wednesday 11th of October 2017, we celebrated the 30th Anniversary of the opening of Ross House. The celebrations happened over two individual events; a networking luncheon followed by a Members only After Party. Both events were well attended and there were a number of fantastic speakers including The Right Honourable Lord Mayor Robert Doyle AC, Christine McAuslan from COSHG, Pauline Williams and Amanda Milliar from AMIDA and Deborah Carveth from Community Music Victoria.



Speaking at the After Party was Valerie Elliot, RHA Chairperson, and Professor Hayden Raysmith and Sue Healy, who both have had a long involvement with Ross House over many years. Thank you to everyone who contributed in some shape or form on (and leading up to) the day - what a wonderful milestone for Ross House!



New website update

We are very excited to announce that the new Ross House Association website will be launched in the next couple of weeks!

The new website will not only look very different to the current one, it will include an online booking system, unlike we have had before, that will allow you to see what rooms are available in real time, and allow you to make one-off bookings on the spot.

Another difference is that you will now need to have a user account, but don't worry, we are setting this up for you! Next week you will receive an email providing you with your username and temporary password. Please note, the email address this will be sent to is the main contact email we have on file for your organisation.

We can confirm that your billing arrangements will not change. You will still be invoiced at the beginning of each month and payment terms will still be 14 days. We will however have additional payment options, as we will be able to accept payments made via PayPal.

Please keep an eye on your inbox for emails advising of your username and password and the date of the new website launch.

For members and tenants needing some extra training on how to use the new website, please do not hesitate to contact the Ross House Front Desk on (03) 9650 1599.

For any other questions or concerns, please contact Amber Moore, Development Program Manager on 9650 1599 or email amber.moore@rosshouse.org.au



Community Consultation at Ross House

Please head down to Collaboration HQ in the Ross House resource area on ground level, to have your say on what comes to mind when you think of Community Engagement.

In the coming weeks, this area will become the hub of our Community Consultation process, which will result in the development of a new Strategic Plan, in 2018. So if you have something to say, we would love to hear from you!



CMVic Singing Camp

Join CMVic for a weekend of non-stop singing!

The CMVic Singing Camp is a peer-exchange open to everyone including singing leaders (aspiring and fully fledged) and anyone who loves to sing. Immerse yourself, relax and recharge in the beautiful surroundings of Amberley. Share skills, swap songs and enjoy this weekend-long series of singing opportunities and workshops for all. Leave enriched and with great resources to use in your community. For more information, please visit www.cmvic.org.au



Great news for Brain Injury Matters (BIM)

Brain Injury Matters (BIM) has had a successful year and fortunately receiving a grant of \$41,000 from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), through their Disability Advocacy Innovation Fund.

With these funds, BIM will be working on a project that will include the re-development of their current website and also increase their social media presence. A project manager and ABI worker have been employed to run the project.

The new website and social media platform will enable BIM and its members to talk, listen and collaborate with each other, with the wider ABI community and with key external stakeholders.

www.braininjurymatters.org



MELBOURNE NON-PROFIT FINANCE TRAINING

**Are financials like another language?
Finding it hard to understand what those numbers really mean?**

Then this is the course for you. It will guide you to learn the basic concepts behind financial reports and help you to understand what all those facts and figures really mean in a friendly, fun and supportive environment.

In this session you will learn to:

- Understand the jargon and terminology
- Assess if good financial governance is in place
- Interpret the financial reports
- Develop your budget for the financial year
- Calculate the organisation's financial health
- Link the strategic plan to the budget and financial reports
- Determine the appropriate level of equity for your organisation
- Understand the financial controls required to protect your assets

**ROSS HOUSE MEMBERS
SPECIAL SAVE 40%**

WHEN
Friday 17 November, 2017

WHERE
NPT Training Room
Level 9, 313 La Trobe St
Melbourne VIC 3000

TIME
9.30am to 4.30pm

COST (GST incl.)
\$144 per person
RH member discount, normally \$240

TO BOOK
Contact NPT
P: 1300 144 113
E: info@nonprofittraining.com.au

Non Profit Training
educating and empowering those with purpose

BOOK EARLY - DON'T MISS OUT!



Grants News

Top Grant Writing Tips

1. Follow the guidelines and align your project to what the funder is looking for. If you're unsure, contact the grant provider directly.
2. If you see a grant that you may be eligible for but it closes in less than 7 days – think twice! Quality applications require plenty of time and attention.
3. Keep it short. Sometimes grant providers have to read 100's of applications. Concise yet informative applications will stand out and be appreciated.
4. In strategic giving, it's all about the outcomes. Be focussed on your outcome and how this aligns with your organisations mission statement.
5. Acknowledge your key risks and how you will mitigate them.
6. Advise how success will be measured.

There are many grants open at the moment, but here are a couple of grants that look great.

The **Australian Communities Foundation** funding program is an ongoing program offering support for charitable organisations.

Australian Communities Foundation (ACF) supports a range of charitable organisations and projects each year. Grants are made locally, Australia wide and internationally through Australian registered charitable organisations and fall broadly into the areas of:

- ⚙ Arts and culture
- ⚙ Community development and advocacy
- ⚙ Community services and welfare
- ⚙ Disability
- ⚙ Education
- ⚙ Training and employment
- ⚙ Environment
- ⚙ Health and medical research
- ⚙ Overseas aid and development

Specific target groups are also supported, including Indigenous communities and refugee/asylum seekers. There is no formal submission process for organisations seeking funds from the ACF. Eligible organisations can submit a request for a grant via our online submission form.

Eligible organisations must have the following ATO endorsements:

- ⚙ TCC – Tax Concession Charity, and
- ⚙ DGR – Deductible Gift Recipient status.

For more information please visit: <http://www.communityfoundation.org.au/grants/>

The **R.E. Ross Trust** grants program is ongoing and offering grants of up to \$30,000.

The R.E. Ross Trust grants program provides funding for projects that have a positive impact on people's lives.

The Trust will direct resources towards projects and other activities that:

- ⚙ Address disadvantage and inequity
- ⚙ Encourage and promote social inclusiveness, community connectedness, health and well being
- ⚙ Protect and preserve Australian flora and fauna

The Trust currently accepts applications under four chosen impact areas:

- ⚙ Improved outcomes for the most disadvantaged, vulnerable and marginalised Victorians
- ⚙ Improved outcomes for children and young people at risk (0-18 years)
- ⚙ Improved access to and achievement of equity and excellence in public education
- ⚙ Protection and preservation of Australian flora and fauna

Applicants are not required to have DGR or TCC status.

For more information please visit: <http://rosstrust.org.au/grants/>

Metro Rail Update



The Demolition of Port Phillip Arcade is about to get underway; here are some key events and dates that you should know:

- From 31st October 2017, Port Phillip Arcade will be permanently closed.
- Demolition will start from 1st November 2017, with internal strip out works and asbestos removal.
- Demolition of the external structure will commence from January 2018.

If you would like more information on the project, please visit metrotunnel.vic.gov.au or phone 1800 551 927.

Calxa Club is coming to the house....



Ross House will be the location for the [Melbourne Calxa Club](#) on Tuesday 5th December at 10am.

The 2-hour session will host Calxa's not-for-profit customers, who are ready to move their accounts online. The event will start off with a presentation on the benefits of using Calxa Online and move on to Q&A, followed by a cuppa and the opportunity to network.

These sessions have one common goal - learn, share and grow. Participants always get involved in discussions, debates and generously share their experiences. *"Very welcoming and helpful"*, Melissa Tully from Women's Health East.

Ross House members are invited to [join the free event](#). Come along and talk to the Calxa Team and meet some of their customers.

For more information, please visit www.calxa.com



Ross House joins TAKE2 to fight climate change

Ross House has pledged to [TAKE2](#), to support the Victorian Government's objective, to reach its net zero greenhouse gas emissions target by 2050.

We ask that our tenants, consider doing the same.

You might already know that nine out of 10 Victorians agree climate change is happening and humans are the cause.

[New research](#), commissioned by Sustainability Victoria (**SV**), reveals that four in five of us think everyone has a personal responsibility to take action on climate change. And nine in 10 think government, business and industry should also address the issue.

Given the greater impact climate change is expected to have on the disadvantaged, and Ross House's commitment to environmental and social justice, it makes sense that we have recently joined over 700 Victorian organisations in making the [TAKE2 pledge](#).

TAKE2 provides free advice and support to Victorian individuals, businesses, government, and educational and community organisations, to fight global warming.

It would be great to see members of the Ross House community also pledge their commitment to turning climate change around by joining TAKE2 and working to reduce Victoria's combined organisational and personal carbon footprints.

Together, we can make a positive difference on climate change. [Make the TAKE2 pledge](#) today.



Commonwealth Bank Not-for-Profit Treasurers' Award

We congratulate Keith Bettles, Ross House Association Treasurer, who recently received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Commonwealth Bank Not-For-Profit Treasurers' Awards 2017. Keith consistently goes above and beyond in his role as RHA Treasurer, so well done Keith!



New Members

Southern Rivers Community Services

Southern Rivers Community Services represents migrant refugees from three West African countries: Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea. The association was established in 2006 for the purpose of social cohesion between its members. www.friendsforgood.org.au



Climate for Change

Climate for Change seeks to create the social climate in which Australia's leaders can and will do what it takes to keep global warming well below two degrees, and ultimately bring it back down below one degree, as quickly and safely as possible. They do this by supporting people who are already committed to making changes, and encouraged them to have conversations about climate change with people around them, in order to build greater support and awareness.

2018 Member / Tenant Packs

You would have recently received your Member/ Tenant Packs for 2018. The packs offer members and tenants the opportunity to book meeting rooms for the coming year, and to express interest in reserving space in the Display Windows at the front of Ross House. All forms are optional, except for the Key Register Form which tenants and key holding members are asked to return. Forms are due back to Ross House by Friday 17th November, 2017.

Tenant Moves

The Climate Council, Stroke Association of Victoria and the U3A have moved out of the building. All groups remain proud members of the Ross House Association.



Jane Rosengrave: 19 Stories of Social Inclusion

A lot of people talk about 'social inclusion', but it's not always clear what they mean.

Often, too many Australians with disabilities are excluded and marginalised, but the 19 Stories team aim to find success stories and work backwards.

The 19 stories capture the diverse ways that people are living inclusively and help others understand the essence of what 'inclusion' can mean.

Jane Rosengrave, member of Ross House tenants' Woor-Dungin and Reinforce (both Ross House tenants) tells us of her story of survival and freedom.

Her message is displayed through art - her painting of *The Birds*, represents women flying away from domestic violence.

Read more about her story here - www.19stories.org/copy-of-story-14-2



Christina Noble Children's Foundation - GOW Challenge

Ready to make a difference in the world and step outside your comfort zone? The Noble Challenges, run by Christina Noble Children's Foundation, is about ordinary people achieving extraordinary things.

One of their next adventures is a 3-day Great Ocean Walk Noble Challenge, covering 37-40km across some of the best sections of the route. Each day on the Great Ocean Walk promises varied terrain and spectacular views. Take in breathtaking coastal scenery from the Cape Otway Light Station and the Gibson Steps, all the way to the 12 Apostles.

Upcoming Dates

☼ 16-18 February 2018 - 3 day trip

For more information, please visit

<https://www.cncf.org/great-ocean-walk.html>



COSHG - Celebrating 40 Years + AGM

Friends and supporters of COSHG are invited to the Collective of Self Help Groups (COSHG) 40th anniversary celebration and their AGM on Wednesday 8th November 2017 at 2pm, in the Hayden Raysmith room.

COSHG will also be running a Workshop '*Surviving and Thriving*' (on the same day) from 9:30am to 1:00pm. The workshop was previously set for the 21st September but was cancelled due to a high number of last minute cancellations by participants.

The following resolution will be proposed as a special resolution at the COSHG AGM.

'That the October 2017 revision of the 1986 COSHG Constitution be accepted'.

This revision of the current constitution includes the following changes:

- ☼ Amendments required according to 2012 Incorporations Act.
- ☼ Updated to reflect current language from the original 1986 version (which was last amended 19th November 2004).
- ☼ The revision has been based upon the Model Rules while retaining the ability to continue to act as a Collective.

If you are unsure of your status as a full (entitled to vote) member, please contact COSHG.

There will be copies of the constitution available at the AGM, or you can request one by contacting Christine via the contact details below.

<http://www.coshg.org.au>

info@coshg.org.au

(03) 9650 2005

Ross House, Level 3, Room 6, 247 Flinders Lane.
Wednesdays & Thursdays (10:00am - 4:00pm).

Thirty Years for Ross House, one hundred for Esperanto member - Marcel Leereveld



The current Vice President of the Melbourne Esperanto Association reaches 100 years of age on 4th December this year.

Marcel Leereveld joined Esperanto 60 years ago and has been a very active and valued member, teacher and president during those many decades. He is a world-renowned expert in the grammar and use of the international language.

Esperanto, for those who do not know, was invented in 1887 by a Polish oculist and linguist, Dr. Ludvig Zamenhof who, believed that the constant unrest and conflict between various ethnic groups was caused by a lack of understanding of each other's languages. He then spent many years perfecting the easy to learn "International Language" and his hope was that Esperanto would be taught as a second language to all students across the world.

The Melbourne Esperanto Assoc. was formed in 1903, and has remained active with enthusiastic members since then. The Melbourne Esperantists now meet twice a week – on Monday evenings at 6:30pm in The Rainbow Room (Ross House), and on Sundays at Federation Square. Marcel still guides the Monday evening meetings, writes each week in the Esperanto web journal, the "Australian Esperantist", and broadcasts regularly in the Esperanto radio timeslot on Mondays at 1pm on Ethnic Radio 3zzz (92.3FM). In the international Esperanto world, Marcel is renowned as an expert in grammar and the use of the language – the Esperanto's are extremely fortunate to have him as their "guiding star".

Happy birthday, Marcel.

www.esperanto.com.au



KNOTbound news

2016-17 has been a huge year of growth for KNOTbound. They continue to run their programs as well as launching new initiatives including the Dom Social Club, the Victorian Novice and Newbie workshop and various other educational classes at Ross House.

They also launched the Australian BDSM archives, acquired their mascot (Theo), ran various festival stalls, began development of an events management application, started the painstaking work of creating a training program for historical interviewers, collected the history of Eagle Leather, brought on more volunteers, formed a festival committee and much more! They have also successfully registered as a charity with the ACNC.

Well done Knotbound! Find out more at www.knotbound.com.au

Shakti AGM
Living in Australia

Workshop for migrant and refugee women

The workshop will aim to hear from women on their experiences in Australia and the issues they face after their arrival. The workshop will cover various issues of concern to immigrant women, including domestic violence. Followed by the Annual General meeting (AGM) in the afternoon.

Sharing your experiences

Promoting Human Rights

Improving community wellbeing

Community engagement

Creating awareness of domestic violence

Free event!
including morning tea & light lunch

When
16 November 2017
Workshop: 10 am - 2 pm
AGM: 2 pm - 4 pm

Where
Rowville Neighbourhood Learning Centre
40 Fulham Rd, Rowville 3178

How
Contact us and register at:
Ph: (03) 9753 4324, (03) 9639 3131
Email: melbourne@shakti-australia.org.au

SHAKTI



Ross House-keeping



After-hours

- ⚙️ A friendly reminder to please avoid letting people into the building who don't have their own swipe. Please advise someone trying to gain access to the building, that the correct process is for them to contact the organiser of their meeting. There are signs on each level of the building.
- ⚙️ Please do not prop any of the fire doors open with a chair or sticky tape - this is a serious hazard.

Meeting Rooms

- ⚙️ A huge thank you to those who are making last minute bookings via phone or at the Front Desk – we really appreciate it!
- ⚙️ Please do not remove chairs from meeting rooms. Please contact the Front Desk if you believe your meeting room should have more chairs in it.

Promotion

- ⚙️ Please bring down any brochures to the ground floor bookshelf – it's such a great way to promote your organisation!
- ⚙️ A reminder that the e-bulletin goes out every week to nearly 800 subscribers – send any info you would like included to rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au.
- ⚙️ Facebook! Join our Facebook page and keep up to date with our community news. Also, don't forget to please send your news and event items to Katie so we can help promote your organisation.

Finance

- ⚙️ A friendly reminder from Junxia, that Ross House invoice payment terms are 14 days.

Foyer

- ⚙️ Please check with the Front Desk before placing items such as folders and dvds in the resource area - thank you!

Reinforce invites you to "Melbourne through the Eyes of a Friend"

A STUNNING FILM LAUNCH AND PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

Celebrating Diversity, Disability, Humanity and the work of powerful self-advocates at Reinforce and their friends



Also featuring the release of Melbourne through the Eyes of a Friend Song

This event will celebrate International Day of Disability

When: November 29th 11.00 am to 1.00pm (Exhibition runs from November 29th to December 1st)

Where: Ross House 247 Flinders Lane Melbourne

RSVP to: sw@reinforce.org.au by November 22nd

This Project is a creative innovation of Reinforce and supported by Melbourne City Council

reinforce
self advocacy
OWNERSHIP OF OUR OWN LIVES



Welcome to Australia - Walk Together Event

Welcome to Australia held their annual national event - Walk Together: For Freedom, on Saturday 21st October in over 25 cities and towns across Australia.

The Melbourne event was a walk and festival filled with positivity and an overwhelming message of welcome to all migrants, refugees and people seeking asylum. MC'ed by comedian, Lehmo, guest speakers included Senator Richard Di Natale, Kon Karapanagiotidis (ASRC CEO), Andrew Giles MP, Ged Kearney (President ACTU) as well as Hanisha Sharma-Luitl and Shabnam Shafa, both former refugees and now community advocates.

Performances from multiple ethnic communities brought colour and fun to the day, with engaging dances from Colombia, Vietnam, Sri Lanka and Karen children from Myanmar.

Welcome to Australia would like to thank everyone that came along and joined in the festivities, and to all those volunteers that helped make the day what it was. www.welcometoaustralia.org.au



Melbourne Investment Discussion Group

Melbourne Investment Discussion Group provides a meeting place for seniors wanting to become more financially literate. The group offers opportunities for wider discussion and a forum, in which you will be able to learn the views and opinions of others, as well as float your own ideas.

This year they have hosted a diverse range of speakers from companies listed on the Australian Stock Exchange, to a financial information services officer, from Centrelink.

For more information ring Neville Daynes on 03 9500 1037 or email: npdaynes@bigpond.com.

You can also check out their Facebook page here <https://goo.gl/QcgoiT>

National Seniors
Australia





247-251 Flinders Lane
Melbourne VIC 3000

Phone: 03 9650 1599

Fax: 03 9650 3689

Email: rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au

www.rosshouse.org.au

in the house is a Ross House Association internal publication, produced six times a year.

If you would like to contribute an article, promote an event or share some exciting news about your organisation, keep your eye out for an email from Katie, advising of submission deadlines.

Please send all submissions to:
rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au

SUBSCRIPTION

You are receiving this newsletter because you are a member of Ross House Association. If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please send an email to rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au with UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line.

Ross House Association Staff



General Manager

Michael Griffiths

michael.griffiths@rosshouse.org.au



Facility Manager

Nazzareno Marchionda

n.marchionda@rosshouse.org.au



Development Program Manager

Amber Moore

amber.moore@rosshouse.org.au



Finance Officer

Junxia xu

junxia.xu@rosshouse.org.au



Membership & Tenancy Officer

Samantha Thornton

samantha.thornton@rosshouse.org.au

Casual staff

Rebecca Jahr

Greta McMahon

Lucie McMahon

Stephanie East

Patti Gerken



Information & Administration Officer

Katie Stadtfeld Cunnane

rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au

