

**ROSS HOUSE**  
ASSOCIATION

**2018 RHA  
COMMITTEE**

**CHAIRPERSON**

Christine McAuslan  
(COSHG)

**DEPUTY CHAIR**

David Martin  
(Asbestoswise)

**SECRETARY**

Alba Chliankhtine  
(ABRISA)

**TREASURER**

Keith Bettles  
(U3A City of Melbourne)

Charles Brass

(Futures Foundation)

De Grebner

(TreeProject)

Scot Muirden

(CBSF)

Valerie Elliot

(Handknitters Guild)

Richard Caven

(Appointed Member)

Nazzareno Marchionda

(Appointed Member RHA staff)

Michael Griffiths

(Ex-officio, RHA General Manager)

# IN THE HOUSE

JUNE 2018

## Ross House Association Strategic Plan Draft

The Ross House Association Strategic Plan Draft is now available for final comment by Ross House Members & Tenants, before it is adopted by the RHA Committee at the July meeting.

In September 2017, the Association commenced a comprehensive community consultation process with the aim of producing a community led, 5-year strategic plan. This process involved a wide-reaching stakeholder survey, hour long one-on-one interviews and a community collaborative team of 14 members, who examined the Association in detail over three full days, whilst hearing from a range of professional speakers.

This draft Ross House Association Strategic Plan is the accumulation of input from each stage of the consultation process and has been produced by the community of Ross House.

As advertised in a member/tenant email sent on the 13th June, the plan will be adopted by the Ross House Association Committee at the July Committee Meeting and final comments are due from Ross House Members & Tenants by Thursday 19th July 2018.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the plan, please contact Michael Griffiths on [michael.griffiths@rosshouse.org.au](mailto:michael.griffiths@rosshouse.org.au) or pass your information on at the Front Desk.



Strategic Plan  
July 2018-June 2023

**Our Vision**

A just, sustainable and creative society in which people and the environment are nurtured and all have the resources and skills to participate, cooperate and provide mutual support.

**Our Mission**

To work towards a socially just, environmentally sustainable and non-discriminatory society based on the community development principles of inclusion, consultation and collaboration, by supporting and enabling the contribution of small community organisations towards their communities and the broader society.

**The Process**

The RHA members, through their participation in the Collaborative Team process, identified that it was important to generate more clarity on the vision for RHA in the future. A timeline of 2048, our 60th year celebration, was chosen and a rapid visioning exercise was undertaken. This led to the identification of the following qualities of RHA in the long-term future:



In 2048 Ross House Association will be celebrating its 60th anniversary and we imagine it as a vibrant and financially sustainable association that honours its founding values, purpose and past. We imagine our building as an up to date and successful space that provides an inclusive and collaborative environment within and without. By this time, we will have an established virtual 'community' and resource base. Our association will continue to have a prominent position in the social justice world and is a top flag for the Australian past, present and future.

**Our Goals, Strategies and Actions**

The following goals, strategies and actions have been identified to position RHA in 2048 so that the above stated 2048 vision is within grasp.

Ross House Association  
Strategic Plan July 2018 to June 2023

1 of 2



## RHA Committee of Management vacancies

**Are you interested in being on the RHA Committee?**

There are two spaces on the RHA Committee of Management that the Association is looking to fill. The Ross House Committee meet on the last Thursday of every month for two hours (during winter months 2-4pm).

If you are interested in being part of a volunteer community team, driving the strategic direction of Ross House, please contact the General Manager -Michael Griffiths on [michael.griffiths@rosshouse.org.au](mailto:michael.griffiths@rosshouse.org.au)



# 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.

## Completed works

- ⚙ The internal windows in the tenancies have been cleaned and the vinyl flooring has been resealed throughout the building.

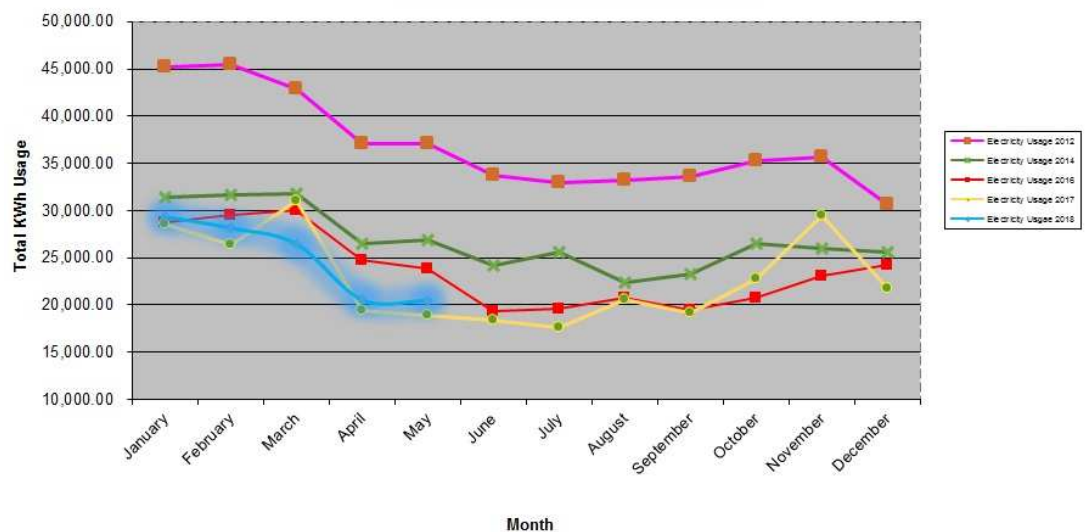
## Upcoming works / happenings

- ⚙ The Ground Floor meeting room (Rainbow Room) is getting a new flat screen TV. This will allow you to present your work using a laptop and HDMI cable.
- ⚙ In the upcoming weeks, there will also be two new TV screens installed at each of the Ross House entrances, to display daily bookings of the meeting rooms. These screens will be large and will have easily readable text, and will replace the current chalkboards.
- ⚙ There is a keypad entry in the process of being installed on the front doors of Ross House. Tenants will still continue to use swipes but meeting room users will be sent a special code (for each booking) to gain access to the building.
- ⚙ Works have also commenced for the Ground Floor toilets - this includes asbestos testing (which is all clear), and the moving of storage (from the back of the Ground Floor) to the newly built locker area in the Foyer.

\*\*\*\*\*

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.

**Electricity Comparison 2012 - 2018**  
 Ross House  
 247-251 Flinders Lane Melbourne VIC 3000



## Reflections by the RHA Chairperson - Christine McAuslan

The Ross House Committee of Management is looking to co-opt two new members. If you are interested and are your organisation's Nominated Representative, please contact our General Manager (Michael Griffiths) or myself. We will be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding the roles. If you are interested (but not a Nominated Representative) then perhaps there is the possibility of negotiating that position within your organisation?



To further ascertain your interest, there is also the option of attending Committee of Management meetings as an observer. As an observer you have no input into the meeting (and may be asked to leave the meeting for the period of time where matters of confidentiality are discussed), however it is a great experience and is a good insight into how the RHA Committee of Management is run.

It is fair to say that there is a level of commitment required to being a Committee Member in attending meetings to make the best use of time and input to making decisions.

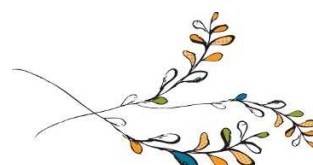
### Strategic Plan

The Strategic Plan Draft was sent out for your perusal and we encourage members and tenants to take the time to read it and provide feedback. Comments are due by Thursday 19th July, ready for the July Committee Meeting - thank you to those who have already responded.

This is a busy time for most not-for-profit community organisations as we head into the Annual General Meeting months and deal with end of financial year reporting. For those incorporated associations who have not caught up with the welcome news that there will be less reporting requirements for many of us (yes you did read that correctly 'less' is the right word!) the changes that will apply at the end of June 2018 can be found at

<http://www.acnc.gov.au/ACNC/Comms/Newsletters/ACNCQuarterly15.aspx#Red>

Christine McAuslan  
Chairperson, Ross House Association



## CMVic celebrate 'Make Music Day 2018'

*Make Music Day* is celebrated on the 21st June every year and is a free event of music making around the world.

*Make Music Day* is open to anyone who wants to take part. Every kind of musician, amateur or professional can organise their own gig, or join the many organisations that host events, to share their music with friends, neighbours, and strangers.

This year, Ross House tenant, Community Music Victoria (CMVic), hosted a half-hour sing-a-long session in the Ross House Foyer. Members of the community came by to sing the famous 'Jolene', to name a few. Check out the Ross House Facebook page for a short video!

Thank you CMVic for a wonderful performance! [www.cmvic.org.au](http://www.cmvic.org.au)

[www.cmvic.org.au](http://www.cmvic.org.au)



## Outer Urban Projects presents 'Liberian Boy'

Multicultural Arts Victoria, in partnership with Ross House member, Outer Urban Projects, presents *Liberian Boy* – an intimate musical sojourn introducing a new talent, nineteen-year-old singer songwriter Melody Napoleon Gbiadiah and vocal duo, sisters Tangata Paea and Fokoaha Tupou.

Melody (the main protagonist) will share his songs about justice, the streets, soul music and the Tupou sisters who will impress the audience with their vocals and soaring harmonies. Joining them are Milad Norouzi (Vocals) and Melbourne music stalwarts Natasha Hanna (Violin), Dan Witton (Double Bass, Vocals) and Mark Grunden (Percussion).

**Where?** Oxygen Studio Space, 4-8 Gaffney Street, Coburg North

**When?** Friday 29th and Saturday 30th June 2018

**Cost?** By donation.

For more information (and for tickets), please visit [www.outerurbanprojects.org](http://www.outerurbanprojects.org)



This work is proudly part of Multicultural Arts Victoria's 2018 *Emerge In The North* Festival.

## Free Training for Non-Profit and community groups

Melbourne City Council is offering **FREE** places for non-profit organisations to attend three *Non-Profit Training* sessions, which will be held at Ross House in July 2018.

These sessions are usually between \$130 - \$240 per person, so it is a great opportunity to upskill and share your knowledge, for free.

The upcoming sessions are:

- ⚙️ **Grant Writing** - Wednesday 4th July
- ⚙️ **Board Chair Training** - Monday 9th July
- ⚙️ **Managing Conflict (with Board staff and volunteers)** - Tuesday 24th July

For more information and to register, please visit:

<http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/community/strong-communities/community-organisation-training/Pages/community-organisation-training.aspx>



## Comedy for a Cause

Featuring comedians from  
Sydney & Melbourne  
International Comedy Festival

In Support of:

**Sunflower Foundation**

**Saturday  
1 September 2018**

St Ignatius' Church  
326 Church St, Richmond, VIC

**BOOK NOW!**

Adults: \$35 / Students: \$20 at  
[comedyforacause.net/SUNFLOWER](http://comedyforacause.net/SUNFLOWER)  
Doors: 7pm / Show: 8pm  
(ALL AGES)





## Friends for Good doing good

Friends for Good are tenants on the 3rd Floor and are busy working away on the issue of loneliness.



They have started a new service called Friend Line for anyone who would like to have a chat with a friendly volunteer. The service operates Tuesday - Thursday evenings from 6pm-8pm. All of their volunteers are trained and screened.

Friends for Good would really appreciate it if members and tenants could advertise this amongst clients and networks.

People will be greeted by some amazing folk who love to chat.


The phone number is (03) 9663 2740.

[www.friendsforgood.org.au](http://www.friendsforgood.org.au)



## Ross House e-bulletin

Every week, RHA send out a weekly e-bulletin to an internal and external community of up to 700 members. The weekly guide focuses on environmental and social justice happenings in Melbourne - we are always on the look-out for upcoming events and opportunities to promote. If you have something in the pipeline, please send it through to Katie at [rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au](mailto:rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au). You can also sign up the e-bulletin via the Ross House website >



SIGN-UP TO OUR  
**E-BULLETIN**  
AND GET YOUR WEEKLY COMMUNITY NEWS  
AND EVENTS.

Name

Email

Submit >

## Vollie.com.au: Volunteer, from anywhere

Vollie is an online marketplace that connects skilled people to non-profits, charities, and social enterprises for skills-based online volunteering.

Vollie projects are exclusively online, meaning that people can donate their skills and experience from anywhere in the world, and around their busy personal and professional schedule. Sign up today to start making change, your way.

This website was recommended by The Sunflower Foundation on level 4, who have had some great results from using it.

[www.vollie.com.au](http://www.vollie.com.au)

## COSHG Rural Road Trip

Ross House tenant group Collective of Self Help Groups (COSHG) will be presenting workshops at the following Rural towns in July for their 'Crossing the Disability Divide - Rural Reach Out' Project.

### Where and when?

- Horsham -Tuesday 3rd July (10am - 11:30am)
- Mildura - Wednesday 4th July (10am - 11:30am)
- Swan Hill - Thursday 5th July (1pm - 2:30pm)
- Shepparton - Wednesday 11th July (1pm - 2:30pm)
- Mansfield - Thursday 12 July (1pm - 2:30pm)

To find out more about the locations or to register, please contact COSHG on (03) 9650 2005 or email [info@coshg.org.au](mailto:info@coshg.org.au).

## Melbourne Metro Rail Project

### Planned and Current Works:

- ⚙ Demolition works are nearing completion with the old KFC building still to be separated from the Nicholas Building.
- ⚙ In September/October, work will commence on drilling 256 holes (approximately 48 meters deep). It is expected that 2-3 holes will be drilled per day. The debris from the holes will require up to 20 truck movements per day using Flinders and Swanston streets. The start date will be determined by how long it takes to complete the drill holes at the Franklin St and City Square sites, that will commence in July 2018.
- ⚙ Prior to the drill start date, a condition assessment of the surrounding buildings will be undertaken.
- ⚙ In January-March 2019 a steel deck will be constructed at ground level over the Port Phillip Arcade site.
- ⚙ From April 2019 excavation and tunnelling will begin.

For more information, please visit [www.metrotunnel.vic.gov.au](http://www.metrotunnel.vic.gov.au)

## 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 organisation's mission statement.
5. Acknowledge your key risks and how you will mitigate them.
6. Advise how success will be measured.

## Grants News

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

The **Pierce Armstrong Foundation's** next grant round opens on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2018 and closes on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2018. Although the Foundation does not specify a minimum or maximum funding amount, it generally provides small donations of up to \$20,000.

The Pierce Armstrong Foundation seeks to positively impact and enhance the lives of Australians and will support those organisations who demonstrate they can make meaningful and lasting contributions to a community.

The Foundation's current areas of focus are:

- ⚙ Education
- ⚙ Children/Youth
- ⚙ Health & Wellbeing
- ⚙ Community Support

To be eligible for funding you must hold both DGR and TCC status.

For a full list of eligibility criteria and further guidelines, please visit [www.piercearmstrong.org.au](http://www.piercearmstrong.org.au)

The **City of Melbourne's** 2019 Community Grants program is open and offering grants of up to \$20,000. Submissions are due by 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2018.

The Community Grants program provides funding to support and empower people and communities to engage, connect and take local action with a focus on local and vulnerable people. Grants are provided to schools, not-for-profit sports and community organisations to improve people's quality of life.

Applicants are required to outline how they will contribute to one or more of the outcomes listed below.

People:

- ⚙ are healthy
- ⚙ are safe
- ⚙ are connected and participate
- ⚙ have knowledge and skills
- ⚙ feel they belong

For further information, guidelines and full list of eligibility criteria please visit <http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/community/strong-communities/funding-grants/pages/community-grants.aspx>





## 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 - thank you!

### Meeting Rooms

- ⚙️ 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.
- ⚙️ 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's events and upcoming opportunities - [rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au](mailto:rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au)

### Finance

- ⚙️ A friendly reminder from our Finance team (Junxia), that Ross House invoice payment terms are 14 days.



## Ross House AV recap—to help you along the way

The below is a quick guide to remind you about the AV facilities we have in the building:

- ⚙️ **4.1 (Hayden Raysmith)** - PA (microphone and lapel) & an in-built data projector. You can hire this AV on a half-hourly rate and it can be booked at the time of booking your meeting room online or via the Front Desk.
- ⚙️ **3.1 (Jenny Florence room)** - This room has a flat screen TV mounted on the wall, as well as a DVD player. You can plug your laptop into this TV using a HDMI cable for projection. The cost to use the TV is inclusive in the room hire charge.
- ⚙️ **0.2 (Sue Healy, Mezzanine)** - This room has a flat screen TV/DVD player on a stand in the corner of the room. You can plug your laptop into this TV using a HDMI cable for projection. The cost to use the TV is inclusive in the room hire charge.
- ⚙️ **0.1 (Rainbow Room)** - This room will soon be getting a similar set up to the Sue Healy room (as above).

We also have a portable PA and data projector that you can also book and collect from the Front Desk.

For further information, please visit [www.rosshouse.org.au/facilities/projector-hire-melbourne](http://www.rosshouse.org.au/facilities/projector-hire-melbourne)



## 'Understanding the NDIS' workshops with AFDO

Australian Federation of Disability Organisations (AFDO) and Disability Loop present three upcoming workshops on the NDIS. These workshops have been developed by people with disability, for people with disability. The workshops are written using plain language, which makes complicated concepts easier to understand. The aim is to make the workshops a safe space where people can share their questions and concerns without worrying about any judgement.

### What are the workshops about?

The three-hour workshops will cover lots of different parts of the NDIS, including knowing who is eligible for the NDIS, working out what support you can get in your NDIS plan and using the funds in your NDIS plan to live a better life in the community.

### Who is running the workshops?

The workshop is designed and delivered by staff with a disability from AFDO. AFDO and its member organisations are run by and for people with lived experience of disability. AFDO Disability Loop is a program that aims to make information about the NDIS easier to find, understand, and use.

### When?

- ⚙ Wednesday 18 July 2018 (4:30pm to 7:30pm)
- ⚙ Thursday 19 July 2018 (1:00pm to 4:00pm)
- ⚙ Saturday 21 July 2018 (10:00am to 1:00pm)



### Where?

Room 5, Hume Global Learning Centre, 1093 Pascoe Vale Road, Broadmeadows, VIC, 3047.

All workshops are held in wheelchair accessible venues, close to public transport, and are free for people with disability and their families.

Bookings are essential for catering and accessibility purposes.

For more information and to register, please visit [www.disabilityloop.eventbrite.com](http://www.disabilityloop.eventbrite.com) or call (03) 9662 3324.

## Deafblind Workshop



Ross House tenant, Deafblind Victoria (DBV), hosted a two-hour workshop on Tuesday 19th June 2018 called *Deafblind World*. This specialised training workshop (presented by people with deafblindness) used experimental learning techniques to help the audience communicate and engage with people with deafblindness.

Below are some pictures that were taken during the workshop. Congratulations DBV, the event was a great success!

### What do DBV do?

DBV provides the opportunity for people to join together to support each other, share experiences and explore ideas. The group also undertakes advocacy and self-advocacy works aimed at improving the lives of people who are Deafblind.

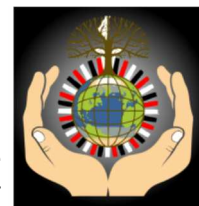




## New Tenants

### Advocacy for Oromia

Advocacy for Oromia is a self-help group established to improve the settlement process and advance the wellbeing of Australian-Oromos. Advocacy for Oromia maximises participation in decision making, based on the policies and procedures governing the activities of the group. Through community education, direct support, capacity building and advocacy, Advocacy for Oromia work towards the realisation of their vision; a world where all people are empowered to manage problems and to create opportunity for themselves and others.



### Australia for UNHCR

Australia for UNHCR is the UN Refugee Agency's national partner in Australia, raising awareness and funds to support UNHCR's global emergency response to humanitarian crisis. The contributions they receive from Australian individuals and groups, lead to direct impact on the ground during humanitarian crises, helping UNHCR deliver emergency support such as shelter, protection, clean water, food and medicines. Australia for UNHCR is an Associate Member of Ross House Association.



### Climate and Health Alliance

The Climate and Health Alliance was established in August 2010 and is a coalition of health care stakeholders who wish to see the threat to human health from climate change and ecological degradation addressed through prompt policy action. This commitment is based on the understanding that further global warming poses grave risks to human health and biodiversity and if left unchecked, threatens the future of human civilization. Climate and Health Alliance can be found on the 4th Floor.



## Office Moves

**CLAN** have moved their smaller Ground Floor office up to the Second floor, next to their larger office.



## Melbourne Osteoporosis Support Group INC.

Ross House member, Melbourne Osteoporosis Support Group, is hosting a talk on Advance Care Planning with Hilda Quiroga, the Education & Engagement Officer from the Office of the Public Advocate. This will be a great opportunity to ask any questions you may have - everyone is welcome to attend.

The meeting will take place on Tuesday 21st August at 1:30pm, in the Hayden Raysmith room.

For more information, please visit [www.melbosg.org.au](http://www.melbosg.org.au)



## Post Polio Victoria News



Post Polio Victoria's (PPV) committee member, Shirley Glance, has been recognised for her services to the community in today's honour's list, with a Medal in the General Division.

Shirley contributes actively and takes on leadership roles in any community she is involved in including Bayside Polio Group, Polio Network Victoria and Post Polio Victoria. She has recently been involved in breast cancer and disability awareness, and has a long history with the National Council of Jewish Women. Congratulations Shirley, on behalf of PPV!

PPV are also excited to have Ruben Rubens join them to help with Admin work, in addition to the IT support he has been providing over the past few years. Ruben, who also works with other Ross House groups, has a strong interest in supporting advocacy groups to become stronger and more independent through having better easy to operate systems.



[www.postpoliovictoria.org.au](http://www.postpoliovictoria.org.au)



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[www.rosshouse.org.au](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au) with UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line.

## Ross House Association Staff



### General Manager

Michael Griffiths

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### Facility Manager

Nazzareno Marchionda

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### Development Program Manager

Amber Moore

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### Finance Officer

Junxia xu

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### Information & Administration Officer

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### Casual staff

Lucie McMahon

Ella Marchionda

Stephanie East

Patti Gerken

### Membership & Tenancy Officer (Acting)

Rebecca Jahr

[Rebecca.may@rosshouse.org.au](mailto:Rebecca.may@rosshouse.org.au)

