



ROSS HOUSE ASSOCIATION

2019 RHA COMMITTEE

CHAIRPERSON

Christine McAuslan
(COSHG)

DEPUTY CHAIR

Valerie Elliot
(Handknitters Guild)

SECRETARY

Alba Chliakhtine
(ABRISA)

TREASURER

Keith Bettles
(USA City of Melbourne)

De Grebner
(TreeProject)

Scot Muirden
(CBSF)

Richard Caven
(Appointed Member)

Nazzareno Marchionda
(Appointed Member RHA
staff)

Michael Griffiths
(Ex-officio, RHA General
Manager)

IN THE HOUSE

APRIL 2019

Ross House Strategic Plan update

The following actions are underway, ongoing or complete on the Strategic Plan 2018-2023.

Future Sustainability

Promoting RHA

- ⚙️ work has started on developing a brochure with historical data and case studies to demonstrate the effectiveness of Ross House
- ⚙️ the Ross House promotional video has been completed and is available via our website
- ⚙️ we have applied for a grant to upgrade the Mezzanine lift; the Ground Level toilets are completed and further building work is planned to make the building more inviting to the public

Efficient use of resources

- ⚙️ we have a group of consultants working for us, pro-bono, who are offering legal, heritage and building advice, regarding how we can best use the space above our building
- ⚙️ we have been in discussions with real estate consultants, who are giving us ideas on how to develop a value aligned commercial space at Ross House
- ⚙️ we are currently assessing office space, ensuring we are using our spaces as effectively as possible. Membership criteria is currently being reviewed.

Plans for securing the future

- ⚙️ operational and work plans have been developed and work on updating our 10-year capital works budget has commenced
- ⚙️ Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status has been followed up - the issue remains that without major changes in membership and tenancy, RHA is not eligible as a Public Benevolent Institution (PBI) and therefore DGR. We are unable to split into another Trust as we are not an education or arts organisation.

Governance

Increase Membership input into the decision-making process

- ⚙️ the induction process has been overhauled and new inductions have started this year with a focus on new tenants and new staff within current tenant groups
- ⚙️ new Green Focus Working Party has had three meetings

Ensure diversity on the Committee of Management

- ⚙️ staff and Committee have completed Voice at the Table (VATT) training

Engagement

Building strong partnerships

- ⚙️ a Corporate and Philanthropic Engagement Framework session was undertaken on 26th February, resulting in an engagement framework document

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.

Current and completed works

- IT contractors, Mr PC is currently in the process of migrating everyone to the new network. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact Nazz on n.marchiona@rosshouse.org.au.

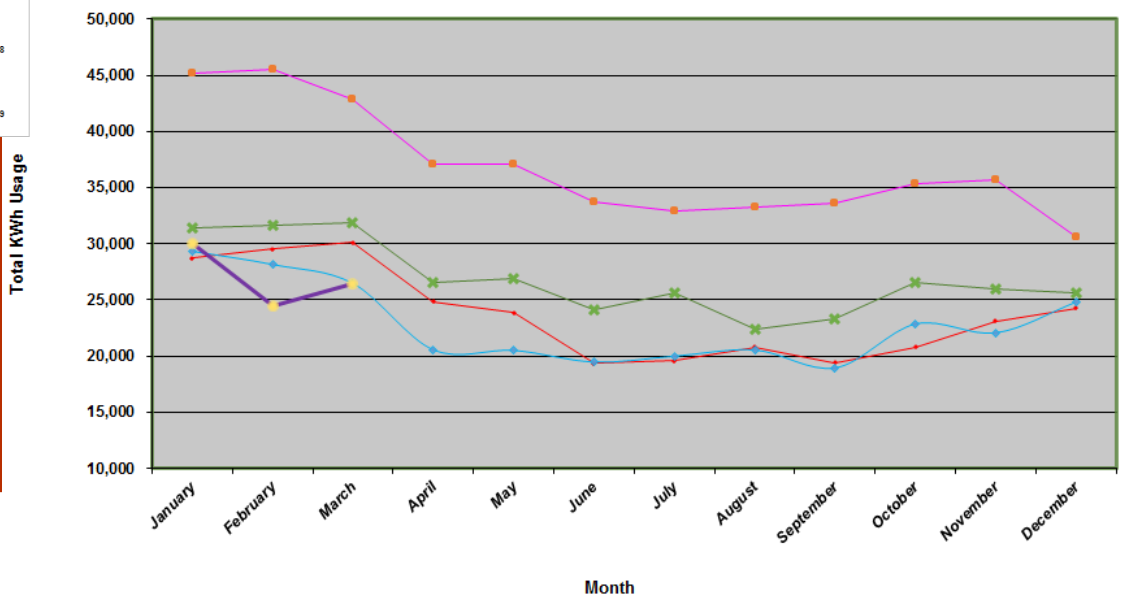
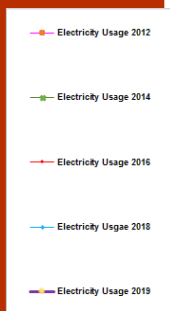
Upcoming works / happenings

- The Provide First Aid* course is currently being organised which is the minimum requirement for workplace first aid compliance. An email with some dates and times will hit your inbox shortly but likely to happen in June 2019.
- Painting of toilet areas and the installation of Residual Current Device (RCDs) to Levels 1,2 & 3 works to be undertaken on weekends - tenants to be notified when this will occur.
- The fire doors in the building need to be repaired prior to July 2019.
- RHA is seeking volunteers to be fire wardens on each of the levels. Little time and commitment is required, just one meeting before the fire drill which will be in May or June 2019. To find out more, please contact Nazz on n.marchionda@rosshouse.org.au.



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 - 2019
 Ross House
 247-251 Flinders Lane Melbourne VIC 3000



Reflections by the RHA Chairperson - Christine McAuslan



'Where does time go?' is a much used question. I wish I had the answer. Here we are with four months of 2019 having whizzed by as we busily prepare budgets and end of year finances.

Our Finance sub-committee has been working hard to contain any increases, as we head to our next annual budget for Ross House. This sub-committee now also covers risk management as these two items are closely related.

The strategic plan continues to take shape in its implementation. This very important work is occurring behind the scenes with legal research and clarifications occurring on some items. We need to do our best to get all the information possible, even if it means it takes longer for aspects to come to back to the community for comment.

As Amber Moore, our Development Program Manager, has advised, on Wednesday 1st May 2019, the launch of the new accessible ground floor facilities will take place. The Committee encourages you to attend this event and show your support for what Ross House stands for. This launch is an opportunity to promote and showcase Ross House, as we acknowledge the funding received from City of Melbourne and the Australian Government. The Committee looks forward to you joining us for this event (and morning tea) at 10:45am on Wednesday 1st May, in the Ross House foyer.

RHA Chairperson
Christine McAuslan



Melbourne Metro Rail Update

The following works are either underway or planned for the Melbourne Metro Rail Project:

- ⚙ the piling works at the Flinders Quarter site is underway and will continue to December 2019
- ⚙ Melbourne Metro have installed a noise monitor outside of the DWA/Spina Bifida tenancy on level 4.
- ⚙ 15-30 trucks a day are expected to remove spoil from piling works; access will be via Swanston and Flinders Streets
- ⚙ the City Square site acoustic shed will go up in March & April 2019
- ⚙ the steel deck over the Flinders Quarter site is likely to be pushed back until after the piling is complete
- ⚙ excavation and tunnelling will begin once the deck is in place

For more information on the project, please visit

www.metrotunnel.vic.gov.au



Friends for Good Symposium

Ross House tenant, Friends For Good, is hosting their first ever symposium on loneliness.

This is an exciting opportunity for academics, not-for-profits, government institutions and businesses to discover, discuss and contribute to initiatives tackling loneliness right now.

This symposium is a chance for you to be inspired, get connected and stay up-to-date with organisations that are addressing the needs of all people suffering from or affected by loneliness in our community.

Where? RACV City Club, 501 Bourke Street, Melbourne

When? Monday 13th May (1pm - 4:30pm)

Cost? \$60 - \$180 depending on status

For more information, please visit www.friendsforgood.org.au.



Accessible Ground Floor Facilities Launch

It has been a very long time coming, and the works took a lot longer than expected (due to this old building throwing some unexpected challenges at us), but we are happy to report that the upgrade to the ground floor bathrooms is complete.

Previously we had only one unisex toilet and one disability toilet (which was not DDA compliant) on the ground floor. The upgrade has meant that we have been able to build a fully accessible DDA compliant bathroom and shower facility, a female bathroom (including ambulant toilet, single pan & shower) and male bathroom (including single urinal, single pan & shower). The changes have made an incredible improvement to the amenities we can offer tenants and visitors to the building.

Completing this project has created significant social benefits to our community by ensuring that Ross House is an all-inclusive and accessible community hub and that equal access is provided to all.

RHA was fortunate to receive funding through both the City of Melbourne and the Australian Government to put towards this project and for that, we are very grateful.

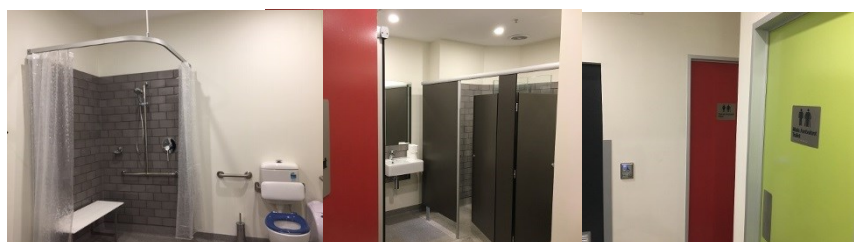
To mark the occasion of improved accessibility within Ross House, we are having a little morning tea to celebrate the completion of the ground floor amenities.

When: Wednesday 1st May at 10:45am

Where: Ross House Foyer, Ground Floor

The Right Honourable Lord Mayor Sally Capp will be in attendance, along with Rob McLeod, the Community Liaison representative from the Office of Adam Bandt.

Please feel welcome to join us for a cup of tea and biscuit and hear from the RHA Chairperson, the Lord Mayor and Rob McLeod.



A little bit of time can make a real difference



Volunteer with SHINE for Kids (VIC) now

SHINE for Kids is a national charity that supports children and young people who have a parent in prison

Contact our Victorian Office
M 0414 816 093 E sforrester@shineforkids.org.au

or
vicprograms@shineforkids.org.au

M 0408 638 423 E vicprograms@shineforkids.org.au

Voices Together website launch

You are invited to the website launch of *Voices Together* - a fantastic new resource for self advocacy groups, government and community organisations.

What can you expect to find on the new website?

You can find over 100 videos, case studies, information about the NDIS, resources, information sheets, training and podcasts, made by and for people with a disability.

Where? Hayden Raysmith Room, Level 4, Ross House

When? Tuesday 7th May (10:30am to 1:30pm)

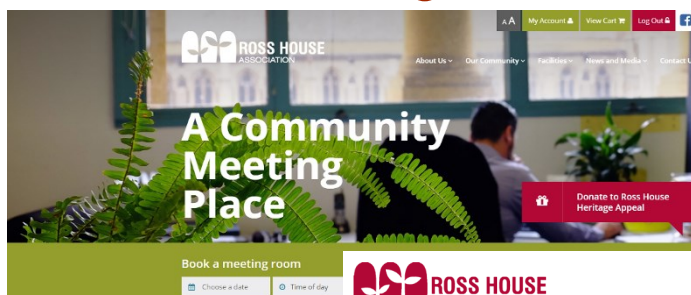
Please RSVP by phone (03) 9639 6865 or email saru@rosshouse.org.au by Wednesday 1st May 2019. Lunch will also be provided.

www.saru.net.au



Ross House booking system trouble-shooting

We are really delighted to see that the Ross House online booking system is working well for the community. Having a handle on the system allows you to manage bookings, update contact details and add people to your key register. Over the past couple of months however, we have noticed that some of the issues people are facing with the system can be (or a combination of), the following:



- ⚙ **Are you using a 24-hour clock when selecting the booking times?** If not are not, your booking will not save properly. Please make sure you use 24-hour times.
- ⚙ **Have you filled out the billing information correctly?** When you first get to your payment information, if this is not filled out correctly, it may restrict you from moving through to complete the booking. Please note, you only have to do this process once.
- ⚙ **Is your booking in your cart?** Often this can happen if you have a pending booking. What this means is that the system is holding it for you in the cart. You can access your cart in the top right hand corner.
- ⚙ **Have you tried logging in and out again?** This helps to restart the system - we often do this at Ross House.
- ⚙ **Are you using Google Chrome?** Internet Explorer is not compatible unfortunately.
- ⚙ **Did you know that your username is not your email address?** Your username is separate from your email. If you require your username, please contact the Front Desk
- ⚙ **Have you cleaned your cache lately?** Your cache stores data, which needs to be cleared every now and then to make sure you are seeing updated webpages. You can clean cache by clearing your browsing history.

If you have any further questions, or would like some refresher / additional training for you or your staff, please contact the Front Desk on (03) 9650 1599 or email rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au.



If you wish to make changes to an existing booking, please contact Ross House.

Upcoming Bookings

ID	Booked	Order	Start
17148	RHA Committee Meeting (KSC) - 0.2 Mezzanine - Sue Healy Room	17149	Decer 2019,

Grant News

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

The Helen Macpherson Smith Trust Impact Grants program is now open, with submissions due 6th June 2019 at 12pm. Grants of between \$91,000 to \$200,000 are available.

Impact Grants respond to larger funding requests for well-developed projects, with clearly defined milestones based on solid data. At this grant level, the trust is looking for proposals that have a strong potential to achieve significant outcomes within their program focus areas. The type of activities that may be considered include those that: will result in benefits across multiple organisations or communities; have substantial reach in beneficiary numbers; or take a new approach to an identified sector issue within one of their focus areas.

Focus areas are:

- ⚙ education
- ⚙ community
- ⚙ arts and culture
- ⚙ environment
- ⚙ health

Impact grants are by enquiry only. Initial consultation with HMSTrust Grants staff is required and it is recommended to make contact with them as soon as possible.

Deductible Gift Recipient status is not required.

For more information please visit <https://hmstrust.org.au/grantseekers/eligibility/>

The Australian Communities Foundation provides funding for charitable organisations all year round. Funding of between \$2,000 (approx) to \$15,000 (approx) is available.

Australian Communities Foundation (ACF) supports a range of charitable organisations and projects each year.

As a public ancillary fund, ACF represents around 300 sub-funds, each with their own funding priorities and interests. The Foundation's donors are part of an engaged community of individuals, families, corporate giving groups, location-based giving circles and like-minded groups.

To be eligible for funding:

- ⚙ your organisation must have both TCC (Tax Concession Charity) and DGR item 1 (deductible Gift Recipient) ATO endorsements, and
- ⚙ the activities for which you are seeking funding, as outlined in your proposal, must be charitable and in line with your organisation's charitable purpose.

For more information please visit <https://www.communityfoundation.org.au/submit-a-funding-request/>



Ross House-Keeping

Kitchens

- ⚙ Thank you to the following groups who were involved in the kitchen clean ups on Friday 12th April 2019 - Mac Advice, Rise, Live and Learn, Disabled WinterSport Australia and Housing for the Aged Action Group. Please be reminded that the kitchens are communal spaces and, are self-managed and to be kept clean and tidy (eg dishes washed and put away) by you, the community. Keeping the kitchens tidy is not the responsibility of RHA staff.



Meeting Rooms AV

- ⚙ Please feel free to contact the Front Desk if you would like to book some training with the AV in any of the meeting rooms - we are here to assist.

Meeting Rooms whiteboards

- ⚙ Please keep the whiteboards clean once used. If you need anything from the Front Desk including wipes, cleaning products and cloths, please pay us a visit.

Promotion

- ⚙ Please make use of the promotional opportunities we have at Ross House including this newsletter, a weekly e-bulletin, Facebook and internal notice boards. If you would like more information, please contact Katie at rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au.

Finance

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



BZE are seeking volunteers

Volunteering is a way to help make real change. The Beyond Zero Emissions community of volunteers support the essential work that they do. They have technical and general opportunities to suit a range of different skills and experiences, and provide mentoring and support as needed.

Beyond Zero Emissions is a climate change think tank, showing through independent research and innovative solutions how Australia can reach beyond zero emissions.



For more information, please visit www.bze.org.au.

Community Music Victoria

Community Music Victoria (CMVic)'s Flinders Lane Community Choir is back for an exciting local singing group for anyone living or working around Flinders Lane.

CMVic are holding continuous sessions in the Mezzanine room on Thursday afternoons, no need to book, just turn up!



Where? Mezzanine Room, Ground floor, Ross House, 247-251 Flinders Lane

When? Thursdays (from 2nd May 2019) 1-2pm

This is an opportunity for learning and no previous singing experience is required - everyone is welcome to attend!

For more information, please contact CMVic on www.cmvic.org.au or (03) 9662 1162. Flinders Lane Community Choir is supported by a grant from the City of Melbourne.

www.cmvic.org.au



SHINE for Kids

A little bit of time can make a real difference



Volunteer with SHINE for Kids (VIC) now

SHINE for Kids is a national charity that supports children and young people who have a parent in prison

Contact our Victorian Office

M 0414 816 093 E sforrester@shineforkids.org.au

or

vicprograms@shineforkids.org.au

M 0408 638 423 E vicprograms@shineforkids.org.au

Melbourne Osteoporosis Support Group

The next Melbourne Osteoporosis Support Group meeting at Ross House is on Tuesday 18th June 2019. The speaker on the day is Professor Gordon Lynch, Professor of Physiology at Melbourne University, who will speak on skeletal/muscle injury and repair.

This talk should be of interest to anyone who has suffered bone or soft tissue injury, or to anyone who would like to learn more should an injury occur. The meeting is at 1:30pm in the Hayden Raysmith Room on the 4th Floor. Everyone is welcome. Details about the organisation can be found on their website below.

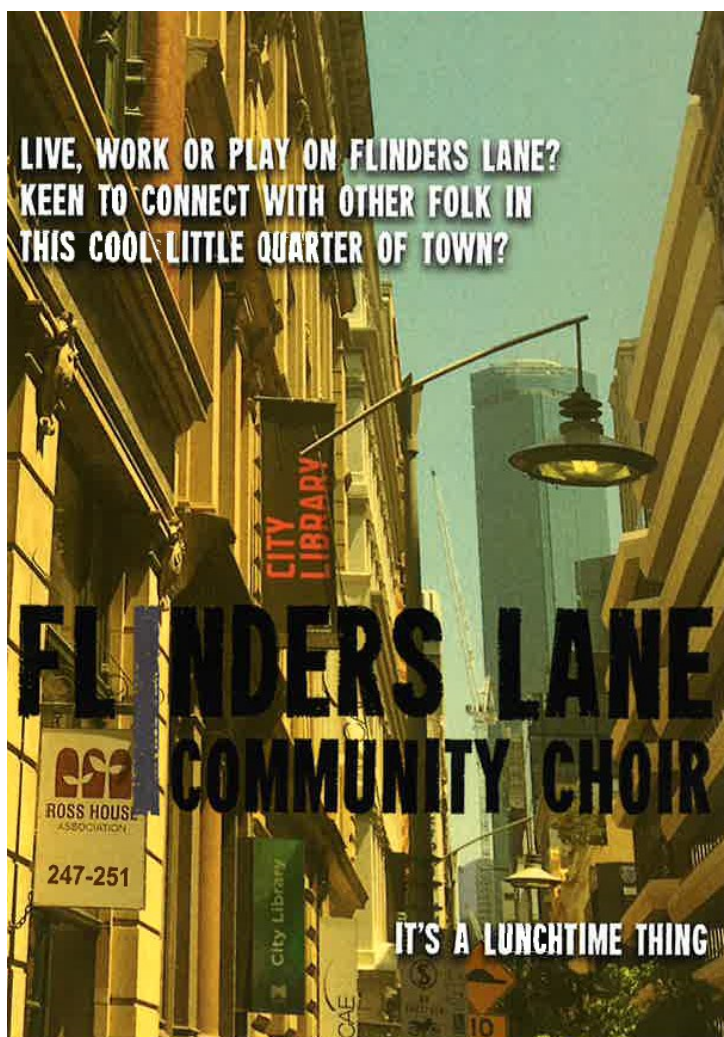
www.melbosg.org.au



MELBOURNE
OSTEOPOROSIS
SUPPORT GROUP

Incorporated Reg No. A0038140R

Est. 1996



New members

We welcome **Deaf Victoria** as a Member of Ross House Association.

Deaf Victoria advocates on behalf of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Victorians, to increase access to services and to educate the wider community on how to work, play and study with Deaf and Hard of Hearing people. Deaf Victoria also represents Deaf and Hard of Hearing people in both state government and disability groups.

You can read more about Deaf Victoria here www.deafvictoria.org.au.



Floor Representatives

Do you see yourself as a leader? As a mover and changer? Or an ideas person? Or perhaps just someone who has great people skills?

If so, you should express your interest to become a Floor Rep. Please contact Rebecca May, Membership and Tenancy Officer at rebecca.may@rosshouse.org.au to register your interest or for more information.

Office moves

- ⚙ STAR Victoria have moved their office from the second floor to the 4th floor. They are now in Room 4.4.
- ⚙ East West Overseas Aid Foundation (TEWOAF) have moved office to the room next door, Level 2, Room 2.9.

NDIS Support services and job vacancies

In collaboration with Life Health Services, Ross House member, Kenya Community Victoria is providing NDIS services and is offering support to anyone who has any questions regarding the NDIS process.

They are also seeking support coordinators and disability workers both paid and unpaid. To find out more information, please contact Milton Njanja on njanja1@gmail.com.

www.kenyacomunityvictoria.org.au



247 Flinders Ln, Melbourne VIC 3000



Ross House is recruiting!

We are on the hunt for a Front Desk superstar to cover all five working days, when required. The role is a casual position who needs to have some skills and experience in administration and reception and ideally someone who has an interest in working for social justice.

For more information and to apply, please email your CV to rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au. Previous applicants need not apply.

New tenants

EMERGE Australia will be moving into their new office on Level 2, Room 2.13 on the 30th of April 2019.



EMERGE have been a member of Ross House since 2015 and we now warmly welcome them as tenants to Ross House.

If you would like to know more about Emerge and what they are doing in our community, please pop in to their office in May and say hi or visit their website below.

www.emerge.org.au



CMVic Music Camp 2019

Join Ross House tenant, Community Music Victoria (CMVic), for a weekend of song, music making, inspiration and fun! Whether you are an absolute beginner, experienced player or singer (or somewhere in between), enjoy a huge range of workshops, singing, learning, knowledge sharing and jamming.

Where? Grantville Lodge, Grantville

When? 10th - 12th May 2019 @ 4pm

Cost? Varied

Everyone is welcome to attend. Please visit their website for more information please visit www.cmvic.org.au.



NCWV NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN VICTORIA

The National Council of Women's May forum is based around sustainable and safe cities, focusing on safe streets, good public transport, good lighting and signage.

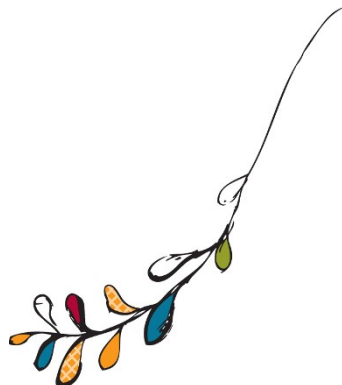
On the day, there will be a panel discussion and three keynote speakers - Martin Habgood & Phuong Chau (VicRoads), Hoa Yang (ARUP) and also a representative from the of City of Melbourne who will outline the Council's future plans. Everyone is welcome to attend - light refreshments will also be served.

Where? Hayden Raysmith Room, Level 4, Ross House

When? Thursday 2nd May 9:45am to 11:30am

For bookings (and to RSVP) please email info@ncwvic.org.au.

www.ncwv.org.au

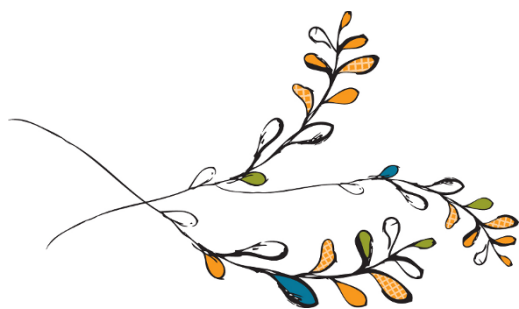


Human Rights Arts and Film Festival (HRAFF)

Ross House tenant, The Human Rights Arts & Film Festival (HRAFF), is a not-for-profit arts organisation that explores diverse and inspiring human stories through the mediums of film, art, music and forums. HRAFF inspires and engages audiences with social justice and human rights issues via an annual festival and year-round through their CineSeeds program, online networks and partners.

Heading into their 12th year, The Human Rights Arts Film Festival (HRAFF) continues to provide a platform whereby creatives, organisations and the Australian public are brought together by their common desire to contribute to social change.

HRAFF will be touring nationally from May 2019. To view the full program please visit www.2019.hraff.org.au.



Tree Project turns 30!

Ross House tenant, TreeProject, turns 30 this year. Congratulations! To kick off the celebrations, they have a great day planned for you and your entire family at Yarra Bend Park on Sunday 5th May 2019.

The day will start with a tree-planting followed by live music, fun games for the young (and young-at-heart), a ranger activity for kids, and great opportunities to meet and exchange stories with fellow members, volunteers and growers.

Where? Studley Park Boat House, Kew

When? Sunday 5th May 2019 at 12pm (until 4pm)

For more information, please visit

www.treeproject.org.au/



Melbourne 9-23 May | Canberra 23-25 May

Retina Australia vacancies

Ross House tenant, Retina Australia, is currently recruiting!

There are two part-time positions available - Administration Officer and Marketing & Fundraising Manager.

Both roles are based at Ross House.

Enquiries are welcome and should be directed to Leighton Boyd on 0417 566 899.

To view the roles and position descriptions, please visit www.probonoaustralia.com.au/jobs and search for Retina Australia.



RETINA
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.

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Ella Marchionda

Stephanie East

Patti Gerkens

Julia Pecoraro

