



## 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

OCTOBER 2018

## RHA Annual General Meeting 2018

The 2018 Ross House Association Annual General Meeting, will be held on:

- ⚙ **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2018**
- ⚙ **11am (10:45am for registration)**
- ⚙ **Hayden Raysmith Room, Level 4, Ross House**

By now you would have received your AGM pack, which included nomination and proxy forms. Please note that nomination forms are due back at **11am on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2018**. Please contact [amber.moore@rosshouse.org.au](mailto:amber.moore@rosshouse.org.au) if you need another copy.

This year there are eight (8) positions on the Ross House Association Committee up for election, including the role of Chairperson (two-year term), Treasurer (two-year term), 3 x Ordinary Members (two-year term), and 3 x Ordinary Members (one-year term).

Please contact either Christine McAuslan (Chairperson) on 0409 320 994 or Amber Moore (Acting General Manager) on (03) 9650 1599 for further information, particularly if you are interested in becoming more involved in our community and are willing to be nominated for a position on the Committee, but are not sure what the role entails.

Lunch will be provided at the AGM, so please RSVP to [rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au](mailto:rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au) ASAP.



## Melbourne Metro - works notifications

During the Melbourne Metro project, notifications from Ross House (regarding upcoming works for the Metro Tunnel) are being sent via email to the main contact within your organisation.

There is an online e-bulletin that you can sign up to too which sends you the same notifications that Ross House receives from the Melbourne Metro. You can register for this via the website here > [www.metrotunnel.vic.gov.au](http://www.metrotunnel.vic.gov.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.

## Current and completed works

- ⚙️ Keypads have been installed on the doors of Ross House and are now up and running. Tenants will still continue to use swipes for daily meetings but for after-hours meeting room access, the user will be sent a unique bookings access code (via a booking confirmation and reminder email) to gain access to that particular floor. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact the Front Desk.
- ⚙️ The ground floor toilet works are underway. We thank you for your patience with the noise and the temporary toilet access to level 1 - these works should be completed by the end of November 2018 - they will look and feel great when complete!
- ⚙️ A new hot water urn has been installed in the ground level kitchen.

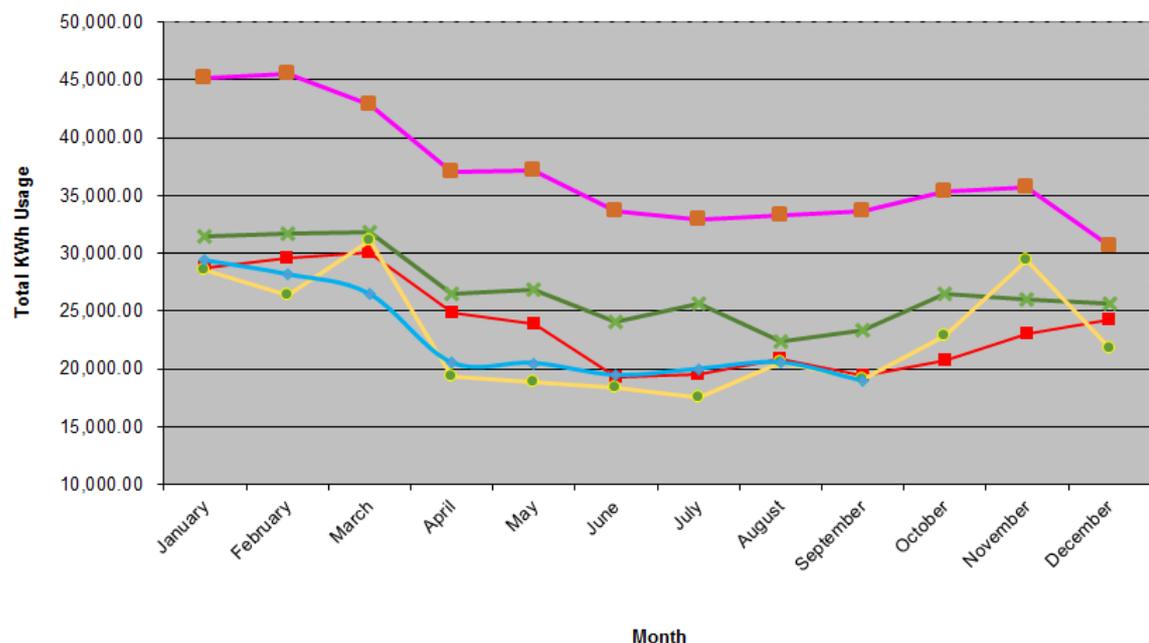
## Upcoming works / happenings

- ⚙️ A new TPG fibre 1000 connection is coming to Ross House very soon. This means that the speed of the internet will be ten times faster than it currently is - watch this space for more details.
- ⚙️ Variable speed drives will be installed in the air-con system soon - this is to reduce the overall power consumption for Ross House and it has been estimated to save around a third of overall usage.

\*\*\*\*\*

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



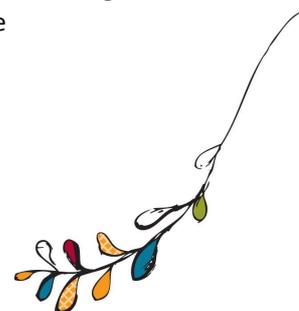
In my role as a Community Development worker at the Collective of Self Help Groups, I have recently had the privilege of visiting six towns in rural Victoria to present workshops to local groups who support people with a disability, their families and carers. During these presentations, I have made mention of Ross House and its tenants and also included this information in a resource listing in the handouts; most participants have never heard of Ross House and what it offers. Promotion of Ross House is a key component of our Strategic Plan and I encourage you whenever possible and appropriate, to spread the word as part of our community support for all that Ross House and tenants contribute to social justice.

As we proceed with exploring opportunities to gain the financial security of Ross House, the more organisations that are aware of us, and the broader our reach, is the more opportunities we will become available to us.

The committee and staff are committed to this process. Every bit of promotion you can do in your own networks, that you as part of the Ross House community can add to our endeavours, will encourage and enhance the work that is underway.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christine McAuslan'.

Christine McAuslan  
RHA Chairperson



## In loving memory of Esther Harris OAM

With a heavy heart, the Board of STAR Victoria announced the passing of Esther Harris on 30th June 2018.

Esther provided leadership to STAR in the position of Executive Officer for over 14 years, and another 12 years before that, working in paid and unpaid projects important to STAR's objectives, making a difference for people with an intellectual disability and their families.

Esther's passion for social justice, for inclusion in one's regular neighbourhood school and a quality of life, is something we all aspire to.

Esther's bravery, passion and determination will never be forgotten. Rest in peace, Esther.



## National Council of Women of Victoria (NCWV) Luncheon

You are invited to join the National Council of Women of Victoria (NCWV) for their *End of Year Luncheon* on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

On the day you will receive a three-course meal which includes a complimentary drink on arrival.

There will also be a guest speaker - Roslyn Rogers, the founder of K.O.G.O. (Knit. One. Give. One) which provides knitted warm winter woollies to over 250 vulnerable community groups in our community.

**Where?** William Angliss Institute, Angliss Restaurant, Building E, 550 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne

**When?** 12pm (until 2:15pm)

**Cost?** NCWV Members & Delegates - \$55 per person / Guests - \$65 per person

**RSVP** 9th November 2018 <https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=432327&>

For more information, please contact Pam Hammond on 0417 326 847.

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



### Seniors Financial Literacy Group

The Seniors Financial Literacy Group is hosting two meetings over the next few weeks in the Hayden Raysmith room, Level 4, Ross House.

#### 8th November 2018 (10-11am)

This meeting will feature Ms. Lauren Balbata from Transurban, an organisation that develops urban toll road networks in Australia. Following the presentation, there will be an opportunity for questions and networking. Everyone is welcome!

#### 13th December 2018 (10-11am)

The December meeting will host speaker Ms. Louise Walsh, CEO of the Future Generation company, who will discuss current investment issues.

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided at both meetings

**Cost?** \$8 for members and \$10 for guests.

For more information, please contact Florence on (03) 9434 4256 or [jenningsflo@gmail.com](mailto:jenningsflo@gmail.com).

### Vale Carol O'Connor

It is with great sadness we farewell Carol O'Connor who was a beloved member of the deafblind community and a regular at Ablelink on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of Ross House.

Carol visited Ross House every week to catch up with friends for lunch or via the computer through email, Facebook and FaceTime.

At the Ross House 30th year celebration, Carol donated a painting of the building which hangs in the foyer. She also made a speech thanking all the tenants for making the deafblind community so welcome at Ross House.

**(18/4/1956 - 23/9/2018)**



## Community Music Victoria (CMvic) Singing Camp

This year's camp (with Ross House tenant, CMvic) will once again include a variety of workshops for people who just want to come and have a great time singing! These workshops are specifically designed for singing leaders of all levels.

### For singers, workshops will include:

- ⚙ Big and inclusive singing circles
- ⚙ Learning a BIG song altogether
- ⚙ Advanced leadership skills
- ⚙ Songs from around the world
- ⚙ Song swaps



### For singing leaders and people who might be thinking about leading singing, workshops will include:

- ⚙ Singing Leadership skills
- ⚙ Singing leaders gabfest
- ⚙ Song swaps (shorter and longer songs)
- ⚙ Conducting

### For more experienced singing leaders: skills share workshops include:

- ⚙ Experienced leaders skills swap
- ⚙ Complex songs

This is a great opportunity to head along and immerse yourself in song and leave enriched with heaps of great resources to use in your community. The program will emerge and develop around your offers and requests.

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

## Free Legal Help for Ross House Members and Tenants

[Justice Connect](#) are providing free legal information and advice to community groups in person, at Ross House.

Justice Connect can help with questions regarding:

- ⚙ Rules/Constitutions
- ⚙ NFP tax concessions
- ⚙ Running meetings
- ⚙ Policies
- ⚙ Employees and volunteers
- ⚙ IP and Privacy



Ross House is trialling this service for 2-months, and if successful we will roll out a monthly schedule for 2019.

The first session took place on Wednesday 24th October, and it was a great success with nearly all 30 minute booking slots being snapped up tenants.

Keep an eye out for an email in the next week or so, for the date of the November session.

For any queries, please contact [amber.moore@rosshouse.org.au](mailto:amber.moore@rosshouse.org.au).

## Grant News

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

The **IOOF Foundation's** Community Grants Program opens on the 15<sup>th</sup> of November and is offering grants of up to \$150,000, although the average grant amount is approximately \$30,000. Applications are due by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

The IOOF Foundation provides grants that support Australian not-for-profit organisations working with disadvantaged families, disadvantaged children and youth and aged care.

- ⚙ **Aged care** – The Foundation will be giving priority to program's that are committed to providing the quality of life for individuals and their families with progressive neurological and physical diseases.
- ⚙ **Disadvantaged families** – The Foundation's basic needs program, supports community groups that are assisting families that are struggling to be self-sufficient and support long-term solutions that help families move out of poverty or avoid a crisis.
- ⚙ **Disadvantaged children and youth** – The Foundation supports education projects that help break the cycle of disadvantage and empower young Australian's to reach their potential. Priority will be given to applications addressing:
  - \* Prevention and early intervention, and
  - \* Education, employment and training for young people.

To be eligible for funding from IOOF Foundation, you must have Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status.

For more information, please visit [http://www.iooffoundation.org.au/our\\_grant\\_program/guidelines](http://www.iooffoundation.org.au/our_grant_program/guidelines)

**Perpetual Limited Grants** IMPACT Philanthropy Application Program opens on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2018 and is offering grants of up to \$200,000, although the average grant amount awarded is approximately \$90,000. Applications are due by 5pm on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

The program recognises the importance of the philanthropist, good grant making and governance in building a healthy and responsive charitable NFP sector, and is an opportunity for charitable organisations to demonstrate the quality of their work and mission.

You do not need to direct your organisation's application to a specific trust, unless specifically invited to do so. As part of their assessment process, they will match your organisation to all appropriate trusts and endowments.

To be eligible to for funding through the IMPACT Philanthropy Application Program, you organisation must have at least one of the following:

- ⚙ Be a registered charity on the ACNC register
- ⚙ Australian Taxation Office Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR!) endorsement

For more information, please visit <https://www.perpetual.com.au/advice-and-trustee-services/impact-philanthropy/impact-funding>



## Ross House-Keeping

### Kitchen clean out

- ⚙ A couple of weeks ago, the RHA team did a thorough kitchen clean out, including the fridges. What became apparent on this journey was that there were a lot of dirty dishes in the sinks and old food and drinks (especially milk) left in the fridges. Just a friendly reminder that the kitchens are communal spaces and are self-managed by you, the community. If you need any cleaning products, sponges or tea-towels, just ask at the Front Desk. Let's keep this place clean, together!

### Key register

- ⚙ Please keep your key register updated at all times as we have been faced with a few issues lately at the Front Desk, please be reminded, if a name is not on the list we will not give the key out for security purposes. If you need assistance or some instructions on how to add people to your online account, please contact the Front Desk. Please note, only the authorised person can update the key register.

### Meeting Rooms - chairs

- ⚙ Please do not remove chairs from the meeting rooms - if you need some for your kitchen, please ask at the Front Desk.

### Promotion

- ⚙ Please bring down any brochures/pamphlets to the ground floor bookshelf – it's such a great way to promote your organisation.
- ⚙ Join our Facebook page and sign up to our e-bulletin and keep up to date with our community news!

### Finance

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



IN THE HOUSE

## Welcome to the newest RHA addition!

We are absolutely delighted to announce the arrival of Michael's daughter, Charlotte Griffiths, born on October 2nd. The family of four are doing splendidly and Henry (Michael and Mel's 2-year old son) has taken on his big brother role like a pro. The whole family came in to visit us last week, and we all got some excellent baby cuddle time. Congratulations!



## 'Understanding the NDIS' workshops with AFDO

Australian Federation of Disability Organisations (AFDO) *Disability Loop* is rolling out more NDIS workshops across Victoria.



**Disability loop**  
Are you in the loop?

Their 'Understanding the NDIS' workshops are designed by people with disability, for people with disability and their families and carers.

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, to actually using the funds in your NDIS plan to live a better life in the community.

A light dinner/morning tea is included (depending on which session you attend below):

- ⚙ Cranbourne (Thursday 8th November, 5pm - 8pm)
- ⚙ Narre Warren (Saturday 10th November, 10am - 1pm)



For more information, and to register, please visit [www.disabilityloop.org.au](http://www.disabilityloop.org.au)

If you have any questions, please email [disabilityloop@afdo.org.au](mailto:disabilityloop@afdo.org.au) or (03) 9662 3324.

## Disability Resources Centre (DRC) focus groups



DRC is running focus groups to hear from you and others about your experience in applying for the Disability Support Pension (DSP).

They want to develop a tool kit to make it easier to understand the DSP and how to apply.

Participation is free and DRC will reimburse reasonable travel costs.

**When?** They will be holding the focus groups on the following dates:

- ⚙ Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> November (2pm – 4pm)
- ⚙ Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November (10am – 12pm)

**Where?** Jenny Florence room, Ross House, 247 Flinders Lane, Melbourne

For more information, please contact Nick on (03) 9671 3000 or [nick@drc.org.au](mailto:nick@drc.org.au).

## Congratulations CLAN!

Care Leavers Australasia Network (CLAN) has been select as a finalist for the Community Organisation Award category of the 2018 Human Rights Awards!

This is an incredible achievement, well done CLAN!

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



CARE LEAVERS AUSTRALASIA NETWORK  
A national peak organisation for people who grew up in an Orphanage, Children's Home or Foster Care.



## New tenant

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. We aim to inspire and engage audiences with social justice and human rights issues via an annual festival, which is scheduled to run in May next year.

We're super happy to have landed in Ross House amongst such a supportive and empowered community of wonderful organisations. Feel free to drop in and have a chat with us if you want to get involved with our 2019 program [www.hraff.org.au](http://www.hraff.org.au).

HUMAN  
RIGHTS  
ARTS &  
FILM  
FESTIVAL

## The Australian Loneliness Dialogue



Friends for Good is proud to present the first national conference on loneliness in Australia: The Australian Loneliness Dialogue.

The aim of the conference is to work together to understand loneliness in our communities, raise the profile of this issue and to develop recommendations for actions required by government, policy makers and practitioners.

**Where?** Marriott Hotel, Corner Exhibition Street and Lonsdale Streets

**When?** Tuesday 13th November 2018 (9:30am - 4:30pm)

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

## Post Polio Victoria AGM

You are invited to attend the Post Polio Victoria (PPV)'s Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Monday 26th November 2018 (11am - 1pm).

Following the brief formalities on the day, they'll have a young polio survivor (guest speaker), who will talk about the NDIS to VCAT, as well as a disability advocate talking about the importance, benefits and challenges of 'speaking up'.

Please contact PPV on 0431 702 137 or [info@postpoliovictoria.org.au](mailto:info@postpoliovictoria.org.au) to RSVP or for more information.



## DRC's Transport for All Launch

DRC is proudly launching *Transport for All* – the report highlights the findings and recommendations developed from consultation with Victorians with disabilities who use public transport. This initiative was funded by the DHHS Innovation Fund.

The launch will take place on Monday 26th November 2018 in the Jenny Florence room, 2-3pm, and the guest speaker is Colleen Furlanetto, Disability Commissioner to Commercial Passenger Vehicles Vic.

**RSVP** to Kerri at (03) 9761 3000 by 19<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

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





247-251 Flinders Lane  
Melbourne VIC 3000

Phone: 03 9650 1599

Fax: 03 9650 3689

Email: [rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au](mailto:rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au)

[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

[michael.griffiths@rosshouse.org.au](mailto:michael.griffiths@rosshouse.org.au)



### Facility Manager

Nazzareno Marchionda

[n.marchionda@rosshouse.org.au](mailto:n.marchionda@rosshouse.org.au)



### Development Program Manager

Amber Moore

[amber.moore@rosshouse.org.au](mailto:amber.moore@rosshouse.org.au)



### Finance Officer

Junxia xu

[junxia.xu@rosshouse.org.au](mailto:junxia.xu@rosshouse.org.au)



### Information & Administration Officer

Katie Stadtfeld Cunnane

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



### Membership & Tenancy Officer

Rebecca Jahr

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

### Casual staff

Lucie McMahon

Greta McMahon

Ella Marchionda

Stephanie East

Patti Gerkens

