

APRIL 2022

IN THE HOUSE

Ross House Association Member and Tenant News

Ross House Association is Seeking a New Treasurer!

2022 marks the 10th year that RHA Treasurer, Keith Bettles, has been in the role. Over the last decade he has improved the accounts considerably, made a number of significant changes that have greatly assisted the Association and steered us through some difficult economic times.

Keith is planning on retiring at the end of this year, having dedicated a significant number of years to the position. Therefore, RHA is looking for a new Treasurer over the next few months to enable a suitable handover of the position and accounts.

The Treasurer is an Officer position on the Ross House Association Committee of Management and therefore needs to be the nominated members representative of a Ross House Association Member organisation. Ideally, the individual is able to join the Finance & Risk Subcommittee and the RHA Committee of Management for a few months prior to the election of new Committee members at the 2022 RHA AGM in November this year.

If you are interested, would like more information on the role or accounts, or can recommend anyone for the position, please contact General Manager, Michael Griffiths at michael.griffiths@rosshouse.org.au.

2022 RHA Committee

Chairperson
Christine McAuslan
(COSHG)

Deputy Chairperson
Ntannis Davi
(DBV)

Treasurer
Keith Bettles
(U3A City of Melbourne)

Secretary
Scot Muirden
(CBSF)

Maggie Maguire (Appointed Member)

De Grebner (Ex TreeProject, Appointed Member)

Richard Caven (Appointment Member)

Nazzareno Marchionda
(Appointed Member RHA Staff)

Michael Griffiths (Ex-Officio, RHA General Manager)



Reflections by the RHA Chairperson

BY CHRISTINE MCAUSLAN

Recently, I finally got to make a visit to Ross House for the day. Prior to COVID I endeavoured to visit new tenants' offices to introduce myself and make sure that they knew the committee is not a faceless group and to feel free to voice any issues or ask any questions. Sadly this was another thing that fell by the wayside over 2020-2021. On this trip I managed to pop into new tenant Schizy and bumped into Pauline Williams from AMIDA as we passed to and from the lift. These contacts made me feel as though some kind of normal might be on the return at last. It was so great to be back in the House after a prolonged absence.

The visit was also another reminder that Ross House is not just an office space, but a place of interaction, networking and connection. A place that has the ability to offer so much more than the separate spaces that are each organisations place of work. Much of that connection is also down to us as individuals to make as we go about our work. As much as staff and committee may work on the running and governance of Ross House, the community is the heart of the 'House' and has a huge part to play in enhancing everything Ross House stands for.

I encourage everyone to actively take part by engaging with others and welcoming newcomers, particularly those who move onto your own floor. Talk to our General Manager Michael Griffiths or myself about joining a sub-committee, the committee itself or any suggestions you may have. The reality is that Ross House is self-managed and as you will read below we need people to consider coming on to the committee and contribute to the running of Ross House.

Our Treasurer Keith Bettles has done a fantastic job over the years in his role in bringing about Ross House's finances, reports and budgets. This,

along with the work of the Finance and Risk Subcommittee, has achieved a comprehensive and high standard of financial awareness that has enabled us to maintain a realistic view of our financial status into the future. However, Keith will not stand at the 2022 AGM and the Treasurer position will be vacant. We will need a nominated representative from the membership to take on this office bearer position. If you are aware of someone who may be interested, please encourage them to contact our General Manager and have that discussion as to what is required.

At the last committee meeting we welcomed a new appointed committee member Margaret O'Loughlin. This addition of Margaret's skills and experience to the committee and connections within the 'House' will enhance our discussions and debates. This brings our numbers of appointed and member representative to 4 each. It must be noted that we can't have more appointed members than nominated representatives. At the last AGM there were no new candidates from nominated representatives. We anticipated that the applications would be low in number given the past two years when so many were adapting to their own groups needs because of COVID.

Coming onto the committee is not for everyone. However, I hope as the current Chairperson, we have put in place procedures that have made everyone feel comfortable in participating in discussions and debate and voicing their opinions freely - essential to making sure all aspects are covered and thoroughly discussed at meetings.



RHA Chairperson
Christine McAuslan



Included In This Issue



Building and Maintenance

Melbourne Rail updates

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CMVic

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in Humans of Ross House

Volunteer Opportunity
with Humanists Australia



Building and Maintenance

FROM THE ROSS HOUSE TEAM

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

- Air purifiers have been installed in all entrance foyers and meeting rooms.
- Fluorescent lights are to be replaced with LEDs on levels 2,3,4 and Ground. Level 1 was completed in December last year.

Upcoming works/happenings

- New Security Swipe System is to be rolled out first week of May.

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 - 2022

Ross House
247-251 Flinders Lane Melbourne VIC 3000

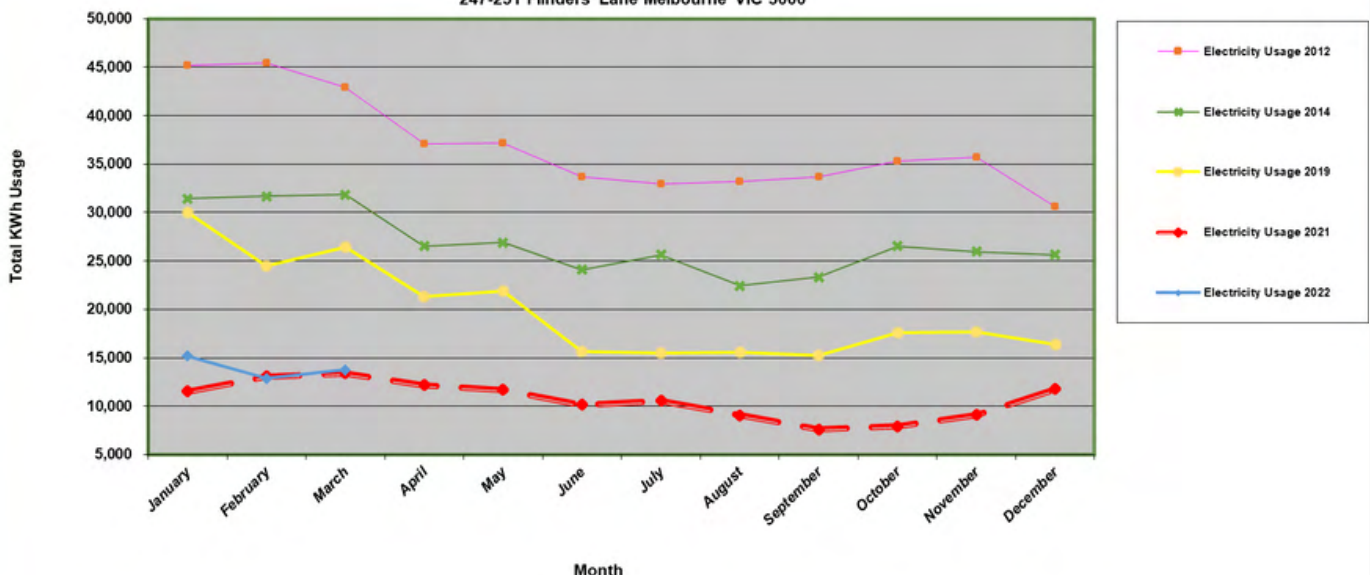




Image credit: Zed Fitzhume

Melboure Metro Rail Update

FROM THE ROSS HOUSE TEAM

These are the planned and current works for the Melbourne Metro Rail Project:

- Construction works within the Town Hall Station precinct during April 2022 include:
 - Structures and lining works within the central cavern and rail tunnels
 - Shaft construction and Shaft A pile demolition works within the Flinders Quarter site
 - Hoarding realignment and pile breakback works on Flinders Street
 - Station build out works within the acoustic shed at City Square.
- Construction of the Oversight Development (OSD) will commence once a concrete slab has been installed at the Flinders Quarter site. Expected in late 2022.

Melbourne Climate Health Picnic

Join the Climate and Health Alliance (CAHA) at the Melbourne #ClimateHealth Picnic in Malvern East!

CAHA and Doctors for the Environment Australia are co-hosting a picnic at Phoenix Park, to encourage informative discussions about climate change and our health with local health professionals.

Everyone is welcome! Bring yourself, your friends, family, and a picnic. There will be stations set up to talk to health professionals with different areas of expertise. Come along for music, conversations and like-minded folks from your area. We'd love to meet you!

On rain, hail or shine! We've booked some indoor space at the community centre, so there'll be somewhere dry, even if it rains.

When? This Sunday May 1 2022, 1:30pm - 3:30pm

Where? Phoenix Park Community Centre, Malvern East VIC

For more information please visit www.caha.org.au/climatehealth_picnic.

If you have something you would like to contribute to the June RHA Newsletter, please email Ruby at rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au





Invitation to participate in Humans of Ross House

EVERYONE HAS A STORY TO TELL.
WE'D LOVE TO HEAR YOURS.

Share your story and your passion for your cause.
Educate, entertain, and engage a new audience!

We invite you to participate in Humans of Ross House, a social media initiative that provides you with an opportunity to tell your own story and show what's important to you and your organisation.

Humans of Ross House is a way we can celebrate the wonderful community we have built here at Ross House, and a way we can invite our wider community to learn more about us.

To take part, all you'll need to do is provide photos of yourself and an accompanying story.

To make it easier, we can provide you with prompts in the form of questions to answer, or we can meet up and chat in person or online.

The invitation is open to members, tenants, and their communities, so please spread the word.

For more information, or to register your interest, please email Ruby at rosshouse.org.au or call (03) 9650 1599



Housekeeping Notices

FROM THE ROSS HOUSE TEAM

Just a quick reminder of the following:

- Please use the designated bins in the foyer on the ground floor for cartridges and masks only.
- Please cancel bookings that you are not using via your online account to ensure they do not appear on your invoices. This will help avoid future confusion
- If you require casual parking, please call reception on (03) 9650 1599 and please park in your assigned bay.

Grants and Assistance Programs

FROM THE ROSS HOUSE TEAM

These are some of the grants and assistance programs currently available that we think look good:

Andrews Foundation

Andrews Foundation Grants

Grants are made to organisations in Victoria and the Trust gives priority to: Projects which are designed to enhance the educational and social needs of young people; designed to develop, test and implement creative solutions to persistent, difficult social and environmental needs and problems; requests for small Grants to enable smaller community organisations to begin or continue to make a positive difference in their communities; and Grants from applicants with a major number of volunteers from the community the applicant seeks to benefit.

- **Community Organisations:** These Grants are aimed to help community organisations that are locally based to either get started or enhance an existing project. The Trust will look to significant contributions from volunteers and other community organisations when making a Grant. The usual limit for such a Grant is \$5,000.
- **Social Disadvantage:** The Trust sees the need to assist organisations that work in the area of social disadvantage, needs and problems in order to help individuals and groups to find sustainable solutions to their issues. The Trust favours the targeting of such issues by locally based organisations. However, the Trust will not make Grants to pay for salaries. The usual limit for such a Grant is \$10,000.

Eligibility: Not-for-Profits (DGR Required)

Funding Available: \$20,000 (max)

Round: Ongoing

For further information please see:

<https://andrewsfoundation.org.au/>

Broadtree Foundation

Financial support for LGBTQIA+ groups

The Broadtree Foundation is a family operated Private Ancillary Fund (PAF) which provides direct funding to not-for-profit organisations in order to improve the quality of life for people within various communities.

The Foundation aims to support the improvement of the quality of life for people identifying as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, intersex (eg people who do not identify as heterosexual) and their families. Within this broad community they also focus on:

- Young people
- Older people
- People who are or at risk of homelessness
- People with a disability
- Families

What will be funded?

- **Organisational capacity building** - One off funding to support new organisations or organisations which are seeking to grow their capacity in a relevant area.
- **Project funding** - Recurrent funding (up to 3 years) for a new initiative which will achieve outcomes aligned with the goals of the Foundation.

Eligibility: Not-for-Profits, Unincorporated Groups (DGR Required)

Round: Ongoing

Funding: \$25,000

For further information please see:

<https://www.broadtreefoundation.org>

*Stay connected and
follow RHA on Instagram
@rosshouseassociation*



Tenant Feature

ANTAR, ROOM 2.10

ANTaR Victoria is grassroots, largely volunteer organisation campaigning for justice in solidarity with Australia's First Peoples.

ANTaR Victoria acknowledges that at the time of European arrival, the totality of the lands that are now known as Victoria were occupied by sovereign Indigenous nations who owned, cared for and enjoyed their land in accordance with their laws, customs and traditions.

The Indigenous nations' sovereignty as well as their peoples' right of ownership, occupation, use and enjoyment of lands have never been ceded.

We support Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples' public voice on issues of:

- self-determination
- land rights
- disadvantage
- treaty/treaties
- cultural respect

And promote respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and cultures among non-Indigenous Victorians.

We achieve our goals through community-awareness raising projects such as school engagement projects, community stalls, provision of resource packs, facilitating networks of individuals and community organization, and through state and nationally-generated grassroots campaigns, such as **Sea of Hands**.

If you would like your RHA member or tenant organisation to feature here, please email rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au



Tomorrow Australia is ANTaR Victoria's new direction as we walk towards the future.

A home for us all without negating history and truth. Sharing the strength and resilience of First Peoples past and present as we move to Tomorrow Australia.

Uncle Richard Frankland, Gunditjmara man and ANTaR Victoria patron, has helped to guide these early stages of ANTaR Victoria's new direction.

Come and visit us any on Mondays or Thursdays, we are on the second floor.



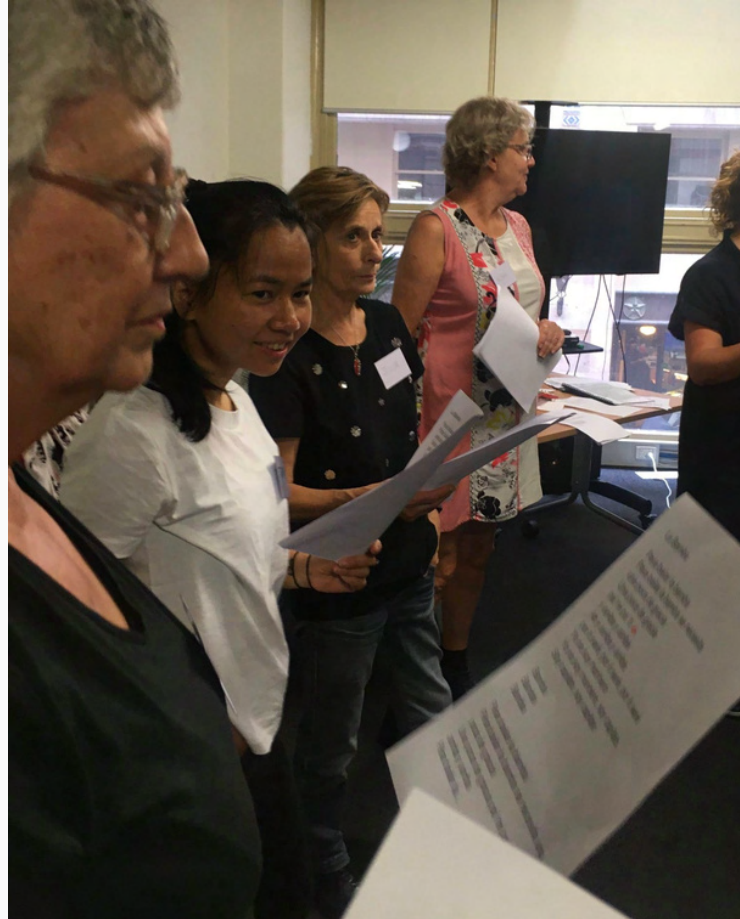
Moving News

FROM COMMUNITY MUSIC VICTORIA

Community Music Victoria (CMVic) is relocating to Collingwood Yards where we are excited to be co-sharing an office space with Music Victoria. Before we go, we would like to take this opportunity to say a huge heartfelt thank you and a very fond farewell to all our neighbours and friends in the Ross House Association.

Since the early 2000s, CMVic has occupied a space on the ground floor referred to fondly as 'the cave', a small room that housed the big beating heart of the peak body for community music making in Victoria. Its lack of windows has in no way compromised our vision for a society where music-making is a natural and assumed part of Australian daily life and a key component for happy, healthy, socially-connected living. Our belief continues to be that everyone has the need, right and capacity to make music regardless of whether they've been doing so for years or are just starting out.

Being part of the Ross House community has provided CMVic with a firm scaffold from which to operate. We have appreciated having shared access to resources, training and meeting



rooms, and felt privileged to work alongside other community groups and not for profit organisations managing big visions on small budgets.

We love that the social justice and environment movement continues to flourish within its walls. The work undertaken in the beehive-like structure of offices and meeting rooms into which people are returning once again, offers hope, inspiration and enrichment to lives and communities not only in Melbourne but across the state of Victoria. because of the rare egalitarian existence of Ross House, and CMVic has been proud to be part of it.

We hope you will stay in touch with us! To see the full range of services and resources CMVic offers and to find out more about our work, visit the website, www.cmvic.org.au. Stay connected with us via Facebook or Instagram too, and to everyone in the RHA community, keep on keeping on; we love what you do and it's been our pleasure to work alongside you all.



I BECAME A MEMBER BECAUSE...

"I became a member of Humanists Australia because I want to stand with others who also think that a **secular, impartial and non-judgemental approach to improving our world** will enable us all to pursue meaning and purpose in life." – Jodie



Volunteer Opportunity Humanists Australia

Are you a humanist? Do you have an hour or two a week to join a group of humanists across Australia who put together a list of events happening that might be of interest to other humanists? We particularly need volunteers in Victoria. Volunteers meet up monthly online by zoom to compare notes and share their findings. Even if you don't have time to volunteer we welcome new members who receive 4 copies a year of the Australian Humanist magazine and a 'Happy Human' lapel pin!

Not sure whether you're a humanist or not? Humanism is the outcome of a long tradition of free thought that inspired many of the world's great thinkers and creative artists and gave rise to science itself. Humanism is ethical and rational, and supports democracy and human rights. It also insists that

personal liberty must be combined with social responsibility. Humanism is a response to the widespread demand for an alternative to dogma and religion. It values artistic creativity and imagination. Humanism is a way of life that brings meaning and fulfilment. By utilising free inquiry, the power of science and creative imagination for the furtherance of peace and in the service of compassion, humanists have confidence that human beings have the means to solve the problems that confront us all. [Amsterdam Declaration on Humanism, 1992]

Humanists Australia helps people live an ethical and meaningful life through humanism. We advocate for positive social change, and provide authentic, heartfelt humanist ceremonies to mark life's big milestones.

COVID-19 Support

Disability Resources Centre (DRC) are available to support people with issues around COVID-19 vaccination

Disability Resources Centre (DRC) have started a new project to support people with disabilities to seek information about COVID-19 vaccination and to get vaccinated if they would like to do so. We will support people with disabilities by removing practical barriers to vaccination, such as finding reliable information, making vaccine bookings, getting to vaccination clinics or being vaccinated at home.

If there are people in your organisation or community who need support around COVID-19 vaccination, you can let them know that DRC are available to assist them. They can contact Cath or Phyllis on 0434 709 263 or covidsupport@drc.org.au.



*Questions about Covid19 requirements?
Check out the RHA Meeting Room Guide on our website home page*





Mojo Arts Gala for World Schizophrenia Day

Schizy Inc presents Mojo Arts Gala for World Schizophrenia Day.

A whizzbang troupe of sparkly artists present the living experience of being in our mental health system through stand up comedy, song performance, spoken word and visual art. It'll be full of spirit and it'll be loads of fun!

Schizy Inc are currently running professional workshops at Ross House upskilling twenty creative people from greater Melbourne and regional Victoria, opening up vocational pathways into the arts and lived experience advocacy.

Schizy Inc is a volunteer-led NFP based at Ross House. We are the only lived experience and social model advocacy voice for people with schizophrenia in Australia. We are arts-based and work to identify and remove barriers for people in the mental health system.

When? Saturday 28 May 2022, 4pm - 6pm

Where? LOOP Bar Melbourne

For more information visit www.schizy.org or email info@schizy.org

Image credit: Schizy Inc (Andrew Lewis at Mojo 2021)



grandparents
VICTORIA



What's happening to the public sector and what can we do?

LUNCHTIME DISCUSSION FORUM

Support for families is urgently needed, yet the role and size of the public sector agencies that offer this support is shrinking.

Services to families are being outsourced to the private sector.

Is this acceptable? Should essential services be held in the public sector?



**A 2 Hour
Discussion**

**Lunch
provided**

Tuesday 10th May

12.30pm - 2:30pm

Hayden Raysmith Room

L4, Ross House

247-251 Flinders Lane
Melbourne

RSVP by Friday 6th May

Please include your name,
your organisation and your
contact phone number

Places limited to 40 people
(max 2 per organisation)
so book early!

If demand is high we will
organise a second event

RSVP Naomi Whyley ✉ director@grandparents.com.au ☎ (03) 9372 2422

Time Out

A carer respite program



 **Travellers Aid**

The Time Out program provides respite for unpaid carers who look after parents, partners, adult children, or other family members, so that they can have some time out to attend to their own personal needs.

Here's how it works:

- Using public transport, we can accompany people to and from attractions, events, appointments or other day-to-day activities either as an added support for the carer or as the replacement carer.
- Available in locations that are accessible by public transport in metropolitan Melbourne and regional centres (Geelong, Ballarat, Bendigo, Seymour and Traralgon).
- Activities tailored to individual preferences and can include visiting a local attraction; enjoying an art gallery or museum; attending a music concert or the theatre; experiencing the ambience of a local park; a regional zoo or shop at a local market.
- We are able to provide limited personal care such as meal assistance.
- Our services are provided with the highest level of care, respect and dignity.

All Travellers Aid volunteers and staff delivering the service are screened and suitably trained.

Find out more or book Time Out:
www.travellersaid.org.au
or call 03 9068 8187.

The Time Out program is supported by the Victorian Government.



Window Display Opportunities

Promote your organisation, current campaigns, projects, or events, in the Ross house display windows on Flinders Lane.

We have a handful of month long 2022 spots left so if you're interested please contact Ruby at rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au to discuss further.

Available for use by RHA Members and Tenants.



Non Profit Training

Ross House Member, Non Profit Training, provides training for not-for-profit organisations, associations and charities across Australia. Below is there upcoming schedule:

Online Finance Training

Wednesday 25 May (10am-3:30pm)

Cost: \$300 per person

Online Leadership Training Program

Tuesday 31 May/7 June (10am-3:30pm)

Cost: \$600 per person

Online Grant Writing Training

Tuesday 31 May/7 June (10am-3:30pm)

Cost: \$300 per person

Online Managing Conflict Training

Wednesday 22 June (10am-3:30pm)

Cost: \$300 per person

Project Management Training

Wednesday 24 August (10am-3:30pm)

Cost: \$300 per person

Ross House members and tenants can access a 10% discount by entering the code 'ROSS' in the discount/promo section when checking out.

For more information visit

<https://nonprofittraining.com.au/>

Image credit: Non Profit Training



Through the Employers Lens

A Free Online Roundtable for Businesses and Recruiters!

When: Monday 23rd May at 2pm AEST

Wednesday 22nd June at 2pm AEST

- Learn about funding and other assistance that is available to employers to cover the costs of employing staff with disability.
- Hear from management at ABC about their experience with employing staff who are blind or vision impaired.

Business Roundtables by Blind Citizens Australia

Did you miss our Business Roundtable in April to learn about funding and other assistance that is available to employers to cover the costs of employing staff with disability?

We will be holding two more online Roundtables in May and June for businesses who want to learn more about employing a person who is blind or vision impaired.

If you would like to learn how your business can become more diverse and inclusive, please contact Cheryl.gration@bca.org.au to register your interest in attending our online Roundtable, and to learn more about BCA's 'An Eye to the Future' project.

For more information about the An Eye to the Future project please visit <https://eyetothefuture.com.au/>



Join the Ross House
Buy, Sell, give Donate
Facebook group! Click
here.





STAY CONNECTED AT ROSS HOUSE

Weekly emails (Stay Connected)

- Thank you for all your fantastic contributions - it has been great to see and hear what you have all been up to. If you have anything you would like to share, please send it through to rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au

E-bulletin

- Please make use of our weekly e-bulletin, which goes out to over 600 subscribers. You can subscribe by heading over to our website at www.rosshouse.org.au and scrolling to the bottom of the page or by emailing us at rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au.

Zoom

- Many groups are using Zoom to stay connected. Zoom is a great platform for video and audio conferencing, chat and webinars. RHA have also set up Zoom conferencing for both staff meetings and committee meetings. If you need assistance setting up Zoom for your organisation, please contact Ross House at rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au

RHA INVOICES

RHA would like to thank everyone for paying invoices on time.

A friendly reminder to cancel any room bookings (via your online account) that you are not using. This will avoid any confusion and cancellation charges on invoices. If you need help, please contact Ruby on (03) 650 1599 / rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au

Follow and like us!

Did you know that Ross House Association has a Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn page?

Follow us now by clicking the links below:

Facebook >

<https://www.facebook.com/rosshouseassociation>

Instagram >

<https://www.instagram.com/rosshouseassociation/>

LinkedIn >

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/4860123/admin>

We share member and tenant happenings on a daily basis. If you would like to share anything, please contact us on rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au / (03) 9650 1599.





247 - 251 Flinders Lane
Melbourne VIC 3000

📞 03 9650 1599

✉️ rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au

🌐 www.rosshouse.org.au

📘 @rosshouseassociation

📷 [rosshouseassociation](#)

📺 [rosshouseassociation](#)

In The House is a Ross House Association internal publication, produced six times a year.

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

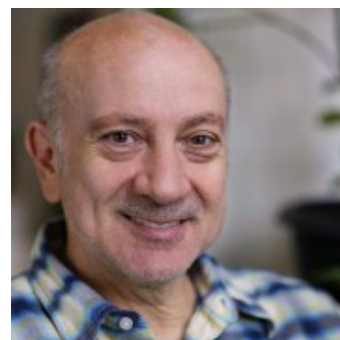
Please send submissions to:
rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au

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 THANKS YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!



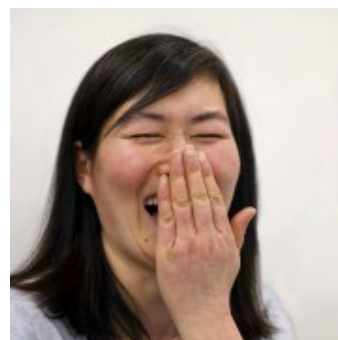
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Information & Administration Officer
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