

MAY 2025

# IN THE HOUSE

Ross House Association Member and Tenant News



## Project Updates

### FROM ROSS HOUSE ASSOCIATION

It has been a very busy start to 2025, so I wanted to give you all an update on the various projects underway at Ross House.

#### Commercial Lease

As you would of seen by now, the Melbourne Winery has just opened on the ground floor of Ross House. This project has been through many stages the last 7 years and we are thrilled to finally see it come to completion. This commercial lease is a significant milestone for the Association that will allow us to focus on delivering improved facilities and services for our community over the next 10 years. I would like to thank everyone who has assisted along the way.

#### DGR Application Status

We are also in the process of applying for DGR status for the Ross House Trust. Ross House Association is the Trustee of the Ross House Trust and it is the Trust that owns the Ross House building. We have submitted our application to Treasury, Australian Government, and they have requested that the Ross House Trust be registered for an ABN, which we've done. They have also asked that the Trust be registered with the ACNC. Maddocks, who are acting on our behalf Pro bono, are in the process of applying to the ACNC, however there is some question as to whether the Ross House Trust Deed will be sufficient to meet the requirements of the ACNC. If there are any changes required to the Trust Deed, this will have to be done through the Supreme Court, and will inevitably delay the application.

#### New Strategic Plan

The 2025-2030 Ross House Association Strategic Plan has just finished community consultation, with Members & Tenants providing feedback through an online questionnaire and in person drop-in sessions. Thank you to everyone for your valuable and constructive feedback, it has now been incorporated into the Plan.

Continued on Page 2...

## Included In This Issue

Building and Maintenance

Melbourne Rail updates

Colin's Corner

RHA Ethical caterers

RHA Open Day

Welcome Back Brunch recap

Grants and Assistance

Update from TreeProject

Member Feature:  
Filipino Community Council  
of Victoria

Update from Retina Australia

Update from SOWW

Community Calendar



# Project Updates from Ross Association

Continued from Page 1...

The new Strategic Plan is now with the Ross House Association Committee of Management for final changes and adoption. We look forward to releasing the 2025-2030 Ross House Association Strategic Plan for the start of the financial year on July 1<sup>st</sup> 2025.

As you can see there is a lot going on at the moment in this grand old building of ours, if anyone wants any further information on the above please contact me at [michael.griffiths@rosshouse.org.au](mailto:michael.griffiths@rosshouse.org.au).

Thank you,  
Michael Griffiths (CEO)  
Ross House Association

Ross House Association acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional custodians of the lands where we live, learn and work. We respectfully acknowledge the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation and the traditional owners of the land on which Ross House is located. We pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.



## RHA COMMITTEE 2025

Chairperson  
Colin Neave AM  
(ABC Friends)

Treasurer  
Alba Chliakhtine  
(ABRISA)

Secretary  
Denise Boyd  
(STAR)

Ally Scott  
(Ordinary Member DRC)

Maggie Maguire AM  
(Appointed Member)

Nazzareno Marchionda  
(Appointed Member RHA Staff)

Michael Griffiths  
(Ex-Officio, RHA CEO)

# Colin's Corner

Welcome to Colin's Corner!

**Colin Neave AM, Chairperson of the Ross House Association, shares some thoughts and highlights from the last couple of months.**

It's hard to believe that a full year has passed since I had the opportunity to join the committee as Chairperson!

I've truly enjoyed attending Ross House functions throughout the year. I often think back to the beautiful and powerful song performed by Heidi at the March event celebrating Neurodiversity Week—moments like these remind me of the incredible talent and diversity we have within our walls.

I'm delighted to report that the Strategic Plan Working Party is now developing the final draft of the Strategic Plan 2025-2030, incorporating all your valuable feedback. Thank you for your supportive responses.



[ID: photo of Colin Neave wearing a checkered shirt, standing in front of green foliage smiling at the camera].

Please keep a look out for updates in your inboxes, we will be sharing the final version with you all over the coming weeks.

I look forward to working with all members on the implementation of our new Strategic Plan in the coming years. Your engagement continues to make Ross House the unique community it is.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions about our new Strategic Plan.

Colin Neave AM, Chairperson  
Ross House Association

## CPR First Aid Sign Up!

We still have a couple of spots available for our tenants to participate in the upcoming CPR First Aid session on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2025 in the Hayden Raysmith Room.

For more information, please contact the Front Desk at (03) 9650 1599 / [rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au](mailto:rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au).



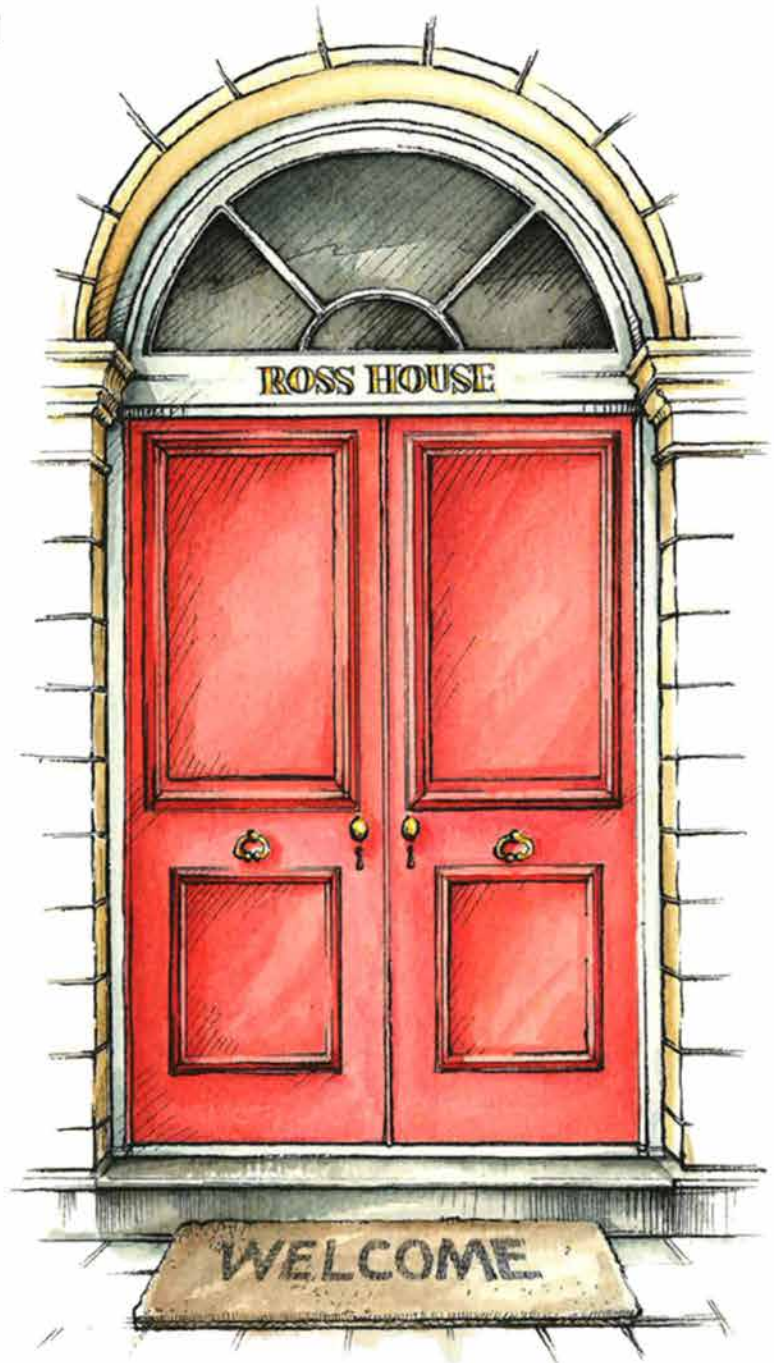
# Ross House Open Day July 2025

BY RHA

**Thank you to everyone who has signed up to participate in what promises to be a busy and exciting day!**

If you're unable to participate, we invite all members and tenants to contribute promotional materials and videos for us to showcase on the day. We already have some fantastic contributions, but we're also looking for additional artwork and information displays to exhibit.

[ID: A watercolour sketch of a red door with a white sign above which reads 'Ross House'. Underneath is a brown doormat which reads 'Welcome'].



**Interested in contributing?**

Email us at [rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au](mailto:rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au) or visit the front desk for more information.

Thank you!  
The Ross House team

**Open Day  
Saturday July  
26<sup>th</sup>, 2025**



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.

# Building and Maintenance

## FROM THE ROSS HOUSE TEAM

There is 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:

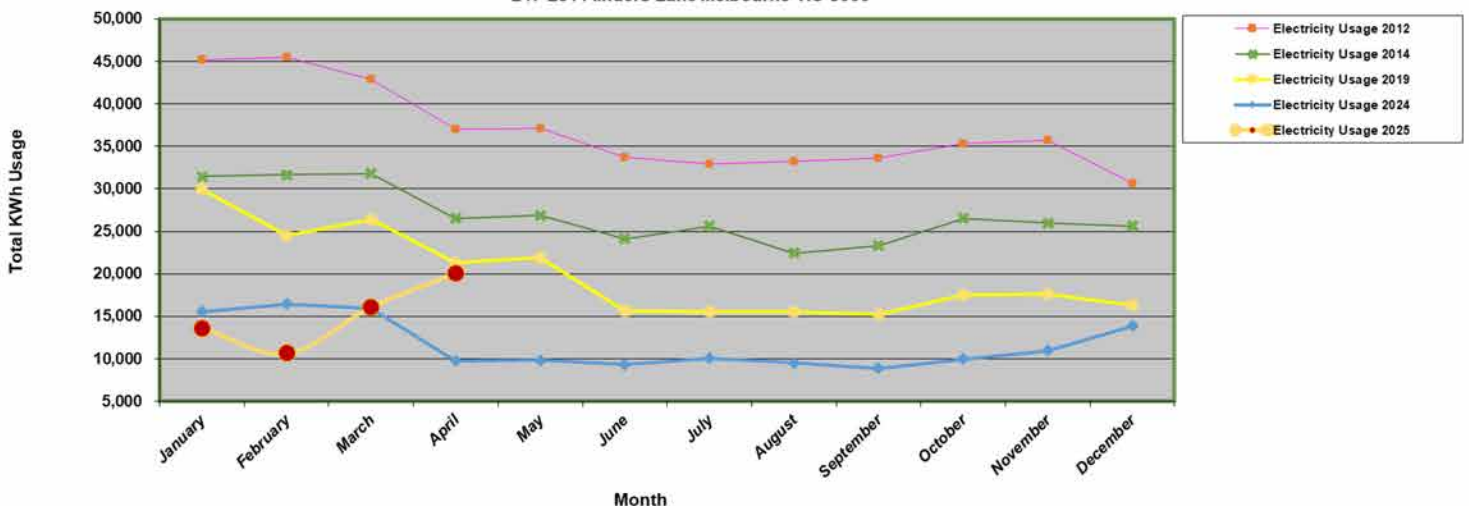
Over the next few weeks, Ross House will be migrating tenants and Meeting Room Wi-Fi Networks to one universal network called RH-Wi-Fi.

Every tenant will have a username and password to access this network. The reason that this is being implemented is to minimise the current number of networks on the system that has been causing congestion issues from time to time.

Nazz, our Facility Manager will be contacting every tenant regarding setting up their new Wi-Fi login over the coming weeks.



Electricity Comparison From 2012 to 2025  
2025  
Ross House  
247-251 Flinders Lane Melbourne VIC 3000





# 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 from April 2025 include:

- Station entrance construction and underground build-out works at the City Square, Flinders Quarter and Federation Square sites.
- Ongoing construction and fit-out of above ground structures work at City Square including the station entrance canopy.
- Footpath reinstatement works on Swanston Street outside City Square.
- Campbell Arcade restoration works.
- Train testing through the tunnel.

For more information on these works, see the [April 2025 Town Hall construction update \(PDF, 1.7 MB\)](#).

If you have any questions regarding these works, or would like more information on the project, please visit [www.metrotunnel.vic.gov.au](http://www.metrotunnel.vic.gov.au) or phone 1800 551 927.

*If you have something you would like to contribute to the next RHA Newsletter, please email Katie or Carol at [rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au](mailto:rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au)*



## Catering with Purpose

At our Ross House events, we try to partner with caterers who share our commitment to positive social and environmental impact.

We proudly continue to implement these practices by sourcing local caterers, offering vegetarian and vegan options & using eco friendly and biodegradable plates, bowls and cutlery, disposing of them in the City of Melbourne organic waste compactor.

Our most recent caterer, Waverly Social Enterprises, empower people with disabilities through innovative employment across their services - the yummy food went down a storm!

For a full list of our recommended caterers, please refer to page 7 of our Meeting Room User Guide, available on our website.

[Ross House Meeting Room Guide](#)

[www.rosshouse.org.au/facilities/meeting-room-hire-melbourne](http://www.rosshouse.org.au/facilities/meeting-room-hire-melbourne)

[ID below: Michael (AKA) Mr Mouse from Reinforce, Katie (RHA) and Ruby (RHA) are smiling at the camera, standing next to a table of food].



# Member Feature: Filipino Community Council of Victoria Inc.

Last month we welcomed the **Filipino Community Council of Victoria Inc. (FCCVi)** to our Ross House Community. FCCVi is the peak body representing Filipino organisations across Victoria.

Established in the late 1980's at the request of the Australian Government, FCCVi was created to serve as a key communication link between government and the Filipino community.

They proudly continue that mission today - championing representation, access and support for Filipino Australians.

## What they do

FCCVi works closely with Commonwealth and State agencies to support Filipino individuals and families across Victoria through:

- Aged Care Services
- Emergency Relief Program
- International Student Welfare
- Regional Outreach
- Capacity Building

*If you would like your RHA member or tenant organisation to feature here, please email [rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au](mailto:rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au)*



**FCCVi**  
Filipino Community Council of  
Victoria, Incorporated

[ID: FCCVi's logo represents the colours of the Filipino flag - red, white, yellow and red. Swirl letters 'FCCVi' sit on a circle logo which includes five stars. Blue text underneath reads 'FCCVi' Filipino Community Council of Victoria Inc].

## Our Programs

FREE EVENT

**COMMUNITY  
PANTRY**

FREE EVENT

**Kaplan sa Hub**

EXCLUSIVE

**Damayán**

FREE EVENT

**INTERNATIONAL  
STUDENTS DAY**

To find out more information about FCCVi, please visit [www.fccvi.org.au](http://www.fccvi.org.au).

**VOLUNTEER  
WITH US**

GET LIVE  
UPDATES!

Scan to join our  
WhatsApp  
Group!



[ID: A photo of the Filipino community raising hands in a circle. Two red hearts sit above their hands].

# Grants and Assistance Programs

BY ROSS HOUSE ASSOCIATION



[ID: A yellow sign in front of green foliage reads 'Grants and Funding']

These are some of the grants and assistance programs currently available that we think might interest you.

## Community Service Announcements SBS Foundation

SBS allocates free airtime to Australian charities, community organisations and other relevant entities to promote services or events of a social, cultural, welfare, educational or beneficial nature aligned to the SBS Charter.

**Eligibility:** Not-for-profits, incorporated Groups

**Funding:** In-kind Contribution

**Round:** Ongoing

[www.sbs.com.au/aboutus/in-the-community/community-service-announcements](http://www.sbs.com.au/aboutus/in-the-community/community-service-announcements)

## Community Customer Grants Bank Australia

If your organisation banks with Bank Australia, you can apply for funding to support projects that will have a positive impact in priority areas such as: climate change, nature and biodiversity, affordable housing, First Nations recognition, refugee support, economic justice, education access, family violence prevention, animal welfare, LGBTIQ+ inclusion, gender equality, and disability inclusion.

**Eligibility:** Not-for-profits, Unincorporated Groups

**Funding:** Up to \$20,000

**Round:** Open, closes May 8 2025

[www.bankaustr.com.au/community-customer-grants](http://www.bankaustr.com.au/community-customer-grants)

## Fair - Community Wellbeing Funding The Ian Potter Foundation

In the Community Wellbeing program area, the Foundation seeks to identify and support those organisations which have well thought out projects that seek to help vulnerable members of the community to overcome the challenging circumstances in which they find themselves.

**Eligibility:** Not-for-profits, Unincorporated Groups, DGR status is required

**Funding:** up to \$60,000

**Round:** Closes 15 May 2025

[www.ianpotter.org.au/what-we-support/program-areas/community-wellbeing](http://www.ianpotter.org.au/what-we-support/program-areas/community-wellbeing)



**POSITIVE  
POWERFUL  
PARENTS**



**PARENTS  
RIGHTS  
NETWORK**



# MELBOURNE

## FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP GROUP 2025

**FEB  
28TH**

**ROSS HOUSE LEVEL 4  
12PM-2PM**

**MARCH  
28TH**

**ROSS HOUSE LEVEL 4  
12PM-2PM**

**APRIL  
25TH**

**ROSS HOUSE LEVEL 4  
12PM-2PM**

**MAY  
30TH**

**ROSS HOUSE LEVEL 4  
12PM-2PM**

**JUNE  
27TH**

**ROSS HOUSE LEVEL 4  
12PM-2PM**

**RSVP: CALL (03) 9639 9106 OR EMAIL  
INFO@POSITIVEPOWERFULPARENTS.COM.AU**

# TreeProject's Tree Planting Days in Autumn

BY TREEPROJECT

**Calling all planting enthusiasts – our autumn planting days in rural Victoria urgently need more volunteers!**

Have you ever thought about how to grow indigenous seeds in your home garden and not known where to start?

Here at TreeProject we are feeling very excited to begin our Planting Season! With such gratitude for our Volunteer Growers who have been caring for their seedlings of indigenous trees, shrubs and grasses which are now ready to be planted in Rural Victoria. It's that time of year to shake off the city dust, grab your gloves, rally some friends and join us on the paddocks for planting.

We urgently need volunteers for the following planting dates:

- **Tuesday 6th May - Gruyere**
- **Wednesday 7th May - Gruyere**
- **Thursday 8th May - Gruyere**
- **Tuesday 13th May - Yarra Glen**
- **Thursday 15th May - Dixons Creek**



[ID: Tree Project logo - black text reads Tree Project with a green leaf as the dot on top of the letter J].

If you think you can help, please register by clicking the link below:

[www.treeproject.org.au/how-you-can-help/tree-planting-dates](http://www.treeproject.org.au/how-you-can-help/tree-planting-dates)

## Why get involved?

It's the perfect way to keep warm, stay grounded, feel good, and help revegetate Victoria.

By choosing to plant indigenous species, you can support local wildlife and contribute to the restoration of Victoria's precious ecosystems.

TreeProject is unique in that we don't just plant trees - we grow them too. Urban volunteers are trained to cultivate indigenous seedlings in their backyards, nurturing them until they're ready for planting in regional Victoria.

These seedlings are then transported to rural landholders and Landcare groups in need, where yet another group of dedicated volunteers plants them. This model fosters collaboration between urban and rural communities, working together to restore Victoria's landscapes.

To find out more information, please visit [www.treeproject.org.au](http://www.treeproject.org.au).



[ID: An image of a person's hands are cupped, holding soil and a small plant].

---

TREE  
PLANTING  
DAYS FOR  
AUTUMN  
ARE HERE  
- JOIN US!

---



# Research into Inherited Retinal Diseases Matters



[ID: Blue graphic of an eye sits above blue text with reads 'Retina Australia'].

**RETINA**  
australia

BY RETINA AUSTRALIA

**Did you know there are an estimated over 19,000 Australians are living with an inherited retinal disease?**

Inherited retinal diseases (IRDs) result in progressive, irreversible & incurable vision loss and blindness. They are the leading cause of blindness in working-age adults and the second leading cause of blindness in children in Australia, with an estimated lifetime cost of \$5.2 million per person.

Though there is only gene therapy approved and available in Australia for only one rare type of IRD, this innovation has opened the door toward discovering new emerging therapies for other types of IRDs, of which there are over 20 rare forms. That is why Retina Australia exists.

Our annual Research Grants Program funds projects to accelerate medical research into early detection, discovering preventions & advancing new treatments, with the hope of progression toward unlocking cures for IRDs.

**But without any government support, the work we do is only possible thanks to the generosity of our supporters.**

Each year as we prepare for our Annual Appeal, we are reminded of the incredible power of community — the businesses, individuals, and partners who stand beside us to make a lasting difference in the lives of people affected by IRDs.

This June, we are asking people to help Retina Australia support emerging research by donating to our 2025 Annual Appeal.

We also want to give those with lived experience with IRDs a platform to share their stories and talk about why this work is so important to them. While there may be no current cures for IRDs, we want to show that having access to treatments matters and gives our community hope.

There are several ways you can get involved:

- Help us spread the word. We will begin posting about the Appeal on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn from 1 June. A great way to help us to re-share our posts.
- Start conversations on social media. Post your own words, images or videos this June saying why IRD research matters to you. (Don't forget to tag @RetinaAustralia and use the hashtag #eyematter when you do!
- Subscribe to our newsletter. Be among the first to hear about Retina Australia's work and the latest news related to inherited retinal diseases:  
[www.retinaaustralia.com.au/subscribe](http://www.retinaaustralia.com.au/subscribe).

Thank you for standing with us.

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

#eyematter



# Mojo Festival of Arts for World Schizophrenia Day 2025



BY SCHIZY INC

Mojo Festival of Arts for World Schizophrenia Day 2025 by Schizy Inc is on Saturday 24th May at FRINGE Common Rooms Ballroom, Carlton - everyone is welcome to attend!

Mojo Gala performing arts extravaganza features live music, theatre, spoken word, dance & cabaret, from around 30 artists with diverse mental health. This community event is a joyous optimistic celebration of all people with lived experience of diverse mental health rocking out Disability pride.

The sparky and talented Schizy Inc creative community has met every weekend at Ross House since February this year, devising new work, learning skills in performance, creating vocational networks in the arts, and being mentored by amazing arts industry professionals. Artists have created exciting work exploring themes important to them personally and socially, and the event champions lived experience pride at the gorgeous Common Rooms ballroom.

[ID: Schizy Inc logo which says 'Schizy Inc' in yellow text on a black circle background with a red border. There are blue, purple and red love hearts on the black circle too].

Mojo Festival of Arts is also an award winner! The project won the first ever Melbourne Award for Access and Inclusion in 2023, recognising world-leading practices and attitudes around complex mental health disability. Schizy Inc's vision is to instill positive perspectives of experiences like schizophrenia out in community, with a mission to enable people to explore disability through optimistic, life-affirming ways. Schizy Inc is a unique community arts organisation, being fully led by people with lived experience, with a diverse membership across Victoria, interstate and internationally.

Mojo Festival is one shiny part of a innovative program of Schizy Inc community activities, including Sidas Studio for visual artists and writers at Abbotsford Convent, a regional program based in Bendigo, year-round arts advocacy projects and a project developing a lived experience 'healing farm' in Victoria. Schizy Inc is a registered NFP charity with DGR managed by a Committee, supported by a loved team of volunteers, mentors and allies. Schizy Inc and Mojo Festival 2025 is proudly supported by Creative Australia and Department of Social Services.

[www.schizy.org](http://www.schizy.org)

Mojo Tickets: Eventbrite search 'Mojo 2025'

[ID below: Photo by Darren Gill of Mojo Festival cabaret artists]



# MOJO FESTIVAL OF ARTS 2025

**SCHIZY  
INC.**



Performing Arts workshops and events with the fabulously dazzling Schizy Inc artist community of creatives with diverse mental health.

Comedy \* Theatre \* Cabaret  
Spoken Word \* Songwriting

\*Workshops only for people with diverse mental health.

Gala Event  
Sat 24 May  
Melbourne  
FRINGE  
Common Rooms  
Ballroom

**WORLD  
SCHIZOPHRENIA  
DAY**

**Ross House**  
247 Flinders St.  
Melbourne

**Rad Cactus**  
Melbourne International  
Comedy Festival  
April 1, 2, 13

Info: [mojo@schizy.org](mailto:mojo@schizy.org)

[www.schizy.org](http://www.schizy.org)

# Book Launch Recap – Write on!

BY SOCIETY WOMEN WRITERS VICTORIA

February 21st saw members of the Society of Women Writers Victoria come together in the Jenny Florence Room to celebrate the launch of their book Write On!

Charting the first fifty years of the Society, now in its 55th year, the book details our history through recorded documents, members' memories and photos. Each decade was compiled by a different member some of whom have been members for many years.

The book was officially launched by the Society's patron, Hazel Edwards. We also drew the winning ticket for the raffle of a beautiful patchwork quilt made and donated by one of our members to help towards the cost of publishing our book.

The lucky winner was member, Janice, who had contributed to the book!



[ID: Green and purple graphics of a pen sit on a circle shape with black text reads 'The Society of Women Writers'].

What a fabulous day celebrating the history of our society's first fifty years!

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



[ID: photo from left to right: Janice Williams, writer, Veronica Schwarz, writer, Leigh Hay, editor, Hazel Edwards, Patron of SOWW and contributor, Janet Howie, writer, Del Nightingale, writer and project manager, Mary Jones, speaker, Judith Green, writer].



You are invited to our FREE training about:  
**How to be in Advisory Groups!**



**We will talk about:**

- What is an Advisory Group?
- How do I decide which Advisory Group I want to join?
- Tips to get ready for Advisory Group Meetings
- Tips for when you are in Advisory Group Meetings



This training is 1 day long and we will:

- Chat together
- Do activities



The training is for people with an Intellectual Disability or Acquired Brain Injury but anyone with disability is welcome to join us!

### Training dates you can choose:



Monday 5th May      **Time:** 10am - 3pm

Friday 23rd May      **Time:** 10am - 3pm

Tuesday 3rd June      **Time:** 10am - 3pm



**Where:** 247/251 Flinders Ln, Melbourne VIC 3000



Lunch will be provided



You do **not** have to be good at reading or writing.  
There will be **no** tests.



This training is co-designed and co-delivered by trainers with Intellectual Disability or an Acquired Brain Injury.



### How do I sign up for the training?

**Email:** [training@voiceatthetable.com.au](mailto:training@voiceatthetable.com.au)

**Phone:** 0490517148

**Website** [www.voiceatthetable.com.au](http://www.voiceatthetable.com.au)

# Welcome Back Brunch 2025 Recap

BY RHA

What a great event we had!

On Wednesday 19th March 2025 many of the Ross House community gathered to enjoy a Welcome Back Brunch.

The event date was chosen to coincide with Neurodiversity Celebration Week. We had the pleasure of having two wonderful community members speak.

Virginia (Nia) Giddings of SARU - Self Advocacy Resource Unit and Brain Injury Matters, shared her lived experience of neurodiversity. Nia lives with an Acquired Brain Injury sustained as a young adult. Nia truly lives a remarkable, full of adventure and interesting life.

Heidi of Schizy Inc then spoke, sang and played guitar! Just amazing!

Heidi shared her lived experience of autism, schizophrenia, and being a survivor. To see more of Heidi's awesomeness be sure to check out Heidi's website [www.heidieverett.com.au](http://www.heidieverett.com.au).

We sincerely thank Nia and Heidi for generously sharing so much with us all.



**Virginia Giddings (BIM & SARU) & Heidi Everett (Schizy Inc).**

Lastly, thank you to all who attended and for making these events so friendly, fun, meaningful and memorable!

For those of you who couldn't make the Welcome Back Brunch, be sure to come along to our Mid Year Morning tea on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2025 celebrating NAIDOC Week - more details to follow!

**Below: Members of the community gather in the Hayden Raysmith Room**





Left: Cate, Isabel and Kirsty from Assisi Aids Projects



Right: Filipino Community Council of Victoria Inc. members smile at the camera.



Yummy food from caterer, Waverly Social Enterprises



Michael from RHA standing in front of the lectern in the Hayden Raysmith Room



Left to right: Katie (RHA), Carol (RHA), Heidi (Schizy Inc) Colin Neave (RHA Chairperson) Ruby (RHA), Nazz (RHA), Michael (RHA), Jun (RHA) smile at the camera



# Community Calendar

## MAY 2025

**Thursday 15th May:** Global Accessibility Awareness Day

**Wednesday 21st May:** World Day for Cultural Diversity

**Monday 24th May:** World Schizophrenia Day (see below)

**Monday 26th May:** National Sorry Day

**Monday 26th May:** First Aid Session for tenants at Ross House

**Tuesday 27th May - Tuesday 3rd June:** National Reconciliation Week

## JUNE 2025

**Thursday 5th June -** World Environment Day

**Monday 9th June -** RHA closed for the public holiday

**Thursday 12th June -** Child Labour Day

**Friday 20th June -** World Refugee Day

**Monday 23rd June -** International Women in Engineering Day

## JULY 2025

**Tuesday 1st - Thursday 31st July -** Disability Pride Month

**Thursday 10th July -** RHA Morning Tea celebrating NAIDOC Week

**Saturday 26th July -** RHA Open Day



Image Description: Cover image, Reinforce members standing in front of a white wall smiling at the camera. In article image, RHA staff member Ruby's fawn coloured Greyhound poses on a green couch



If you would like to add your event to our Community Calendar, in our next In the House, please email [rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au](mailto:rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au) or phone (03) 9650 1599.

# Ross House Community Library

BY RHA

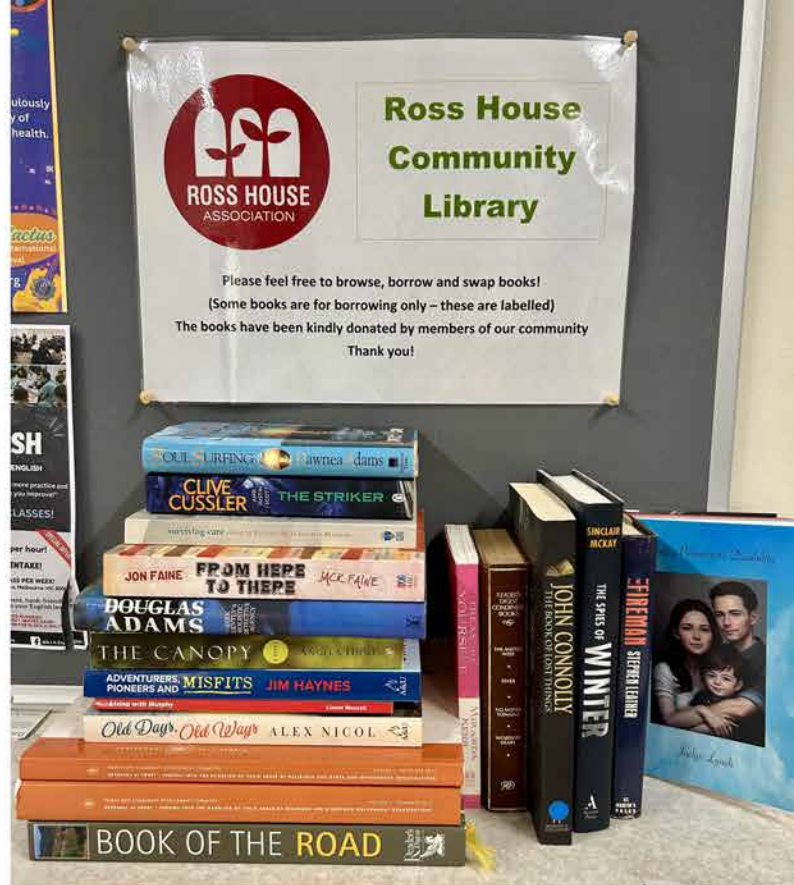
Recently when we were kindly given some books from generous Ross House tenants, the idea of a small Ross House Community Library was sparked.

The Community Library is located in the Level 3 Foyer area. Most of the books are available to simply be borrowed/taken and 'swapping' is highly encouraged to ensure a good turnover of books is shared.

Some books do have labels in, however, stating they are for borrowing only and need to be returned. Please check with Ross House staff if unsure.

Should you have any books to donate or swap, they will be gratefully received. They will need to be in good condition and suitable for the audience of readers here at Ross House.

Special thanks go to our friends at Positive Powerful Parents (PPP) and Aunty Jane (SARU/Reinforce) for their initial donations from which our library has grown.



[ID: Books sit on a table below a sign that reads 'Ross House Community Library' with the RHA red circle logo to the left].

If you have any questions about the Ross House Community Library, contact Carol at [rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au](mailto:rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au).



## Happy Birthday Luke!

**Happy Birthday to long-standing Reinforce member, Luke Stone!**

Luke celebrated his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday at Ross House on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025, with Reinforce members and the Ross House community.

Luke has been a frequent in Ross House for over 30 years, bringing great joy to the building.

His love for St Kilda football team and cheeky ways have kept the fun spirit in Ross House alive.

Happy Birthday Luke, we hope you had a great day! Thank you to everyone who came to wish him well!



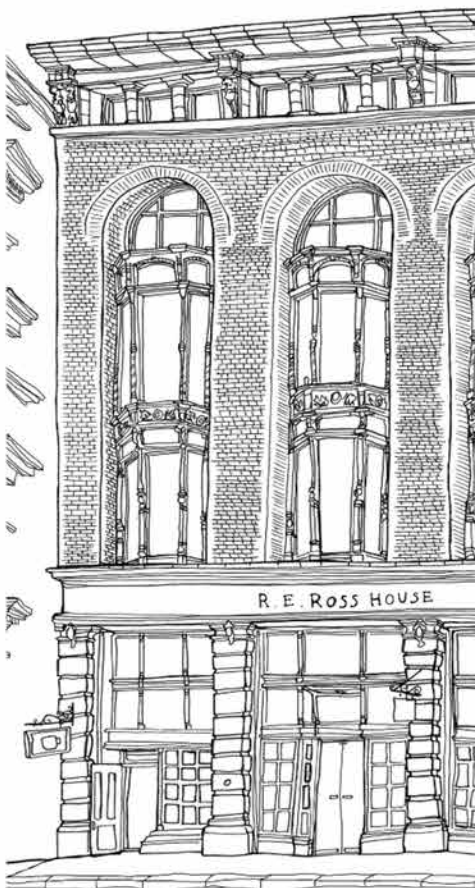
[ID: photo of Luke and the Ross House community, celebrating with cake in the Jenny Florence Room].

# PUBLIC HOLIDAY CLOSURE

Ross House Association Office will be CLOSED on

## Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2025

RHA staff will be unavailable on the above date.  
The team will be back online (and in the office) from  
10am - 4pm on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2025.



### Access information for tenants:

- Please make sure that you have your swipe key with you
- If you do not have a swipe key you cannot get in to the building
- If you do not have a swipe key, please contact Ross House during business hours prior to the dates above
- If you need help, contact the Front Desk on (03) 9650 1599

**For emergencies please contact Security  
on 1300 02 04 06**



*If you have any questions please contact reception on (03) 9650 1599*

# 2025 Window Displays

The Ross House team would once again like to thank the members for their wonderful window displays!

We know how much effort and planning goes into each display and it's always exciting to see how the space is cleverly utilised to best effect!

During March, the window housed a lovely display from TreeProject which included an eye-catching, cuddly wombat friend.

Inclusion Australia have had their wonderful "It's Doctor Time!" display for the month of April.

It's Doctor Time! is a campaign by Inclusion Australia launched in August 2024 to encourage more people with intellectual disability to see their GP for a yearly health check. If you missed it, take a look at the photo of their great display below.

In May, the window will showcase the Hand Knit and Crochet Guild along with Disability Discrimination Legal Services.

Looking ahead: There is availability in the Window Display calendar for the December/January period. Please email or call Carol on the Front Desk ASAP if you would like to place a display in these months. Thank you!

If you would like to find out more information about our window displays, please get in touch with Carol at [rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au](mailto:rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au).

[ID: TreeProject display with information and a toy wombat].



[ID: 'Doctor Time' display by Inclusion Australia].



## Meeting Rooms

A friendly reminder to all Meeting Room Users to return chairs and tables to their original positions after use.

The RHA team also has a portable vaccum cleaner, if required, for hire which can be borrowed from the Front Desk.

Thank you for your understanding!

Thanks,  
The Ross House team



## STAY CONNECTED!



@rosshouseassociation



rosshouseassociation



Ross House Association

# A Decade of Dedication

BY RHA

It's hard to believe Nazz, Jun, and Katie have been with Ross House Association for over 10 years!

10 years of Katie bringing sunshine to everyone's days, of Nazz's cheeky wit and endless knowledge, and Jun's calming aura and ability to keep us all in check.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication to Ross House and its mission. We absolutely couldn't do it without you. Here's to another decade.



[ID: photo of Nazz and Katie from RHA standing in front of a monstera plant in the Jenny Florence Room].

## the e-bulletin



Weekly guide to environmental and social justice happenings in Melbourne



## STAY CONNECTED AND SIGN UP TO THE WEEKLY E-BULLETIN

Ross House produces a weekly e-bulletin that highlights upcoming workshops and webinars for NFP organisations, and member and tenant events. The e-bulletin goes out every Thursday so please feel free to send us your exciting news to share!

Sign up on the homepage of our website at [rosshouse.org.au](http://rosshouse.org.au) (scroll to the bottom of the home page) or by clicking [here](#).

View previous publications by visiting our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/rosshouseassociation/](http://www.facebook.com/rosshouseassociation/) and following the links!

# ROSS HOUSE ASSOCIATION STAFF THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!



**MICHAEL GRIFFITHS**

CEO

michael.griffiths@rosshouse.org.au

---



**NAZZARENO MARCHIONDA**

Facilities Manager

n.marchionda@rosshouse.org.au

---



**RUBY JAMES-STRAWHAN**

Membership & Engagement Officer

r.jamesstrawhan@rosshouse.org.au

---



**KATIE STADTFELD CUNNANE**

Communications & Administration Officer

rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au

---



**JUNXIA XU**

Finance Officer

junxia.xu@rosshouse.org.au

---



**CAROL FRANKLIN**

Administration Support Assistant

rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au

Casual Staff: Patti Gerkens, & Isabella Nucifora & Olivia Muscat

*In The House* is a Ross House Association internal publication, produced five 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 us, advising of submission deadlines.

Please send submissions to: [rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au](mailto:rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au)



247 - 251 Flinders Lane  
Melbourne VIC 3000

03 9650 1599 | [rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au](mailto:rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au) | [rosshouse.org.au](http://rosshouse.org.au)

