

MAY 2026

# IN THE HOUSE

Ross House Association Member and Tenant News



## World Bee Day at RH!

FROM THE ROSS HOUSE TEAM

Ross House members and tenants are warmly invited to our first community event of the year. The Community Development Sub-Committee is hosting a delicious and educational gathering to celebrate World Bee Day, and we would love you to join us.

Come along for a relaxed lunch and hear from special guest speaker Robert from Bee Sustainable, a local Brunswick business dedicated to bees, beekeeping, and sustainability.

Robert has been involved with beekeeping since he was just 13 years old, when his father gave him his very first hive to care for. His father was an experienced beekeeper and honey merchant based in East Malvern who managed hundreds of hives over the years. While studying science at university, Robert also helped proofread his father's book on beekeeping.

Today, Robert teaches beginner beekeeping classes each month through Bee Sustainable and enjoys sharing his knowledge and passion with others. During the event, he will chat with us about bees and beekeeping, and he will even be bringing along some live bees for everyone to safely observe.

### Event Details

Wednesday 20 May 2026  
11:30am to 1:30pm  
Ross House Foyer and  
Jenny Florence Room, Level 3

No RSVP is required. Just show up!

Please share this invitation with your staff and volunteers, the more, the merrier.

We hope to see you there.



## Included In This Issue

Building and Maintenance

Colin's Corner

World Bee Day Event Invite

Grants and Assistance

Update from VATT

Member Feature: APAN

Update from NCWV

Update from HAAG

Community Calendar

Disability Pride Celebration - DRC



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.



# 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.**



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

A couple of weeks ago, Michael and I had the privilege of welcoming Assistant Minister Andrew Leigh and MP Sarah Witty to Ross House Association. I really enjoyed the opportunity to meet them and show them through the building.

During the tour, they showed great interest in our unique history and our ongoing objective of providing a hub for organisations with mutual interests across social and environmental justice.

Sarah Witty was particularly impressed by the range of causes our membership base is working towards, and the many initiatives happening around Ross House to support this work. She also expressed interest in attending future Ross House events.

We've extended an invitation to our upcoming World Bee Day event, and we hope to see her there. I'd also love to see more of our members and tenants come along, enjoy some lunch, and hear from Robert from Bee Sustainable about bees and their role in our environment.

For more details see the front page.

Colin Neave AM, Chairperson  
Ross House Association

## RHA COMMITTEE 2026

**Chairperson**

Colin Neave AM  
(ABC Friends)

**Treasurer**

Alba Chliakhtine  
(ABRISA)

**Secretary**

Pia Cameron  
Woor-Dungin

**Ally Scott**

(Ordinary Member DRC)

**Sally Davis**

(Appointed Member)

**Steve Einfeld**

(Appointed Member)

**Jen Stokes**

(Appointed Member)

**Nazzareno Marchionda**

(Appointed Member RHA Staff)

**Michael Griffiths**

(Ex-Officio, RHA CEO)





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

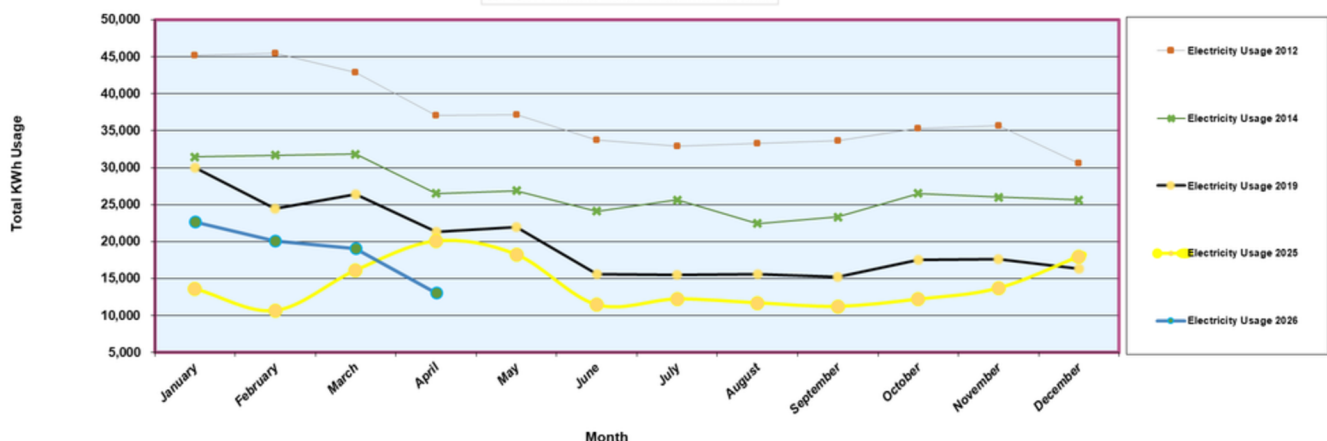
## FROM THE ROSS HOUSE TEAM

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:

- The Level 3 toilet renovation is well underway and should be completed by the end of May 2026 (see above image for recent progress).
- As part of our ongoing security improvements, the Level 4 automatic door is now locked and can only be accessed via swipe or access code. The Level 2 automatic door is also locked.
- Our Facility Manager, Nazz, is in discussions with a heritage architect regarding the graffiti issues on the sandstone front façade. More information to follow in the next 'In the House'.

Electricity Comparison From 2012 to 2026  
Ross House  
247-251 Flinders Lane Melbourne VIC 3000



# Member Feature:

## Australia Palestine Advocacy Network (APAN)



[ID: The APAN logo of black and green text which reads 'APAN, Australia Palestine Advocacy Network. A green emblem with a graphic of a leaves sits to the right of the text].

APAN is a national network of organisations and individuals who seek justice, freedom and equality for Palestinians.

APAN works to bring a greater understanding of the realities of the human rights abuses suffered by Palestinians and advocates for the Australian government to adopt policies that will support Palestinians rights to live in dignity, justice and freedom.

### Vision

A world that upholds Palestinian freedom, justice and self determination.

[ID below: a gathering of people in a hall type setting holding aboriginal flags and smiling at the camera].

### Purpose

They facilitate a strong, strategic and sustainable movement that advocates and takes action for Palestine until liberation and self-determination are realised.

Formed in May 2011, they provide a national voice for the many thousands of people concerned about Israel's continuing genocide, occupation and apartheid against Palestinians.

### Work

They work in the community, in parliament and with the media, delivering a range of activities and campaigns that seek to influence Australia's public policy in regards to Palestine.

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



# Grants and Assistance Programs

BY RHA

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

## Social Change Fellowship Westpac Foundation

An opportunity for social entrepreneurs to spend time investing in their skills, leadership capabilities and networks.

Fellows receive funding to invest in their professional development not their organisation.

The fellowship is completely tailored to the individual and is designed to offer experiential learning opportunities that will help you drive sustainable positive change in Australia.

**Round:** Opens 14 May, closed 16 June, 2026 5pm AEST

**Funding:** Up to \$50,000

**Eligibility:** Individuals

**Apply:**

<https://scholars.westpac.com.au/scholarships/social-change-fellowship/>



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

## Capacity Building Grants DSS and Good Things

The Capacity Building grant is an opportunity for community organisations to run a train-the-trainer program to support and develop new digital mentors.

Capacity Builders will nominate at least one person as their trainer (Lead Digital Mentor) who will attend a skillshare with Good Things on how to deliver this training package in their community.

The digital mentors that have been trained by Capacity Builders go on to provide digital skills support to older Australians in their community through the Be Connected program.

**Round:** Opens 15 June, 2026

**Funding:** Up to \$52,500

**Eligibility:** NFPs, Unincorporated Groups.

**Apply:**

<https://goodthingsaustralia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/Digital-Mentor-Capacity-Builder-Grant-2024-2028-Round-3-Guidelines.pdf>

## General Grant Enquiries Scanlon Foundation

The Scanlon Foundation's mission is to work with communities, systems and institutions to support those who come to make Australia home. They celebrate our collective strengths and address those barriers that stand in the way of allowing everyone to contribute and participate fully in Australian life.

The Scanlon Foundation welcome grant proposals that align with our core purpose to work with systems and institutions to support people who migrate to Australia and make it their home.

Their priority is to provide direct-to-community support by funding capacity-building initiatives and community-created innovations or models.



**Round:** Opens 1 July, 2026

**Funding:** Undisclosed

**Eligibility:** NFPs, Unincorporated Groups.

**Apply:**

<https://scanlonfoundation.smartygrants.com.au/GEFY27>



RHA Members and Tenants  
are invited

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2026

# WORLD BEE DAY EVENT



## SPECIAL GUEST

Robert, from Bee Sustainable will be joining us to chat Bees! He will also be bringing in some live bees, securely contained of course..buzzz

Join us to celebrate the bees with a delicious morning tea. No RSVP necessary, just show up!

JENNY FLORENCE ROOM, LEVEL 3  
ROSS HOUSE

11:30 AM - 1:30 PM



# Call out for Housing Champions

BY HOUSING FOR THE AGED ACTION GROUP (HAAG)

Are you passionate about improving housing for older people in Victoria?

Do you have a personal story about housing insecurity or homelessness, either your own or of someone you know that you're willing to share?

Are you keen to talk to your community, politicians, election candidates, and even the media, about why housing for older people is important?

HAAGs Housing Champion training program might be for you!

The Housing Champion program will train older people to speak about housing as part of our advocacy for the Victorian Election in November this year.

To register your interest, please visit [www.older tenants.org.au/news/call-out-for-housing-champions#EOI](http://www.older tenants.org.au/news/call-out-for-housing-champions#EOI)

[ID below: A photo of HAAG staff in the Hayden Raysmith Room, sitting and standing in front of a colourful banner].



[ID: An image of a gold and wooden trophy resembling a house. Text on the trophy reads 'Housing Champion'].

## House Chats

House Chats are a chance for HAAG members and friends to get together, catch up and share stories, ideas and opinions about housing for older people, or whatever it is we want to talk about!

Come and be part of the HAAG community and get to know the other friendly members on the 2nd Monday of every month.

**Where?** HAAG's office, 1st floor, 247-251 Flinders Lane, Melbourne

**When?** Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026, 11am - 12pm

Please RSVP to [haag@oldertenant.org.au](mailto:haag@oldertenant.org.au) or 9654 7389.





# House Chats

**WHEN:** Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May

**WHERE:** HAAG's office, 1<sup>st</sup> floor  
247-251 Flinders Lane, Melbourne

**TIME:** 11AM-12PM

**RSVP:** [haag@oldertenants.org.au](mailto:haag@oldertenants.org.au) or 9654 7389



**Please join us for a cuppa and a chat**  
Morning tea for HAAG members  
held on the second Monday of each month

# RMIT & NCWV Women's Health Forum

BY NCWV

Join Ross House member, National Council of Women Victoria (NCWV) and RMIT University for a Mother's Day rescreening and live panel event on Friday 8th May 2026.

In light of the rapid sell-out of tickets to the Government House Women's Health Panel on 3rd March, NCWV & RMIT University have come together to host a rescreening of the Government house event.

Two of the Government House Panel members, Prof Cassandra Szoeki, Neurologist, Director Women's Healthy Ageing Program Monash University and Sarah Barnbrook, Founder of Away from Keyboard Inc and NCWV Human Rights, ICT and Social Media Adviser, will be present to answer any audience questions you may have from the original event.



[ID: White text on a purple background reads 'NCWV, National Council of Women Victoria'].

An in-person, live panel will follow the re-screen, including Professor Catherine Itsiopoulos, RMIT Deputy Vice-Chancellor STEM College and Vice-President; Ms Debra Bourne – CEO Northern Health; Ms Atinuke (Tinu) Abraham, President, Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (Victoria); and Dr Julie Stevens, RMIT Discipline of Pharmacy Program Manager, to discuss the importance of teaching sex-specific health within university health degrees.

This is a free event and all are welcome to hear about these important health messages.

**Where?** RMIT University, Building 80, 435-457 Swanston St, Melbourne

**When?** Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2026, 4:30pm - 6:15pm

For more information, and for bookings, please visit [www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1559312](http://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1559312)

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

A dark blue banner for the event. On the left, there are logos for RMIT UNIVERSITY and Northern Health. In the center, the text 'RMIT &amp; NCWV Women's Health Forum' is written in large, bold, red letters. On the right, there are logos for NCWV NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN VICTORIA and the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia.

**Redefining health education: sex-specific education in Pharmacy**

**Friday 8 May 2026, 4.30 pm for 4.45 – 6.15 pm**  
**RMIT University, Building 80, 435-457 Swanston St, Room 080.02.007**  
Register to attend via: <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1559312>



# Voice At The Table Stronger Voices Training

BY NCWV

The Voice At the Table team has had a busy few months providing training to people - and by people, with cognitive disabilities about knowing rights and speaking up, with the aim for people to be included on boards, committees and advisory groups.

The experience and knowledge shared during these days increases our advocacy skills and brings about more connections in the community.

## What's it all about?

We do free training for people with an:

- Intellectual disability
- Acquired Brain Injury



[ID: The VATT logo - orange text which reads 'Voice at the Table' sits in an orange and yellow speech bubble].

There is more training planned in June this year at Ross House.

**Where?** Hayden Raysmith Room, Level 4, Ross House

**When?** Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June & Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2026

See our website for more information.  
[www.voiceatthetable.com.au](http://www.voiceatthetable.com.au).



[ID VAAT members stand in front of a VATT banner in the Hayden Raysmith Room].



# Voice At The Table

## Stronger Voices Training

We do free training for people with an:

- Intellectual Disability
- Acquired Brain Injury

Our training is co-designed and delivered by people with intellectual disability and acquired brain injury



### Training 1

How to Speak Up in a Big Way.



### Training 2:

How to be on Advisory Groups.

Contact us to sign up!

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

Phone: 03 9639 6856

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



# Melbourne Fibrefest

BY HANDKNIT AND CROCHET GUILD VICTORIA INC

The Hand Knit & Crochet Guild Victoria Inc. was established in 1985 to celebrate and sustain hand knitting and crochet in Victoria.

With a warm, welcoming spirit, the Guild supports makers of all skill levels through education, community and skill-sharing.

Members enjoy monthly meetings, workshops, exhibitions and social knitting that nurture creativity and preserve traditional and contemporary fibre techniques. Knitting and crochet also support mental health – reducing stress, improving focus and fostering social connection.

The Guild maintains a commitment to supporting charity, with members contributing to Knit One Give One, neonatal care, a local donkey shelter, wildlife rescue and many others.

Members meet at Ross House on the first Sunday of the month, except January, where they can join informal drop-in sessions, hear guest speakers, participate in skill workshops and showcase finished works.



[ID: Colourful knitted tea cosies on teapots, are sitting on a flower pattered tablecloth].

The Guild's major two-day event, Melbourne Fibrefest, brings together artisans and vendors across the fibre arts spectrum and is a lively opportunity to shop for speciality fibres and tools and meet fellow makers.

Whether you're a newcomer or seasoned stitcher, Fibrefest is the perfect place to be inspired and stock up for your next project.

**Where?** Coburg Town Hall, 90 Bell Street, Coburg.

**When?** 23<sup>rd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> May 2026

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

[ID below: A close-up image of 15 yellow knitted ducks sit on a wooden table].



# Updates from Disability Rights and Culture (DRC)



BY DRC

## Come and join the Disability Movement!

Do you live with disability? Ever felt like your voice doesn't count? Do you want real equity and inclusion for people with disability?

The Disability Movement is a grassroots campaign led by disabled people across Victoria. Together we're building collective power, so politicians and decision-makers listen to us and act on what matters.

As members of the disability community, we know people with disability must be at the centre of decisions that affect our lives. This movement is about turning that belief into reality – by strengthening connection, amplifying our voices and building real influence.

If this speaks to you, we would love to hear from you. You can sign up here > [www.tinyurl.com/bdhn9ed9](http://www.tinyurl.com/bdhn9ed9) or email us at [info@drc.org.au](mailto:info@drc.org.au) to find out more.

[ID: Black text reads Disability Rights and Culture sit to the right of red, pink and green letters - DRC.]

## Disability Pride Celebration - Save the Date!

Come celebrate Disability Pride with Disability Rights and Culture at our annual FREE, and fabulous event.

We'll be gathering at the iconic and accessible Fringe Common Rooms at Trades Hall in Carlton. If you can't join us in person there's no need to miss out, you can also join us online.

This year's celebration is not to be missed – there will be a variety show lineup, bedazzling, games, badge making, prizes, food, and an open bar!

**Where?** Trades Hall, Melbourne

**When?** Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2026, 2 – 5pm

For more information, and to grab your free ticket, please visit [www.tinyurl.com/5yext9k3](http://www.tinyurl.com/5yext9k3)

[ID below: A photo of a person wearing a yellow t-shirt and headphones is in a wheelchair, smiling with their arms stretched out].



# Join the Disability Movement in Victoria



# Non Profit Training Workshops 2026

BY NON PROFIT  
TRAINING

Ross House member, Non Profit Training offers facilitator-led in-house and public training for non profit organisations.

## Upcoming public sessions include:

- Grant Writing Training - Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2026, 10am -3:30pm
- Governance Training - Thursday 11th June 2026, 10am - 3:30pm
- Finance Training - Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2026, 10am - 3:30pm



## Non Profit Training

[ID: Non Profit Training logo - purple and blue text saying Non Profit Training sits under three circle graphics with the letters NPT in the middle].

All public workshops are delivered live via Zoom. Workshops are capped at 15 participants to maximise engagement and provide practical advice for your specific challenges.

For more information and for bookings, please visit [www.nonprofittraining.com.au](http://www.nonprofittraining.com.au).



## A BLUEPRINT ON RESPECT FOR OLDER WOMEN

This World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Forum calls on service providers, older women, researchers, advocates, policy makers, community members and families - of all ages and genders to help build a blueprint on respect for older women

Please join us for this World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Forum on building respect for older women.

**Date:** Tuesday 2 June 2026

**Time:** 12:30 - 3:30 pm

**Dress Code:** Cardigans preferred #CardiePride (but optional)

**Location:** The Savoy Hotel, 630 Little Collins Street, Melbourne

**Refreshments:** A light afternoon tea will be provided

### Forum activities include:

- Cardigan Pride: help combat gendered ageism and the derogatory definitions of 'grannies' as 'cardigan wearing' by having your photograph taken wearing your favourite cardie
- Artists on Respect: hear from the winners of the 'Reasonable Expectations' art competition on respect for older women
- Recipes for Respect in Aged Care: learning about recipes for respect in aged care from older women in Tatura and Warragul
- Strong, Grey Women: exploring the experiences of women 50+ who stop dyeing their hair for a year
- Workplaces for Older Women: combating ageism for older women in the workplace
- World Cafe: exploring how respect is shown for older women in families, communities, services, the workplace and government.



This event is hosted by Elder Rights Australia and Celebrate Ageing Ltd with support from the Victorian Women's Trust

This is a free event. Please register to attend here: <https://events.humanitix.com/respect-for-older-women-what-works>

# Deadly First Nations Shout Out

BY THE DEADLYS

The Deadly First Nations Shout Out (The Deadlys) is a self-advocacy group run by and for First Nations people with an intellectual disability or acquired brain injury in Victoria.

The group aims to connect with one another, organisations, their community, and culture, often feeling separate from traditional ways. They have engaged with various issues, built relationships with groups like the First Peoples Disability Network, and started a podcast to address racism, discrimination, and educate the public about First Nations people with disabilities.

The Deadly's would like to invite you to their National Online Yarn event which will feature their groundbreaking and award winning documentary!



[ID: a close-up photo of Jane Rosengrave - a member of the deadly's. She is wearing a black t-shirt with floral patterns and is smiling at the camera].

This will be a great opportunity to meet the stars, watch being Deadly and ask experts the Big questions.

We have timed the Yarn to Celebrate NAIDOC.

**Where?** Online via Zoom

**When?** Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July at 11am

For more information, please contact Sally de Beche on 0402 004 858 or email [mob@thedeadlys.org.au](mailto:mob@thedeadlys.org.au).

## 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!

# BEING DEADLY

**CELEBRATE**

**NAIDOC**

**JULY 1  
ONLINE  
DOCO  
FREE**

## **NATIONAL**

- Watch 15 minute phenomenal documentary "Being Deadly" of First Nations people with a disability
- Starts 11.00am to 12.15pm

## **YARN**

- Meet the stars
- Join the Deadly's community
- Hear from the experts
- Become an Ally
- Get in touch for zoom link

**CONTACT**

**MOB@THEDEADLYS.ORG.AU**



**DEADLY'S**  
First Nations  
Shout Out

# FCCVi 128th Philippine Independence Day 2026

BY FCCVI

Mabuhay! Join the Filipino Community Council of Victoria (FCCVi) on Friday 19th June 2026 at Hyatt Place, Essendon as we proudly mark the 128th Philippine Independence Day with an evening of culture, community, and celebration!

Experience cultural performances, OPM music, and inspiring stories while reconnecting with friends, family, and our shared Filipino Australian story. This is our moment to honour the past, celebrate the present, and look to a brighter future together.

**Where?** Hyatt Place, Essendon

**When?** Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2026, 6pm - 10pm

For more information and bookings, please visit [www.tinyurl.com/yc4pewpw](http://www.tinyurl.com/yc4pewpw).

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



# 128th PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE DAY

**19 June 2026**

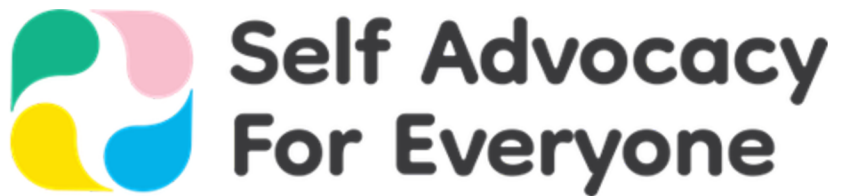
Friday, 06:00 pm to 10:00 pm

**Hyatt Place Melbourne  
Essendon Fields**

1 English St, Essendon Fields  
VIC 3041



# Safe Helpdesk Launch



BY SARU

You are invited to join Ross House tenants, SARU, Inclusion Australia and Self Advocacy for Everyone (SAFE) Helpdesk at their upcoming Safe Helpdesk Launch!

During the event, you will discover the new Self Advocacy for Everyone (SAFE), created with self-advocates to support people with disability to speak up, know their rights and make informed decisions.

[ID: Black text which reads 'Self Advocacy for Everyone' sits to the left of four teardrop type green, pink, blue and yellow graphics].

**Where?** Hayden Raysmith Room, Level 4, Ross House

**When?** Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2026, 12pm - 2pm

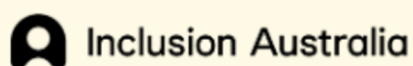
For more information, please contact SARU on Phone 1800 841 199 / [helpdesk@selfadvocacy.org.au](mailto:helpdesk@selfadvocacy.org.au).

## You're invited to the SAFE Helpdesk Launch!

Tuesday 19 May | 12 - 2pm  
Hayden Raysmith Room, Level 4 Ross House  
247 Flinders Lane, Melbourne

A light lunch will be provided.

Come along to discover the new Self Advocacy for Everyone (SAFE) Helpdesk. Created with self-advocates to support people with disability to speak up, know their rights, and make informed decisions.



# Small Snacks Creating a Big Impact in Rural Java

BY ASSISI AIDS PROJECTS

Our Jajal Wae Sustainable Agri-tourism Project in Pandansari, rural Java, Indonesia, supports rural women living in poverty to generate incomes, by helping them to develop micro-enterprises.

One such micro-enterprise being run is by an inspiring group of women who are making snack products from cassava flour (tapioca) and bananas. The women sell their snacks directly to consumers via community markets.

In the past 6 months, they have also been visiting shops and cafes to try to expand their consumer base.

Their hard work is paying off and word is spreading - we just received an update that in addition to usual small orders, the women recently received a large-scale order for 600 items of their banana and cassava-based snacks!



## ASSISI AID PROJECTS

Empowering Change

[ID: Black text which reads 'Assisi Aid Projects, Empowering Change' sits underneath a pink arch graphic].

This single transaction is valued at IDR 6.8 million which is approximately AUD \$600. While this amount may seem modest to you and me, for the women in Pandansari, this represents significant income.

To read more about our projects and the inspiring stories of women in Indonesia, please visit our website [www.assisi.org.au](http://www.assisi.org.au) or follow us on social media!

The Jajal Wae Sustainable Agri-tourism Project is delivered in partnership with our implementing partner in Indonesia, Dreamdelion, and supported by the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

[ID below: Close up image of cassava flour and banana snacks, presented in individual packaging on wooden shelves].



# Neurovision!

BY SCHIZY INC

Neurovision is a fabulous new modern cabaret work devised by Ross House tenant, Schizy Inc for World Schizophrenia Day.

Neurovision combines music, theatre, dance and comedy by neurodivergent creatives with lived experience of the mental health system.

Celebrating modern cabaret, Neurovision injects a sense of humour and popular culture into deeper social concepts like mental health, Disability representation and powerful creative advocacy from marginalised parts of our community.



[ID: Cabaret performers holding instruments and wearing colourful dress, are smiling at the camera in a theatre-type setting].

**Where?** Arts Centre Melbourne

**When?** Sunday 24th May 2026, 2pm - 3pm

For more information, please visit [www.tinyurl.com/3b95t3rp](http://www.tinyurl.com/3b95t3rp)

# Ross House Toiletry Boxes

BY RHA

The Ross House team have been busy putting together toiletry boxes, with free tampons and pads, in the bathrooms at Ross House, kindly donated by Ross House tenant, Alex Makes Meals.

This donation was the motivator to distribute these within the building for those in need or emergency - we've all been there!



[ID: Image of three plastic boxes including tampons and pads].

If you would like to make a donation to support this initiative, please drop them into the Ross House Front Desk, Level 3, Ross House.

For more information, please contact Katie or Carol [rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au](mailto:rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au) / 03 9650 1599.





# Community Calendar

## MAY 2026

- Sunday 3rd May** - International Family Equality (Family Pride) Day
- Monday 11th May** - House Chats (HAAG, pg 8)
- Sunday 17th May** - International Day Against LGBTQIA+ and also IDAHOBIT Day
- Monday 16th - Friday 20th May** - Neurodiversity Celebration Week
- Wednesday 20th May** - RHA Member and Tenant World Bee Day event! (pg 7)
- Thursday 21st May** - Global Accessibility Awareness Day (GAAD)
- Tuesday 26 May** - National Sorry Day

## JUNE 2026

- 1st-7th June** - National Reconciliation Week
- Tuesday 2nd June** - ERA World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (p 16)
- Friday 5th June** - World Environment Day
- Monday 8th June** - RHA office closed for Public Holiday
- Wednesday 10th June**- Grant Writing Workshop, Non Profit Training (pg 16)
- Friday 19th June** - FCCVi 128th Philippine Independence Day 2026 (p 19)
- Sunday 21st June** - National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day

## JULY 2026

- 1st - 31st July** - Plastic Free July
- 1st - 31st July** - Disability Pride Month
- Wednesday 1st July** -The Deadly's National Online Yarn (p 17)
- Sunday 5th to Sunday 12th** - NAIDOC Week
- Saturday 11th July** - World Population Day
- Tuesday 14th July** - International Non-Binary People's Day
- Friday 24th July** - International self-care Day 2026
- Friday 31st July** - Disability Pride Celebration (pg 14)

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



# PUBLIC HOLIDAY CLOSURE

Ross House Association Office will be CLOSED on

## Monday 8th June 2026

RHA staff will be unavailable on the above date.  
The team will be back online (and in the office) from  
10am - 4pm on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2026.



### 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*

# 2026 Window Displays

Our Ross House front window is certainly prime real estate, and has countless people passing by. Its always a pleasure to walk in at the front of our building and see the proud displays of our tenants.

In March the displays from Voice At The Table (SARU) and Elder Rights Australia continued on from February.

For April, we had another display from the Self Advocacy Resource Unit, this time promoting their new “Safe Desk” initiative.

Joining them in the window was the eye-catching Disabled Winter Sports banner, promoting their upcoming ski season on the slopes.



[ID: A colourful banner from DWA promoting their work. To the right of the banner is a poster celebrating the launch of Self Advocacy For Everyone (SAFE) launch event]

## Looking Ahead:

During the month of May, our window will host displays from TreeProject (always a crowd pleaser!). Sharing the window will be Disability Discrimination Legal Service (DDLS) with a display tying in with Victorian Law Week. Photos of these displays will be shared in the July newsletter.



Thank you to everyone for their enthusiasm with filling our window! Most of the months are now booked with some great displays to go in, but there are still a couple of months available. Let me know as soon as possible if you would like to find out more.

For any queries about our window displays, please get in touch with Carol at [rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au](mailto:rosshouse@rosshouse.org.au).



[A close up shot of Susie from TreeProject who is smiling and standing in front of the window display outside of Ross House].

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



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*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)



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