

Greetings all you wonderful Kensington people and supporters

I so hope someone will take over writing and sending newsletters for the Association at our 2019 **AGM on Monday 5 August**. I have had a tough year with too many conflicting priorities and see no immediate light at the end of any of my tunnels (frazzled emoji here). And there is so much good stuff going on in, and for, Kensington and local and neighbouring issues you would be aware of through more regular contact. Happy to discuss and to mentor/guide any new volunteer communicator. And maybe one clever enough to insert images, which I have never managed!

See me at the **General Meeting this Monday, 1 July – 7:30pm**, conference room, Kensington Town Hall.

I suspect there are other committee members who are feeling that it is time to pass on the baton, too. Come on, give it a go! Happy to discuss in advance of the AGM, and to celebrate both the past volunteers and new ones, as well as catch up with as many members as possible. Remember, the AGM is one of our free catered events.

Even if you do not want to play an active role, and can only rarely, if ever, make it to meetings, we are grateful to you for your continuing and to those who have paid, or will be paying our modest Kensington Association membership fees.

### **Memberships due now**

All fees fall due on July 1st each year and our hard-working and dedicated Treasurer/Membership Secretary (and much more), Tony Ceddia, has this in hand.

The Association provides three annual membership types and fees: Family (\$20), Individual Standard (\$15) and Individual Concession (\$10).

Membership fees can be paid in cash at a monthly general meeting or Annual General Meeting or online by EFT direct debit to the Kensington Association account at Bendigo Bank, BSB 633 000 Account: 150 590 735. We also accept cheques posted to PO Box 1208, Kensington VIC 3031 (remember to include your name/s and where to send your receipt).

### **Our Trees**

One of the matters raised at a meeting by a member has had us looking closely at Kensington's trees, especially our street and park trees. We are considering holding a forum with the forestry team from Council and maybe local experts on tree-related issues such as sustainability, planting suitable trees for small spaces etc. This idea of a constructive tree-related discussion is on the Agenda for this Monday's meeting.

The 2012 [register of exceptional trees](#) shows only two for Kensington, hopefully the recently closed 2019 census will improve this. But we are also considering looking for answers around WHY some species are planted (I hate those white cedars, with their dangerous fruit that litters the footpaths for months (see [link](#))). How can we insert more productive trees into our landscape? And get better organised – so many olives falling to the ground, and nobody collecting them in some streets, making more trip hazards!

### **Matters raised by members at meetings**

While sometimes it takes a while to get through our ongoing issues (e.g. the Metrorail tunnel impact at JJ Holland Park, the state of the Maribyrnong River and Moonee Ponds Creek, the impact of the Westgate tunnel and significant development applications and projects, such as the Younghusband site), those who attend do get to air their ideas and concerns in a supportive forum, where we may act on matters that are generally agreed to.

Raised recently, as well as our urban forest, were noise from the Showground and VRC site, litter traps on the creek, and public housing, and local history. Some of these issues have been followed up by the Association in constructive ways with the organisations responsible. A glance through the Minutes of previous meetings on our [website](#) will give you more clues as to the great work we are able to do in representing our community.

### **No room to Compost?**

People often contact us through the website to ask about community gardens and compost. The Kensington Town Hall Compost Hub provides space for local residents to compost their organic food scraps, reduce landfill and create compost. To join, complete the Membership Registration Form available at [facebook.com/KensingtonCompostHub](https://facebook.com/KensingtonCompostHub).

### **Kensington Station waiting room access**

A member has been in touch in between meetings and the Committee has agreed to add her item to Monday's agenda. Metrorail has again claimed that the Kensington station waiting room cannot be reopened because it is dangerous and our Kensington Stationers want to see this change. Come and hear about this. Who hasn't wished to sit somewhere a bit more comfy, especially as full commuter trains rush past in the mornings?

We are kind of spoilt at Macaulay, which is probably the only outdoor station entirely under cover on the whole system (thanks Citylink). Kensington deserves more, and perhaps a stationers group at South Kensington would be a good thing too?

### **What's on in July**

The Terms 3 & 4 Kensington Neighbourhood House Activity Calendar is out. Think about taking part in one of the ongoing activities for children and for adults (Bollyrobics for instance). Courses include fascinating and fun once-off low cost events that will appeal to a wide range of interests. Check out the [program](#).

**Monday 1 July Kensington Association July General Meeting, 7:30-9:30pm, Kensington Town Hall conference room.**

**Sunday 21 July Kensington Market, 10am-3pm, Kensington Town Hall.**

Our market is run by dedicated volunteers who love the handmade. I can't wait to feast on the delicious edible treats, let alone wander through the displays of what some extraordinary people can make.

**Saturday 27 July Asylum Seeker Concert, 5pm, Christ Church McCracken Street.**

Featuring the Aequales Ensemble, with guest artist Damien Mansfield, playing Mozart E flat Piano Quartet, K493 and the Brahms C minor Piano Quartet, Op 60. Followed by supper and entry is by donation of whatever you can afford. All proceeds go to the Uniting Asylum Seeker Program (UASP).

**Christmas in July** – there is sure to be something provided by some of our local eateries to warm us up with traditional European Christmas food, check out the pubs for a start. When many of us are feeling grey, like the weather, having your own Winter Christmas celebration is a good way to connect with the friends who are not around on 25 December.

Please look out for one another. And keep your footpath safe by trimming back trees and bushes to your fence, and maybe even sweep up Council tree litter.

THANKS

Rilke Muir

co-chair

Kensington Association