



THE ROYAL COMMONWEALTH SOCIETY

Victoria Branch

Commonwealth News

We will take a leading role in achieving a fairer world for Commonwealth citizens by connecting, convening and equipping people to advance the values of the Commonwealth.



Welcome to the June 2020 edition of the RCS Victoria Commonwealth News. As we continue in to our third month of restrictions, we are remain conscious of the impacts this has had on many of our members. It has been great hearing from those who have written to us or left messages, we have appreciated the kind words and thoughts for us and our members.

Planning for our events this year has continued. We will be looking forward to hosting a dinner in July. This will come down to the easing of restrictions and the commencement of business at the Gables. Please see details over page.

Please stay safe and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Patrons

Worldwide: Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

Victoria: Her Excellency The Honourable Linda Dessau AC Governor of Victoria

JUNE 2020

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We want to improve the lives and prospects of all Commonwealth citizens

A history in common, a future in progress

The Royal Commonwealth Society (RCS) is a network of individuals and organisations committed to improving the lives and prospects of Commonwealth citizens across the world. Through youth empowerment, education and high-level advocacy, the Society champions the importance of literacy, equality and inclusion, the environment and connected communities across the Commonwealth's 54 member nations. The

Society's unique position within the Commonwealth family allows it to play a pivotal role in convening and connecting the Commonwealth's political and diplomatic representatives, as well as industry, civil society, academic and business leaders, on a wide range of issues. Founded in 1868, the RCS is non-partisan, independent of governments and relies on public generosity to achieve its mission.

RCS Victoria Branch Profiles



Business Manager – Simon Jaensch

Simon has a Masters in Accounting and has various qualifications and training in business and accounting systems. He has worked in senior and management positions in the banking, hospitality and industrial sectors in organisations such as Westpac, Mirvac Hotels and Spotless/Cleanevent. Since joining the RCS he has worked on streamlining our finance and reporting systems. Simon became a member of the RCS Branch in 2018. Simon enjoys being part of an organisation that actively works to address many of the concerns for people less fortunate than we are throughout the Commonwealth. He looks forward to being part of this as it continues to grow through the years to come.



ITC Manager – Darryn Potroz

Darryn has a Masters in Business Administration, Bachelor in Information Technology and various other qualifications. He has worked and operated his own businesses in a range of areas that include computer programming, biotechnology, IT administration and web design. Since joining the RCS he has worked on our website and assisted in sorting all our information technology needs. Both Darryn and his wife Carey actively support the aims of the RCS and how it benefits the lives of all Commonwealth citizens. Darryn and Carey feel it was an honour to be accepted in to the RCS Victoria family and officially becoming members in January 2020.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JULY DINNER

When: 9th July 2020

Time: 6:30pm

Cost: \$55 members - \$65 non-members

Theme: TBA

RSVP: 3rd July 2020

Please note this dinner is still pending restrictions and may be limited to a smaller number of attendees.

RCS Victoria Centenary and International Meeting

Preparations are underway for one of the biggest years in the history of our branch. This will be an amazing milestone and having the International Meeting we will be able to show case all the great work done by our members over the years. There are opportunities available for members to assist in bringing these events to fruition. If you would like to offer your assistance, please contact the RCS Victoria Branch office.

VALE MAX ROWE

It is with sadness that we announce the recent passing of one of our Fellows, Max Rowe. On behalf of the RCS Victoria branch we extend our thoughts and condolences to his family.



Women's Group News for June 2020

With the restrictions still in place for Victoria, The RCS Women's Group activities remain on hold. We will continue to work with the Council regarding future events as restrictions start to ease.

We are aware that money is in short supply at present, however, should anyone wish to give to the RCS charitable fund, which the Women's Group supports, please send donations to: CBA, BSB no: 063 -301 Acc no: 10486533 or by cheque to PO Box 31 Caulfield East Victoria 3145.

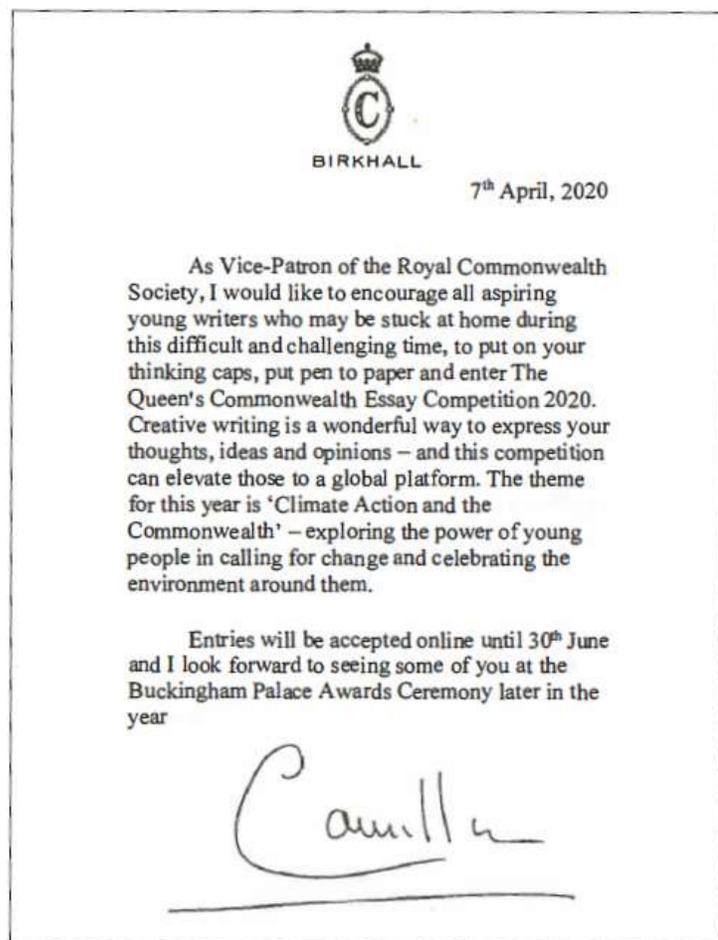
The Women's Group Committee trusts all members are well and safe and are able to purchase the necessary food etc you

require. If anyone has questions, requires assistance or advice, or just wants to make contact with someone while isolated, you may contact me, Elisabeth, by email: elisabeth_mn@hotmail.com

Alternatively contact the RCS Victoria Office and they will direct your call from there. Once the crisis is over we look forward to welcoming you all back to the Gables. Stay well and safe.

Elisabeth Newman AM
Women's Group Convener

Message from HRH The Duchess of Cornwall



with #TaikaAndFriends.

The campaign by The Roald Dahl Story Company aims to support charities impacted by COVID-19, including Partners In Health and Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity, of which Her Royal Highness is Patron.

Watch the clip <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y-kuaYQTpfw>

Source: <https://www.princeofwales.gov.uk/duchess-cornwall-reads-james-and-giant-peach-taikaandfriends>



HRH, The Duchess of Cornwall is using her time in lockdown to reach out to lonely and vulnerable Britons and Commonwealth Citizens and is actively promoting the importance of reading and writing.

The Duchess has joined Taika Waititi and The Roald Dahl Story Company for a retelling of James and The Giant Peach

News from around the Commonwealth



World Oceans Day

Mapping the Commonwealth one coral reef at a time

The Commonwealth is organising an interactive virtual event on 8 June to mark World Oceans Day. The event will highlight the work of three Commonwealth Blue Charter Action Groups on:

- Ocean and climate change
 - Coral reef protection and restoration
 - Mangrove ecosystems and livelihoods
- Register for the event

Commonwealth Blue Charter

The Commonwealth Blue Charter is a commitment by all 54 member countries to actively cooperate to solve pressing ocean challenges and meet global commitments for sustainable ocean development. The Blue Charter is implemented by 10 action groups, led by 13 champion countries.

Partnering for coral reefs

The virtual event will also present the strategic partnership between the Commonwealth Secretariat and Vulcan to support critical decision-making to sustain, protect and restore coral reefs across the Commonwealth.

A new tool will help countries map, monitor and manage coral reefs, using satellite data and analysis provided through an interactive coral reef map to be hosted on the Commonwealth Innovation Hub.

The event will additionally premier a new short video about the Commonwealth Blue Charter.

Learn more about the Commonwealth Blue Charter

<https://bluecharter.thecommonwealth.org/>

bluecharter@commonwealth.int

CONTACT DETAILS



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Banking details

General and function banking

CBA, BSB no: 063 -301
Acc no: 10483586

Donations and charitable giving

CBA, BSB no: 063 -301
Acc no: 10486533

EFTPOS is now available at
all functions