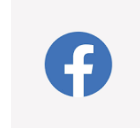




Victorian Feltmakers Inc



To all VFI Members,

Next Felting Frenzy is this Sat 16th May: The coming together of felt & basketry by Sonya Solomon

We will create a basket using a handmade felt coil by wrapping small pieces of FELT, PREFELT, lace, yarn, fabric strips and other textile pieces around thick woollen yarn or rope cord to make a small basket.



Felt Frenzies are \$20 and held at St. James Hall, Cnr Burke Rd. & High St. Glen Iris. BYO Lunch. Please make sure you fill in the Registration Form if you are attending the Felt Frenzies. You will find full details there if you are intending to take part in the Skill Share. Attendance at our Felt Frenzies is limited and must be booked and paid for in advance. Please click on the Registration Form link below to book and pay for your place.

Felt Frenzy registration form: <https://www.vicfeltmakers.org/felt-frenzy-registration-form.html>

What you need to know about this workshop:

- You will be combining two of the oldest crafts and I think that's amazing!
- Our workshop is suitable for beginners and all others too. I will be there if support is needed
- Be warned, the basket you create will be small (maybe a coaster?) but you can go bigger later
- The process of using up FELT and other scraps to create is fun and our felting family will make it so!

What To Bring

Some woollen, acrylic (or anything) yarn. This yarn needs to be smooth so that it can be pulled through the coil or tied onto the coil as needed

Left over (not too thick) pieces of FELT, PREFELT, thick/textured yarn, lace, ribbon, and anything else you would like to incorporate into your basket

Thick cord if you have some

Large fabric scissors

Small pliers, if you have a pair

Needle felt needles and sponge, if you have them

A tapestry/darning needle

Small - medium bulldog clips, if you have them

Sonya will bring

Some thick woollen yarn and cord for the coil

Extra felt pieces, laces and other textiles for wrapping around the coil

Extra needles, bulldog clips

Laughter, and anything else I think of and can fit into my car!

Events in 2026

Date	Activity
Sat 16 th May	Felting Frenzy- The coming together of felt and basketry – Sonya Solomon
Sat 20 th June	Member meeting & Beginners Felting Workshop – Jewellery Making
Sat 25 th July	Felting Frenzy – Using paper in felting – Jane St Quintin
Sat 15 th August	Member meeting & Beginners Felting Workshop – Making 3D Comfort Hearts
Sat 19 th Sept	Felting Frenzy – Dolls – Di Morley and Mary McMahon
Sat 17 th Oct	Member meeting & Beginners Felting Workshop – Small Pod Vessel
Sat 21 st Nov	Felting Frenzy – Using scraps – Christmas decorations and other ideas– Jill Preston
Sat 5 th Dec	VFI Christmas celebration

Events outside of the VFI you may be interested in:

Victoria:

Melbourne Fibre Festival, Coburg: 23rd to 24th May [#melbournefibrefest2026 - aka Melbourne Fibre Fest 2026 | Facebook](#)

Murrindindi Beanie & Fibre Festival, Alexandra: 23rd to 24th May [Murrindindi Beanie and Fibre Festival, Event, High Country, Victoria, Australia](#)

Australian Sheep and Wool Show, Bendigo 17th to 19th July <https://sheepshow.com/default.asp>

Geelong Fibre Forum – September 27th to October 3rd www.taftainc.com.au/geelongfibreforum

Interstate:

Canberra Wool Expo: A Celebration of Wool: ACT: 16th to 17th May <https://obdm.com.au/>

Winter Wool Fair, Sutherland, NSW: 29th to 30th May: www.sutherlandspinnersandweavers.org.au

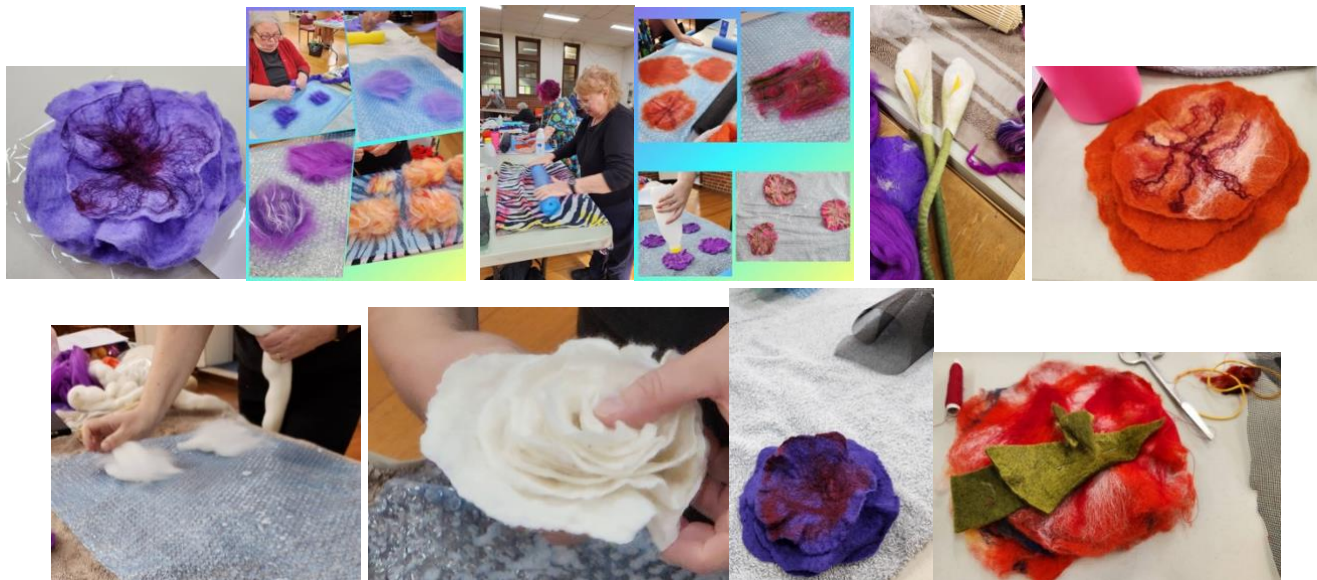
Alice Springs Beanie Festival, NT: June 19th – 22nd [Alice Springs Beanie Festival | 2026 Program](#)

QLD Yarn Fest – Morayfield 22nd to 23rd August

Fibrefest – Wyong NSW: 27th Sept <https://www.knittersguildnsw.org.au/what-we-do>

Making wet felted Flowers workshop

Jo held the first of the series of beginners workshops sharing some of the basic wet felting techniques and demonstrated how to create camellias, roses, and calla lilies, giving everyone a great foundation to start their felting journey. Here are a few photos of the flowers that were created by our participants:



Come and join in the fun and come to the next workshop – making felt jewellery on 20th June!

Beginner Workshops Series – now open for bookings!!

\$30 for VFI members and you can bring your own supplies (list can be provided by host on request)

\$40 for non members which includes felting kit or VFI members who would like to use the kit

Making Wet Felted Jewellery with beads & cords Margot & Rita: Sat 20th June at 1 – 4pm

Margot and Rita have paired up to show participants how to make and use wet felted beads and cords to make their own jewellery. A great introduction into wet felting, designing and creating your own pieces.



3D Hearts as part of the Heartfelt Project with Alice – Sat 15th August at 1 – 4pm

There is nothing quite like wool as a medium for bringing comfort. Through the Heartfelt Community Project, founded by the artist Wendy Bailie, where wool felted hearts are created and shared as symbols of care, hope, and compassion. These hearts provide comfort to recipients, and the felting process itself supports emotional wellbeing for makers. Let's make comfort hearts for someone in need and share them freely with the local community.

**Make a small Pod or Vessel with Jane – Sat 17th October at 1 – 4pm**

Discover the magic of felting in this relaxed and creative workshop! You'll learn how to craft your very own small pod (just like the one pictured) while picking up the essential skills to get you started on your felting journey. Along the way, we'll explore the fascinating history of felting, the different techniques you can use, and the wide variety of wools and fibres that bring these beautiful creations to life. But most importantly—this workshop is all about enjoying yourself, getting creative, and trying something new in a friendly, supportive space. By the end of the session, you'll head home with your handmade pod and a basic felting kit so you can keep the creativity flowing.



If you are interested in attending a workshop, having some fun and trying something new, book in on our website <https://www.vicfeltmakers.org/beginners-workshops-2026.html> and I will call you to confirm we have space and provide the payment details so you can go ahead and secure your spot. The workshops will be held at St James Hall, Cnr of Burke St & High Street, Glen Iris

If you have any questions or would like more information or to book over the phone, please give me a call – Jo on 0432 935174 or feel free to email me at jobagge1@gmail.com

If you know of anyone else who would be interested in our workshops please send them the below flyer. If you would like to display this at a local textile / fibre arts group, woolshop, or neighbourhood house please feel free. PDF is available here below to print or email link:

[VFI Beginners Felting Workshops 2026 - Flyer](#)

El Kanagh Felting Retreat at Marysville

As I drove into Marysville on a sunny and calm Thursday to begin our recent four-day felting retreat at El Kanah Lodge and Conference Centre, I was reminded of how breathtakingly beautiful Marysville is this time of year, with the autumnal leaves drifting gently down and swirling around the gorgeous town.

This retreat brought together nine enthusiastic participants for a wonderful time of creativity, learning and connection. Over the retreat we explored a range of techniques, shared ideas and inspiration and enjoyed the opportunity to work on our individual projects in a relaxed and supportive setting. The beautiful surroundings of the township of Marysville provided the perfect backdrop for focused making and conversation and the slipping away for a walk and coffee.

A highlight of the retreat was the sense of unity and oneness that developed as everyone encouraged one another, exchanged tips, admired each other's work and shared some of their life stories.

Alice was very generous with her time in mentoring and playing the role of photographer. I personally was very grateful to be one of the recipients and learned a new technique of laying out the wool called chevrons.

Each year a theme is chosen and this year it was "Kaleidoscope." The kaleidoscope symbolises the constantly changing, complex and beautiful tapestry of life experiences and endless new possibilities. Inspired by the meaning of kaleidoscope "observer of beautiful forms" I was reminded that what we were all doing was often piecing together "broken pieces" to create something that was whole and beautiful. Each of us dressed for the evening in a kaleidoscope of colours, outfits having consumed many hours of creative talent. There was much laughter and frivolity. Our celebrations that night included the odd bubble or two.....

It was a very rewarding few days filled with creativity, laughter and shared passion for felting and creating.

I am grateful to everyone who attended and helped make this retreat such a memorable experience. I look forward with excited anticipation to the next one.

Ann Clarke



There were many projects that were started, some finished, some works in progress and many more inspiring ideas for projects in the pipeline.

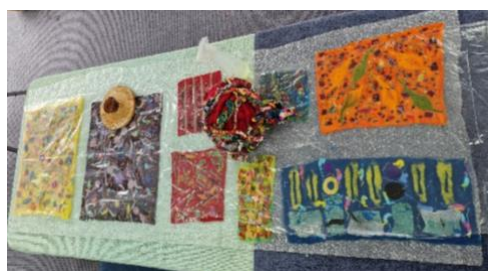
- Alice with her awesome felted slippers



- Margot with her gorgeous wrap and cushion covers



- Sonya with her beautiful prefelt pieces



- Mary with her amazing wrap and ruffles scarf



- Carol with her fantastic dress! I can't wait to see the finished product!



- Gillian with her amazing wall art!



- Ann with her gorgeous nuno felted pieces



- Penny with her gorgeous fabric!



- Jo with her scarf, wrap and vessel



Favourite Supplier for this month: Great Ocean Road Woollen Mill



www.gorwm.com.au

GOR Woollen Mill, established in 2015, is nestled in the scenic Burrumbeet region near Ballarat. Specialising in sustainably and ethically sourced fibre, the mill is dedicated to preserving the art of producing high-quality yarns from 100% Australian-grown fibers entirely off-grid. Aside from its range of yarns, GOR Woollen Mill showcases its expertise through an array of knitting and crochet accessories. To further immerse visitors in the process, GOR Woollen Mill provides informative tours, taking you on a journey from paddock to product, unveiling the secrets behind the scenes.