

Wattle Day Celebration

A day to celebrate all things Australian

Presented by

The Victorian Folk Music Club Inc

and

The Traditional Social Dance

Association of Victoria Inc

A not for profit event

Saturday September 5th 2026

Senior Citizen's Hall, Laurence Grv.
Ringwood East

*A range of singing, dancing, verse and
musical workshops, followed by a
Family Dance in the evening*



What's On:

Instrument workshops 9.30 - 10.45pm

Grow Your Guitar Skills

What's next once you have basic guitar strum skills? Progress your basic technique with lead-ups, walk downs, chord progressions, dynamics. These techniques will enhance your playing. It's a slow session, bring your guitar and Dominic will show you how to get more out of it.

Blues Harmonica Workshop

Take the first steps in learning blues style harmonica with Bill Buttler. Learn basic chords, the 12 bar blues progression, bending notes, making train sounds etc. Bring a standard 10 hole diatonic harmonica in C. For those with some knowledge, as well as beginners. Notes supplied.

Squeezebox Mysteries Explained

The button box is light, portable and big on sound. It and the harmonica work pretty much the same way, so knowing one is a great start with the other. Bring a 10 hole harmonica in C if you don't have a squeezebox. Notes supplied.

Harmony In Folk Song 11.00 - 12.15

Rounds are a lovely way to gain confidence in singing 'against' someone else. We'll try some simple exercises to help get your ear in sync with other singers. Expect to be moving around occasionally while singing. Ken will lead.

Playing Session with Joan

Enjoy a music play-along with Joan and Ray; bring your instrument or just sit and listen if you prefer. Printed material provided.

Lunch Break 12.15 - 1.15pm

BYO lunch. There may even be time for a jam!!!

Premiere Song and Song Writing Workshop 1.15 - 2.45

Chris Lazzaro is a highly regarded singer, instrumentalist and song writer with many years in the music industry working with top performers, sessions and commissions. We are delighted to have him offer his time to run a workshop on the day. This will be a unique opportunity not to be missed.

3.00 - 4.30pm

'Throw Away Partners' Dance Workshop

Contemporary folk dances with no particular partner, ie. mostly Set dances for odd numbers, 3, 5, 7 and gender neutral dances without a specific partner. Norm Ellis from TSDAV. Norm is a leading folk dance caller.

Poetry Open Mic

Entertain and be entertained with poetry, yarns, tall stories; this is a session for all aspiring poets and yarn spinners. Contribute or sit and listen if you prefer. Bette Martin will lead.

Blackboard Hot Spots 4.45 - 5.45pm

A walk-up open mic session of your choice. Just put your name on the board and you're in. Two songs max per act. Here is an opportunity to share your favourite song(s) and great to get performing confidence in front of an audience. Hosted by Maree Buttler.

Family Bush Dance 7.30 - 10.30pm

Comhaltas Irish Band will provide the music for the regular Family Bush Dance. All welcome. (Extra admission applies - \$10 if any daytime w/s attended; \$12 members, \$15 non-member, kids free).

Ringwood East Senior Citizen's Hall

\$12 / \$15 for as many workshops as you like.

(Extra admission for the evening dance)

Buy tickets via Humanitix, or cash at the door.

www.vfmc.org.au

VFMC WATTLE DAY 2026

Saturday 5th September 2026

Here's what's on **Saturday 5th September**, Wattle Day 2026
 Ringwood East Senior Citizen's Hall, Laurence Grove
 \$12 members, \$15 non members, kids no charge
 See the website www.vfmc.org.au for information

Time	Main Hall	Side Room
9.30-10.45 1 (concurrent workshops, choose just one)	Instruments Workshops Grow Your Guitar Skills Domenic Martin	Blues Harmonica Bill Buttler The Squeeze Box Explained Don Fraser
11.00-12.15 2	Harmony in Folk Song Ken McGregor	Playing Session with Joan Joan and Ray Mundy
12.15-1.15	Lunch Break, byo	
1.15-2.45 3	Premiere Song and Song Writing Workshop Chris Lazzaro	
3.00-4.30 4	'Throw Away Partners' Dance Workshop Norm Ellis	Poetry Open Mic Bette Martin
4.45 - 5.30 5	Blackboard Hot Spots Maree Buttler	
7.30 - 10.30	Family Bush Dance with Comhaltas	