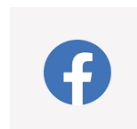




Victorian Feltmakers Inc



The next meeting for members will be on 6th December and is our last meeting for 2025. The day will consist of:

10 am - Fibre shop and library open for viewing

11 am - Member meeting, including Show and tell

12.30-ish - Shared celebration lunch - Please bring a plate of food to share, with a red, green or festive theme.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible and invite you to bring a friend or family member who is interested in felting.

Best wishes to everyone who isn't able to attend for a lovely Christmas and New Year. The VFI Committee

Events in 2026

| DATE | ACTIVITY |
|------------------|---|
| Sat 17 th Jan | Felting Frenzy: Wet felting a rose and other flowers – Jo Bagge |
| Sat 21 st Feb | Member meeting and felting afternoon |
| Sat 21 st Mar | Felting Frenzy: Pine-needle felting – Judith Latham and Penny Storey |
| Sat 18 th April | Member meeting and felting afternoon |
| Sat 16 th May | Felting Frenzy: The coming together of felt and basketry – Sonya Solomon |
| Sat 20 th June | Member meeting and felting afternoon |
| Sat 17 th July | Felting Frenzy: Using paper in felting – Jane St Quintin |
| Sat 15 th August | Member meeting and felting afternoon |
| Sat 19 th Sept | Felting Frenzy: Dolls – Di Morley and Mary McMahon |
| Sat 17 th Oct | Member meeting and felting afternoon |
| Sat 21 st Nov | Felting Frenzy: Using scraps-Christmas decorations & other ideas Jill Preston |
| Sat 5 th Dec | VFI Christmas celebration |

Events outside of the VFI you may be interested in:

Victoria

Yarra Valley Yarn Show – 3rd May <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100093526473252>

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

Geelong Fibre Forum 27th Sept – 3rd Oct – (classes go live on 23rd November & are available to book from 10am on 6th December 2025) <https://taftainc.com.au/>

Interstate

Fibre Feast, SA – 1st March - <https://fibrefeastsa.com/>

Australian Yarn Show, ACT: 6th – 8th March - <https://www.yarnshow.com.au/>

River Yarn Festival, NSW: 11th – 12th April <https://www.riveryarn.com.au/>

Felting Frenzy – 15th November



15 November - Felt Frenzy and Skill Share Demonstration

With Jane St. Quintin and Carol Weston - Felting combinations, wet and needle felting to produce small embellished items e.g. bugs, dragon flies, mushrooms.

A great time was had by all!

My Felting Journey by Jo Bagge

I am a felt maker, knitter and fibre artist and enjoy using bright colour with unique and bold designs to create my work. I enjoy making various items such as scarves, beanies, wall hangings, flowers, necklaces, wraps, bags and now fibre batts.

My family and I moved to Australia from Cambridgeshire, in the UK about twenty years ago, first living in Mildura and then settling on the Bellarine where we have lived for about fifteen years.

My background is working as a civil servant in the UK for Ministry of Agriculture and here in Australia, I have worked for the Royal Geelong Show as part of a team organising the 2010 show and have also had roles within administration at La Trobe University and currently at The Gordon TAFE for about 12 years. I have also recently completed a Certificate 3 in Horticulture, but my real passion and interest has always been with textiles.

(Photos below from, left: my daughter modelling one of my scarves a while ago now! Felternative photo from 2012 at Chapel on Chapel – my Asteraceae wall hanging on right & Alex Hecker modelling one of my scarves for the Scarf Festival at the National Wool Museum)



My introduction to felting...

Predominantly a knitter, I entered a scarf into the Geelong Scarf Festival 2010 at the National Wool Museum, and as part of the activities that were being held in the area, I went down for a knitting afternoon at Tarnwarncoort (an farm that sells gorgeous wool products from their flock) at Warncoort just outside of Colac, where Chris West an amazing textile artist, was demonstrating felting. She asked me if I'd like to have a go, so thought yes why not and made a phone case. Well that was where my love of felting started !

I really loved the process and everything about it and started making some small items, using different techniques. I did lots of research on the internet about local groups in the area and that was when I discovered the VFI. Now I create various felt works, experimenting and trying different ideas and using many different types of felting from needle felting to nuno felting on fabrics. It takes about three hours for a scarf and about two weeks to make a jacket. I love the journey of making each piece and even though I do sell my items sometimes I find it hard to let go but I can't keep everything! I love designing, creating it and putting the detail into it

I made many pieces and it wasn't long before I decided it would be a good idea to develop my own small business to support my craft, called knitonefelttwo.

The business name came from the fact that knitting an item takes a lot longer than felting it. I can felt two items in the time I can knit one. I'm not a patient person, so felting is good, because it's a quick process. I enjoy demonstrating the process of felting because seeing fibre becoming a fabric is quite a transformation and I love seeing people's reactions. I enjoy talking to people about it, doing demonstrations at events I attend, and entering competitions, such as the Australian Sheep & Wool Show and generally enjoy promoting this amazing craft.

I like to use Australian merino wool to create most of my works and use combination of other natural fibres such as plant; cotton, linen, banana, seaweed and animal like other breeds of sheep, alpaca, yak, rabbit and others.

I try and support the local area and try to source my materials locally. I used to get my wool from a local supplier in Portarlington who lived just down the road from me at the time, and source other materials from suppliers in Victoria. I also use recycled wool from jumpers I find at the op shop and try to repurpose silk, cotton scarves and other natural fabrics in my work.

My work has been recognised in various competitions such as Geelong Scarf Festival, where I won best felted scarf in 2012, and the sustainable category with a black and white chequered scarf using wool from recycled jumpers in 2014 and Most Innovative Entry 2015 at the Australian Sheepo and Wool Show. Its exciting to win but also that you get recognised for your work. It's good to enter too, because you sometimes get feedback from professional felters.

My inspiration mostly stems from the surroundings of the Great Ocean Road, Otways, Surf Coast and the Bellarine which are beautiful areas of Victoria. I have created a couple of pictures of the area, felted pictures of the You Yangs, a piece of the forest inspired by the Otways and lots of ocean-inspired works.

I have also run felting classes for National Wool Museum, Diversitat and my own one off classes at local neighbourhood houses on the Bellarine. I also currently sell a range of fibre batts at the National Wool Museum in Geelong and in my Etsy shop knitonefeltwo

www.etsy.com/au/shop/knitonefeltwo

www.facebook.com/knitonefeltwo

(Photos below from, left: a queen sized bedspread I felted for a friend – the largest I have done to date. I won't be doing anything that big again!
And a spiral rug I knitted)



Show and Tell photos

Jill talks about the amazing construction of this piece by a member who couldn't unfortunately attend the meeting



Alice with the bag she made at the Felting Frenzy



Eva with her amazing doll, bag and tunic



Rita with her gorgeous jacket telling us about the construction and design ideas for it.



Tony telling us about his t-shirt which shows various stages of paragliding



Next Felting Frenzy on 17th Jan: Wet felting a rose and other flowers with Jo Bagge

Don't forget to book in for the Felting Frenzy to make some gorgeous, felted rose brooch and other flowers! Instructions provided. \$20 for the day



Felt Frenzies are 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.](#)