



MELBOURNE HIGHLAND GAMES & CELTIC FESTIVAL

PROGRAMME

\$5



Sunday, 29 March 2026
Eastfield Park, Croydon

Acknowledgement



We acknowledge the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation as the traditional custodians of the land now known as the City of Maroondah, where Indigenous Australians have performed age-old ceremonies. We acknowledge and respect their unique ability to care for Country and their deep spiritual connection to it. We pay our respects to their Elders, past, present, and emerging.

President's Welcome

Wayne Makin, FSAScot, MICDA, Dip Risk Mgt

On behalf of our Committee, I warmly welcome you to a wonderful day of Scottish and Celtic celebration here in Croydon.

Set against the gentle hills and beautiful trees of Eastfield Park Reserve, today we transform this special corner of Victoria into a little piece of Scotland. The stirring sound of the pipes, the colour of swirling tartans, and the strength and spectacle of the Heavy Games create an atmosphere that is both inspiring and unforgettable.

Following the great success of last year's International Games, we continue the excitement with outstanding Australian athletes striving for new heights, lively performances in the Folk Tent, and a vibrant gathering of clans, families, and friends.

Enjoy the music, savour traditional favourites from our food vendors, explore the market stalls, discover your family tartan, and most of all, share in the spirit of community that makes this festival so special.

Thank you for joining us. May your day be filled with pride, joy, and a touch of the Highlands here in Croydon.

I would like to acknowledge our VIP guests:

- Members of Parliament
- Our Patron: The Right Honourable Simon Abney-Hastings, 15th Earl of Loudoun
- The Games Ambassador: The Hon. Ted Baillieu AO, former Premier of Victoria
- The Chieftain of the Day: The Right Honourable Lord Strathspey, Sir Michael Grant of Grant Bt., 34th Chief of Clan Grant
- The Honoured Clan: Clan Grant
- Sponsors and Supporters

Aye Regards

Wayne R Makin FSAScot



Cover tartans: The upper tartan is the Grant (1819 #1) that was designated to be the authorized Grant tartan by the Rt. Hon. 6th Lord Strathspey, Sir James Patrick Trevor Grant of Grant, Baronet
The lower tartan is the Grant 1714 with thread count estimated from the tartan in the portraits of Alister Mohr Grant, Champion, and William Cummins, Piper, to the Laird of Grant by Richard Waitt, 1714. Adopted by the chief as an additional Grant tartan, April 2024.

Mayor's Welcome



Cr Linda Hancock, Mayor of Maroondah City Council



Welcome to the 2026 Melbourne Highland Games and Celtic Festival at Eastfield Park in Croydon. This year we also welcome back The Victorian Pipe Band Championships.

Over the years, Council has been proud to support the festival as it continues to flourish and attract an ever-growing audience from our local community, across Australia, and even from overseas.

Whether you've come from just down the road or travelled a long way to be here, we're sure you'll have a fantastic time exploring celebrating Scottish and Celtic culture with an extensive line-up of sporting competitions, dancing, live music and delicious food on offer. With such a varied program this year, there truly is something to delight everyone in 2026.

To all the talented performers and determined athletes taking part today, we wish you the very best.

Thank you also to the incredible volunteers who have been working tirelessly behind the scenes for months to organise this event. Your enthusiasm and hard work are what make this festival possible. We're grateful for everything you do to make this event a reality.

Patron

The Right Honourable Simon Abney-Hastings, The 15th Earl of Loudoun



Welcome to the 60th year of the Melbourne Highland Games & Celtic Festival.

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the Melbourne Highland Games and Celtic Festival. Today, we gather to celebrate the rich traditions, music, dance, sport, and camaraderie that have been at the heart of Scottish and Celtic culture for generations.

These Games remind us not only of our proud heritage but also of the spirit of community that continues to thrive here in Melbourne. Whether you're competing on the field, performing, or simply soaking in the sights, sounds, and hospitality, your presence helps keep these traditions alive for future generations.

I urge everyone to support and contribute in their own way to not only the festival but to our proud Scottish and Celtic communities here in Australia.

I wish everyone an enjoyable and rewarding day.

Ambassador

The Honourable Ted Baillieu AO, former Premier of Victoria



Welcome to Melbourne Highland Games and Celtic Festival for 2026.

As Ambassador for the MHG&CF, I wish a safe and enjoyable day to the bands, pipers and dancers today and we hope that all of our visitors take away a little bit of Scotland culture home with them.

In my other role as Chieftain of the Victorian Highland Pipe Band Association it is always pleasing to experience the pipe band competition and the massed bands

I hope that you enjoy the Games and everything the event has to offer.

Chieftain of the Day

The Right Honourable Lord Strathspey, Sir Michael Gant of Grant Bt., 34th Chief of Clan Grant



I was born in 1953 and brought up in Edinburgh. My love of buildings and architecture led me to become a Chartered Surveyor (MRICS) and Project Management became my forte. This involved development appraisals, design briefs for Architects, the final design, finishes, contracts, programme, construction, cost control and leasing or sales on completion.

I worked in London from 1974 for the earlier part of my career, which also included frequent business trips to the USA in the 80s, when I was able to help with the Clan Society and get to know those involved.

I retired in 2013, to look after my mother Olive in West Wittering, who passed away in 2019 aged 105. I spend the summers there, my principal hobbies being sailing, kayaking and walking.

Having enjoyed part of my life in Scotland, I have now been able to express my love of the Highlands, it's history and traditions, by launching a new historic tartan, the Grant 1714, possibly a first for any Clan. I am working on a single malt Scotch whisky to follow.

Since becoming Chief, I have continued to be actively involved in the running of our UK Society and our annual Clan Gatherings in Grantown on Spey. I also attended the Stone Mountain Games in Atlanta, as Guest of Honour in 2024 and likewise at Bundanoon, NSW as Games Chieftain in April this year. Our Clan Chairman in Australia, the Hon Troy Grant then took me on a splendid tour, with Merv Grant, our longstanding member, through the mountains to Brisbane. What a wonderful trip.

My Mission as Chief is to support my fellow Grants, help make the Clan Grant Societies worldwide work as one, become more relevant and enjoyable, attract a wider membership by embracing social media and local community events, enjoying kinship, mutual understanding and sustainability.

I am very much looking forward to the Melbourne Highland Games – what a privilege and pleasure.

Lord Strathspey - Standfast Craigellachie!

Honoured Clan

Clan Grant



Origins

The name Grant has been an influential one throughout Scotland's history, but the exact origins of the ancient Clan Grant remain a subject of discussion.

The traditional oral histories of the Clan Grant suggest that its origins lay to the north with the Viking, Haakon Grandt of Norway, who settled in Scotland about 960, after a brief sojourn in Ireland.

Others believe the Grants descend from Kenneth MacAlpin, a 9th century king of the Picts, who became King of Scots. This legend also established the Siol Alpin (descendants of Alpin), a familial bond between the Grants, the MacGregors, and other clans.

Another theory is that the Grants came from the south with influential Anglo-Norman feudal barons in the 13th century to establish their foothold in the vicinity of Inverness.

Grants held lands in Stratherrick on the southeastern shores of Loch Ness – perhaps as early as the 13th century. Sir Laurence le Grant was Sheriff of Inverness in 1263. John le Grant secured part of Inverallan in 1316 – the first lands held by the Grants in their future stronghold of Strathspey. In the 15th century, Sir Duncan le Grant inherited lands in the barony of Freuchie, near present-day Grantown, thereby establishing the

patrimony of future Lairds of Freuchie and Chiefs of the Clan Grant, which lasted almost five centuries.

18th Century

In 1702 Sir James Grant of Grant married the heiress of the Colquhouns of Luss and their second son became Chief of the Colquhouns. Their eldest son, Sir Ludovick then married the heiress of the Earls of Seafield. Their grandson, Sir Lewis Alexander, added the Seafield surname, Ogilvie, to his own, when he became the 5th Earl of Seafield in 1811.

Black Watch

In 1725, following the first Jacobite rising, General Wade formed six independent companies to bring law and order to the highlands. These early forces were called the Black Watch because of the dark hues of their tartan. The independent companies were formed from trusted highland clans, the Grants, Campbells, Frasers and Munros. In 1739 King George II further increased the size of the Black Watch and formed them into the 43rd (later 42nd) Regiment of the British Army.

The Good Sir James

In late 18th century, Sir James Grant of Grant, Baronet, was probably the ablest Chief of his long line. He was so admired by his clansmen they called him 'The Good Sir James'. During times of hardship and famine, when many highland chiefs were clearing clansmen from their lands, Sir James imported food and grain at his own expense for his starving tenants. He did his best to create jobs so his clansmen would not have to relocate to the lowlands or emigrate to the new world. Sir James was perhaps best known for the planning and development of Grantown-on-Spey in 1765.

1745 Jacobite uprising

During the Jacobite rising of 1745 the majority of Clan Grant again supported the British Government. Again however just prior to the Battle of Inverurie (1745) the chief decided to withdraw his troops at the last moment resulting in the defeat of the Government Forces.

One branch of the Clan Grant, the Grants of Glenmoriston sided with the Jacobites and fought at the Battle of Prestonpans in 1745 where they made a decisive difference due to their timely arrival.

In 1746 at the Battle of Culloden there were Grants on both sides of the conflict. The Grants of Glenmoriston and Corrimony fought with the Jacobite forces. Many were captured after the defeat and some were transported to Barbados as slaves.

Highland Clearances

Clan Grant under the stewardship of The 'Good Sir James' Grants did not suffer to the same extent as other Clans who were removing people from their lands to make room for sheep. Grantown On Spey was built to house and employ clans people during this hard time. This resulted in fewer clan's people emigrating. (See above.)

19th Century

The Earls of Seafield were Chiefs of the Clan Grant from 1811-1915, when the 11th Earl was killed in the Great War. After his death, the Lords Strathspey retained the title of Baronet and became the Chiefs of the Clan. A notable Clan member was Field Marshall Sir Patrick Grant (1804–1895) who was born in Auchterblair, Inverness-shire and served with the Indian Army in Bengal. He was made Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath and Knight Grand Cross of St Michael and St George. A memorial to him can be found at Duthil Old Parish Church.

The Clan Grant Society was founded in 1897 and since this time Societies have been established across the world in the United States of America, Canada, New Zealand and Australia.

Modern Day

In 2004, the Family Tree DNA Grant Project GRANT DNA Surname Project was established to provide a path for family researchers to use their male (Y) DNA from their Y-Chromosome as a tool in breaking through genealogical brick walls. The Y-DNA markers are specific to men only and are passed virtually unchanged from father to son for generations.

In 2012 during a visit to Winnipeg, Canada, the chief of Clan Grant declared that Métis leader Cuthbert Grant was a member of the clan and his descendants are now called the Siol Cudbright (the progeny of Cuthbert), a sept of the Clan Grant.

The current Chief is The Rt Hon Lord Strathspey, Sir Michael Grant of Grant Bt. MA MRICS, 34th Chief of Clan Grant.

Visit the [Clan Grant Society website](#) for more information.



CLAN GRANT

Schedule of Events

Sunday, 29 March 2026 – Eastfield Park, Croydon

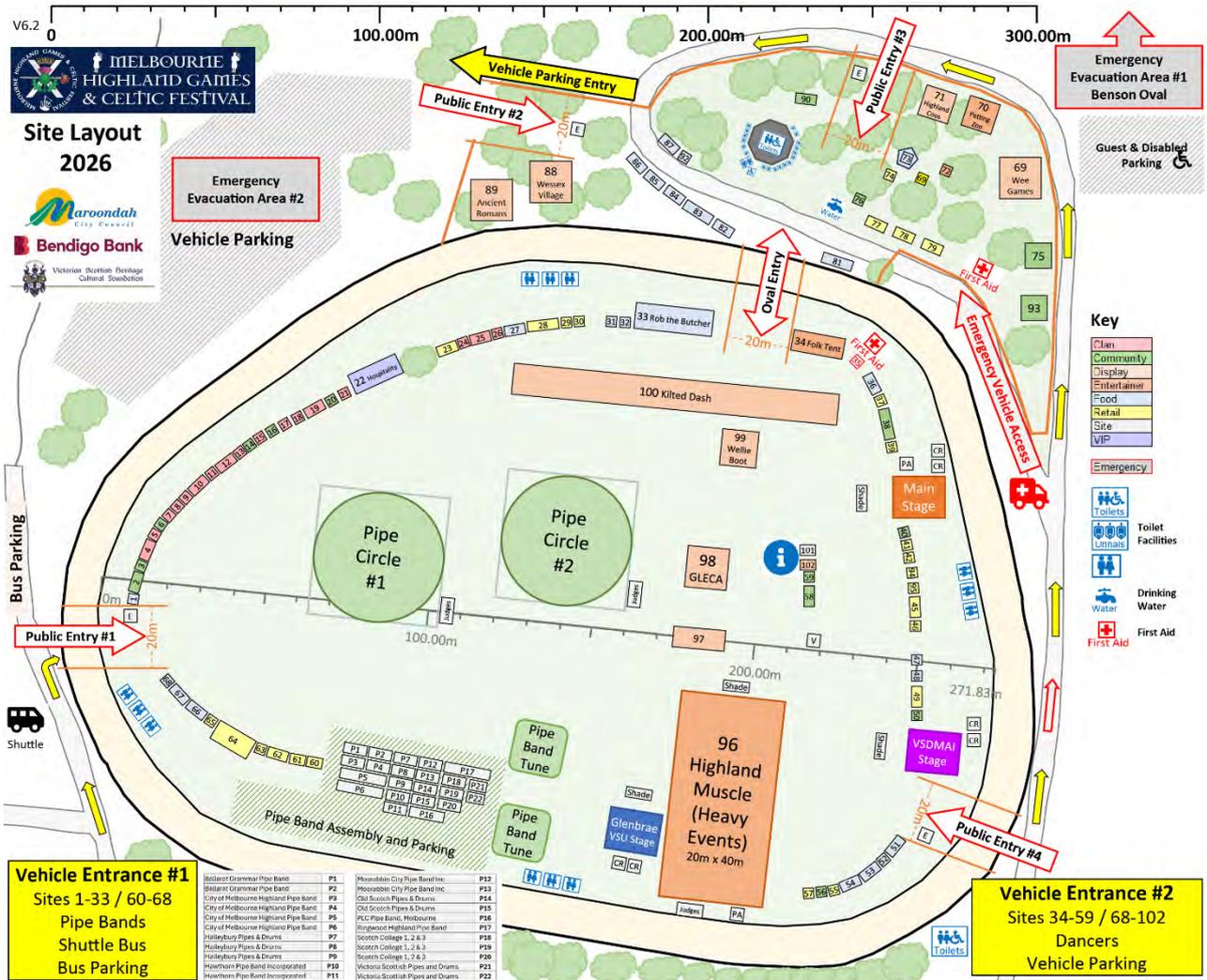
Time	On Stage				On Field			
	Main Stage Celtic Dancing	VSDMAI Stage	Glenbrae Stage	Folk Music Tent	Pipe Bands	Stalls	Fun Events	Heavy Events
9:00 AM	Ground Opens							
	9:15 AM Clans and Guard of Honour asseble / Ringwood Highland Pipe Band asseble / Official Party escorted							
9:30 AM	Opening Ceremony	Parade of Clans				Clans	10:00 AM	Highland Muscle Heavy Events
		Welcome to Country						
10:00 AM		Speeches						
		Official opening by Chieftain of the Day						
10:30 AM	SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING by Ringwood Caledonian Scottish Country Dancers	VSDMAI Highland Dancing	Glenbrae VSU Highland Dancing	10:30 AM Amethyst Celt	Pipe Bands Competition	Community Groups	Wee Games	List of events that will run throughout the day: 1. Light stone put 2. Light weight for distance 3. Heavy Stone put 4. Heavy weight for distance 5. Caber 6. Light hammer 7. Heavy hammer 8. Weight for height
11:00 AM	WELSH DANCING by Ceffyl Gwyn Dancers			11:27 AM Croydon Singers (U3A)				
11:30 AM	MORRIS DANCING by Britannia Morris Dancers			12:24 PM Fiona Ross				
12:00 PM	IRISH DANCING by Victorian Irish Dance Academy			12:24 PM Fiona Ross				
12:30 PM	COME & TRY HIGHLAND DANCING							
1:00 PM	SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING by Ringwood Caledonian Scottish Country Dancers			1:21 PM Shona Williams & Phil Lester				
1:45 PM	IRISH DANCING by Victorian Irish Dance Academy							
2:30 PM	WELSH DANCING by Ceffyl Gwyn Dancers			2:18 PM VFMC Billabong Band				
3:00 PM	MORRIS DANCING by Britannia Morris Dancers			3:15 PM The Croydonaires				
3:30 PM	Closing Ceremony preparations							
4:00 PM	Closing Ceremony	Parade of Clans, Dancers, Athletes and Volunteers				Entertainers	1:00 PM	Kilted Dash
4:30 PM		Massed Bands					1:30 PM	
		Prizes and acknowledgements					2:00 PM	
5:00 PM	Massed Bands march off						Break	
	Day Concludes							

** Timings above are approximate and are subject to change on the day.

** Please listen to the ground announcements for updates to the programme.

Site Plan

Eastfield Park



Stalls

A Wee Swally	41
Ancient Roman Reenactors Victoria	89
Aussie Farm Animals	70
Bagpipe Display	102
Best Bonnie Beers	49
Celtic Babe	37
Celtic Motifs Jewellery	44
Chef Calamari Food Truck	53
Chiefs Son Distillery	65
Chinese Cancer and Chronic Illness Society of Victoria (CCCIS)	66
Clan Buchanan	11
Clan Cameron Australia Inc.	10
Clan Donald Victoria Society Inc.	9
Clan Edmonstone	5
Clan Fraser	18
Clan Grant Society Australia	21
Clan Gregor Society	17
Clan Macdonald Yarraville Inc	8
Clan MacEwen	13
Clan MacKenzie	12
Clan MacLennan	19
Clan MacLeod	26
Clan MacMillan Society of Australia	25
Clan Sinclair Australia	7
Clan Stewart Society	4
Clan Sutherland Society in Australia	24
Clan Young	15
Created to Cherish	30
David Hodggett MP	40
Dragon Fire Mead	67
Dungavin Westies	75
Evolva Tea	55
Feed One Feed All	73
First Aid	35

Glen Lachlann College of Arms	96
Glenstrae Highlands - Cattle	71
Glenstrae Highlands - Merch	78
Grammys	94
Haisley Design	45
Highland Handicrafts	46
Highland Muscle	96
Historic Ambulance	97
Hospitality Tent	22
I.F.E. Delights by Naz	52
Information Tent	101
Irish Wolfhound Club of Victoria	93
Jaggy Wee Thing	77
Juicello	92
Kasike coffee	1
Kasike coffee	31
Kilsyth Scottish Country Dance Group	3
Kilted Dash	100
Kreamy Kones	36
Made Locally	61
Mama Melisse	95
Maroonadh Rotary Club	51
Maroonadh SES	66
Maroonadh Wearable Arts	72
Marshmallow Delight	32
Mary Dick	68
Matt Gregg MP and Gabriel Ng MP	58
Miniature Outlaws	64
Mobile Pubs	67
Mowatts	66
Norse Wood n Metal	62
Oba Grill & Gosteme	48
Poncho Mexican Food Truck (4Trk Australia)	65
Radio Eastern FM 98.1	90

Riddell Fudge Factory	74
Ringwood Caledonian Society (Ringwood Scottish Country Dancing)	38
Robert Burns Club of Melbourne	16
Rob's British Butchers	33
Scottish Accessories Shoppe	49
Scottish Gaelic Society of Victoria	2
SEEMYSHOP2	79
Sheesh Handmade	39
Skew&go	82
Smokin It up	83
Sonja Terpstra MP	76
St Andrew's First Aid Australia	14
Sundaez n Chill	87
Sutherland Estate	63
Tartan Treats	68
The Celtic Bakery	29
The Celtic Makers	42
The Celtic Way	59
The Folk Tent	34
The Greatest Doughman	84
The Naked Spud	86
The Scottish Bonner	28
The Whisky Company	23
Thistlebrae Kilts	60
Twista sis spuds	81
Vanilla Bean Ice Creamery	54
Victorian Scottish Dancing Members Association Inc.	50
Victorian Scottish Heritage Cultural Foundation (VSHCF)	20
Victorian Scottish Union Inc	6
W&C Parry Co	47
Wellie Boot Tossing	99
Wessex Viking Reenactment	88
WHIPPD	27



Community health, safety and wellbeing



We are committed to providing programs and services that support our community with issues such as preventing family violence, reducing alcohol-related harm and promoting good mental health.

Croydon Community Wellbeing Precinct



Artists impression of the new hub, incorporating the existing heritage façade.

What is the Croydon Community Wellbeing Precinct (CCWP)?

A place of connection and a beacon for wellbeing – Croydon Community Wellbeing Precinct will bring together people from all walks of life who are welcomed, supported and empowered to care for the wellbeing of themselves and others.

It will include integrated indoor and outdoor spaces that provide for activation, inspiration and empowerment. It will be a village of connection, belonging, safety and learning.



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Labor Member for North-Eastern Metropolitan Region



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State Government Representative

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- Unit 4, 91 Dorset Road, Ferntree Gully VIC 3156

FIND OUT MORE:



Pipe Bands

We are honoured to be hosting the Victorian Pipe Band Championships for 2026



Bagpipes have existed in many countries. The basic instrument is the same, a bag with a chanter and one or more drones. Some of these were mouth blown while others used a bellows attachment to supply the air. The bag provided a sustained tone while the musician took a breath and allowed several tones to be played at once.



The origin of the pipes in Scotland is uncertain, some believe that they came from Ireland. Another theory is that they developed independently. In the Lowlands, pipers occupied well-defined positions as town pipers, performers for weddings, feasts, and fairs. Lowland pipers played songs and dance music, as was expected by their audience. In the Highlands pipers were strongly influenced by the Celtic legends and the wild nature of the Highlands. The Highland piper occupied a high and honoured position within the Clan system. To be a piper was sufficient and, if he could play well, nothing else would be asked of him. As a musical instrument of war, the Great Pipes of the Highlands were without equal, according to historians. The shrill and penetrating notes worked well in the roar and din of battle and pipes could be heard at distances up to ten miles. Because of the importance of the bagpipes to any Highland army, they were classified as an instrument of war by the Loyalist government during the Highland uprising in the 1700s. After the defeat of Bonnie Prince Charlie in 1745, kilts and bagpipes were outlawed.

Highland Dancing

The Victorian Scottish Dancing Members Association are proud to showcase Royal Scottish Official Board Highland Dancing at the Melbourne Highland Games & Celtic Festival.

Our dancers participate in highland gatherings, tattoos, and events all over Victoria, Australia, Canada, USA, and South Africa with many coming together at Cowal, Dunoon, Scotland each year for the World Championships.

Highland dancing is a wonderful way to form longstanding friendships as well as encouraging confidence, discipline, and pride in competitive and non-competitive dancing events. Our dancers also have the opportunity to participate in choreographed displays which instils a sense of fun and enjoyment.

Within the highland dance, legends and images of Scotland's history are performed. These vary from the mighty stag of the highlands to the flight of Bonnie Prince Charlie. Each dance is unique to its own and has a story to tell about Scotland's rich heritage. Some of the more well-known dances include the Highland Fling, the Sword Dance, the Reel of Tulloch, and Flora McDonald's Fancy.

For information about teaching please contact:

The Secretary VSDMAI, mobile 0413 205 593, email vsdma@bigpond.com



Irish Dancing

The Victorian Irish Dance Academy, based in Tecoma, runs Irish dance classes for students of all ages and levels. Dancers from the academy will showcase the best Irish dancing has to offer, from traditional reels and ceilidh dances to modern fast-paced hard shoe numbers.

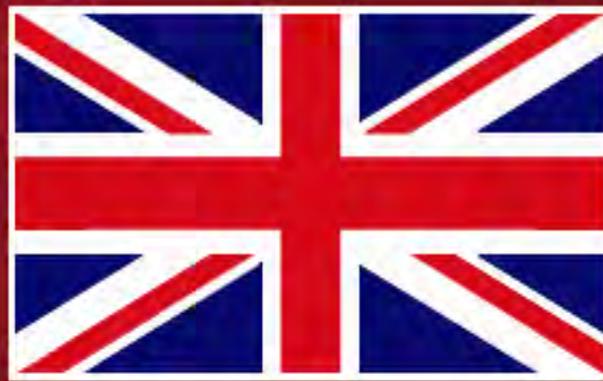
If you would like to find out more about joining an Irish dance class, please visit our website:

www.victorianirishdance.com



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Ceffyl Gwyn Welsh Dancers

When Wales and the performing arts are mentioned, most people in Australia think of male voice choirs – not dancing. Even in Wales itself, the profile of dancing is low in comparison with that of music, song and poetry, the traditional art forms that are emphasised at eisteddfods in Wales. Sadly, this can be attributed to Welsh dancing having nearly died out in the 19th century largely because of the Calvinistic religious revival movement which regarded dancing as wicked.

Welsh dancing saw a revival in the 20th century through the efforts of dance historians and the formation of the Welsh Folk Dance Society in 1949. Welsh dances share many features in common with other dance forms in the British Isles, with Scottish and English Country Dancing in particular and, in some instances, with Morris dancing as well. What differentiates Welsh dancing from the Scottish and English is the style and variety of music danced to (Wales being a musical nation) and also the complexity of many popular Welsh dances.

Ceffyl Gwyn Welsh Dancers was formed in 2007 by a group of dance enthusiasts skilled in Scottish and English country dancing. Our name (pronounced 'Kéffil Gwynn') means White Horse in Welsh and is a tribute to our home base in Surrey Hills, City of Whitehorse.

Our mission is to meet regularly to practise traditional and modern Welsh reels, jigs, hornpipes, waltzes, and marches with a view to raising public awareness of this aspect of Welsh culture and to provide tuition to members of the public who are interested in learning these dances.



Since our formation in 2007, we have made many public performances at folk festivals, at Welsh cultural events and at festivals and events organised by Multicultural Arts Victoria. These public performances have included several appearances at the National Folk Festival in Canberra and the National Celtic Festival at Portarlington.

*Ceffyl Gwyn Welsh Dancers are a sub-group of Box Hill & District Scottish Society, Inc. (a local Scottish Country Dance group)

For more information please contact: Ian Kendall, mobile 0419 899 488, email ian.kendall1@bigpond.com

Scottish Country Dancing

Fun, fitness, and friendship

We invite you to jump right into the social world of Scottish Country Dancing (SCD). Maybe you have already experienced some traditional Scottish dances at a wedding, a ceilidh or on Burns Night? If you have, you'll know the feeling of exhilaration when dancing to upbeat, traditional Scottish music. Scottish Country Dancing can be traced back to the assemblies and balls of the 18th and 19th centuries. SCD is **social dancing** and Scottish Country Dancers mainly dance for pleasure, finding the experience both physically and mentally enjoyable (smiles and eye contact are almost mandatory).



Scottish country dancing should not be confused with Scottish highland dance which is a competitive solo form of dance.

Scottish country dances consist of formations with a different sequence for each dance. Some dances are easy while some take longer to learn. However, once you have learned the basic steps and some of the formations you should be able to participate happily and easily wherever there is country dancing.

If you are completely new to Scottish Country Dancing don't be afraid! You don't have to wear tartan or a kilt (though you can if you like); you don't need special footwear (comfortable flat shoes are fine); you don't have to bring a partner (SCD involves dancing with different partners) and you can leave your swords at home as they are not needed!

There are groups across metropolitan Melbourne and country Victoria but the local group performing here today is the Ringwood Caledonian Society.

We dance every Wednesday evening at the Central Ringwood Community Hall in Bedford Road Ringwood. We are a very friendly group and frequently join with other groups for social evenings on a Saturday.

For more information please contact: Marilyn Kuek, 98701954, email: mapakuek@gmail.com

SCD widens your social circle, as well as improving your health, fitness and wellbeing. We cater for complete beginners and offer introductory classes to help you get started.

Bring some joy to your life and join us!



Sonja — Terpstra.

MP North-Eastern Metro

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- sonja.terpstra@parliament.vic.gov.au
- Office 2, 9-11 Williamsons Rd, Doncaster VIC 3108

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land and celebrate their ongoing culture and contribution to society.

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Morris Dancing

While the origins of Morris Dancing may or may not be in England, Spain, Germany, or somewhere else in Europe entirely; and may or may not have included pagan rituals and women; modern Morris in Australia is much less shrouded in those maddening and mysterious mists of time.

Australian Morris sides dance what we believe to be an English folk tradition, covering local dialects of dance from the subtle variations of Cotswold Morris to the Northwest Clog and the Welsh Border dances.



For any other questions on Australian Morris, please visit our webpage at <http://www.morris.org.au/>

Victorian Scottish Union Dancing

Glenbrae Celtic Dancers Inc ("Glenbrae") is an affiliated Society under the auspice of the Victorian Scottish Union ("VSU"). The VSU was established in 1905 and has continuously conducted highland dancing and Scottish events since that time. Glenbrae are responsible for the conduct of competitions, exhibitions, and classes within the Metropolitan area. Our studio is located in Endeavour Hills providing after school and evening classes throughout the week for children and adults. Both beginner and experienced dancers are welcome. Our home-school classes are conducted in Heathmont and Endeavour Hills and are run during school hours for the benefit of those students who are part of the Homeschool Network.

Glenbrae are active within the Scottish and Multicultural Communities. Our members have travelled extensively performing with the Rats of Tobruk Memorial Pipes and Drums in China and with Claymore Celtic Rock Band in France and Denmark. We travel extensively throughout Victoria for competitions and performances. We have also travelled to New Zealand to support the New Zealand Highland Dance Academy. Our dancers were privileged to perform at the official opening of the Cricket World Cup in 2016.

We actively participate at many festivals including Portarlington Celtic Festival, Port Fairy Folk Festival, Canberra Folk Festival, Maldon Folk Festival, Kilmore Celtic Festival and Beechworth Celtic Festival.



Our affiliation with the VSU enables us to perform regularly in the Scottish Community and we are privileged to perform for the Robert Burns Club of Melbourne, Brunswick Scottish Society, Clan Donald, Mornington Peninsula Caledonian Society, and many other organisations throughout the year.

Our dancers like to perform both traditional dances as originally written, and also to incorporate choreography to modern music. Our dancers still wear the full kilt, plaid, and hat as was traditional in the early 1900's for competition although we do alter our uniform for various performances.

For more information visit our webpage at www.glenbraecelticdancers.com.au

Folk Music Tent

The Folk Music segment of the event is presented in association with the Victorian Folk Music Club inc. The VFMC is proud to sponsor and organise the Folk Music Tent program for the event. Our program will present an exciting mix of well-known folk festival performers as well as local community groups. We will be running all day from 10:30 until the commencement of the Grand Parade that closes the festival.

Contact Bill Buttler on 0417 300 682 or billnmaree@gmail.com for information and enquiries.



Folk Music Program

Subject to possible alteration.

Start	Performers
10:30 AM	Amethyst Celt
11:27 AM	Croydon Singers (U3A)
12:24 PM	Fiona Ross
1:21 PM	Shona Williams & Phil Lester
2:18 PM	VFMC Billabong Band
3:15 PM	The Croydonaires

Victorian Folk



Music Club

Gabriel Ng MP
Federal Member for Menzies

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HAMPER WORLD
THE GIFT SPECIALISTS



PLANTAGENET
GREAT SOUTHERN | WESTERN AUSTRALIA
WINES

Heavy Events

Caber Toss

The caber is not thrown for distance but for style. The caber is stood with the thickest part in the air and the athlete then lifts it against their shoulder, gives it a quick flip and tries to upend the caber so it is thrown to land at 180 degrees in front.

Hammer Throw

The thrower stands with their back to the mark, swings the hammer round their head to gain momentum and releases it over the shoulder at maximum speed. They are not permitted to spin and must anchor their feet.

Stone Put

This event resembles the modern day shot-put but uses a stone instead. The throw is recorded by measuring the distance from the back of the toe board to the mark the stone makes when it hits the ground.

Weight for Height

This event is also known as 'weight over the bar' where the athlete tosses a 24.5kg weight over a cross bar with one hand only from a standing position. The athlete is allowed three tries at each height. The bar is raised until only one athlete remains.

Weight Throw

This is also known as the 'weight for distance' event. There are two separate events, one using a light and the other a heavy weight. The thrower grasps the weight in one hand, spins around three times and throws it as far as possible.



Highland Muscle

**Traditional Highland Heavy Events
from 9am to 4pm (lunch at 12:30pm):**

1. Light stone put
2. Light weight for distance
3. Heavy Stone put
4. Heavy weight for distance
5. Caber
6. Light hammer
7. Heavy hammer
8. Weight for height





the Scottish Banner

www.scottishbanner.com



A' Bhratach Albannach 50 Years Strong 1976 - 2026



GEELONG
HIGHLAND GAMES &
★ CELTIC FESTIVAL 2026 ★

Saturday, 24 October 2026
at Bannockburn
Golden Plains Soccer Club
10am - 4pm

IHGF AUSTRALIAN HEAVY GAMES NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP
PIPE BANDS • SCOTTISH AND CELTIC DANCING • FOLK MUSIC
CLAN VILLAGE • FOOD & STALLS

For information contact: info@geelonghighlandgames.au
Website: www.geelonghighlandgames.au
f Geelong Highland Games & Celtic Festival



Tartan

The Victoria State Tartan is the official tartan of the Melbourne Highland Games & Celtic Festival.

Victoria State Tartan

Registered Number 2509. STWR 27th December 1998.



The colours depicted within the 'sett' of the Victoria State Tartan are historically linked with the armorial bearings for the State of Victoria.

DARK BLUE - Represents the blue azure of the shield on the Victoria Coat of Arms and the background of the Victorian State flag originating from the British Blue Ensign.

WHITE - The five white stripes within the tartan represents the five white stars of the constellation of the Southern Cross unique to the Southern Hemisphere and attached on the shield in the Victorian Coat of Arms from 1870.

GREEN - Represents the live branch the grassy mount on which the two female figures stand which supports the motto for the State, "Peace and Prosperity".

PINK - Represents the State floral emblem of Victoria, the Common Pink Heath adopted in 1958.

LIGHT BLUE - Depicted within the centre of the 'sett', is reminiscent of the Eureka Stockade flag displayed in 1854.



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Shane Hume has generously donated \$500 to the Victorian Pipe Band Association to be used as encouragement awards to young pipers and drummers.

Committee

President

Wayne Makin

Vice President

Ian Young

Secretary

Alistair McInnes

Treasurer

David Watson

Stalls

John Buchanan

Sponsorship

Melissa Ventre

Committee Members

Dianne Cowling

Adam Rae

Bill Buttler

Mick Ryan

Trish McGee

Rhonda Watson

Carole McKenzie

Richard Farr

Bec Gilbert

Bruce Mason-Jones

Thank you for attending the



Proudly brought to you by grants received from:



Join us at our next event!

Please mark in your calendar our next event scheduled for

Sunday, 21 March 2027
at Eastfield Park, Croydon

www.melbournehighlandgames.org.au

