

2026 COLAC SHOW – VAS CLASSES SECTION

VAS Ltd OPEN COOKING COMPETITION

Class 2938 VAS Ltd RICH FRUIT CAKE

VAS Ltd Rich Fruit Cake Competition for Rich Fruit Cake.

ENTRIES CLOSE: Friday 30th October 2026

Exhibits delivered to Homecraft Hall on: Thursday 5th November 2026 between 3pm and 6pm or Friday 6th November 2026 before 9.30am.

JUDGING: Friday 6th November 2026

ENTRY FEE: \$1

Colac Society Level Winner \$15.00

RICH FRUIT CAKE COMPETITION (SENIOR & OPEN CLASS)

The following recipe is compulsory for all entrants.

Ingredients - Preferred 100% Australian Grown Produce

250g sultanas

250g chopped raisins

250g currants

125g chopped mixed peel

90g chopped red glace cherries

90g chopped blanched almonds

1/3 cup sherry or brandy

250g plain flour

60g self-raising flour

1/4 teaspoon grated nutmeg

1/2 teaspoon ground ginger

1/2 teaspoon ground cloves

250g butter

250g soft brown sugar

1/2 teaspoon lemon essence OR finely grated lemon rind

1/2 teaspoon almond essence

1/2 teaspoon vanilla essence

4 large eggs

Here's what you do:

Cut the fruit & almonds into 3-4 pieces and mix together all the fruits and nuts and sprinkle with the sherry or brandy. Cover and leave for at least 1 hour, but preferably overnight.

Sift together the flours and spices. Cream together the butter and sugar with the essences. Add the eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition, and then alternately add the fruit and flour mixtures. Mix thoroughly. The mixture should be stiff enough to support a wooden spoon.

Place the mixture into a prepared tin **20 cm square, straight sided, square cornered tin** and bake in a slow oven for approximately 3½ - 4 hours. Allow the cake to cool in the tin.

REGULATIONS

An exhibitor having won at a Show, will bake another cake for entry in the Group Final; the winner will then be required to bake a further cake for the State Final at the next Royal Melbourne Show.

An exhibitor having won at Show Level is not eligible to enter any other Show until after the Group judging, when, if not the winning entry, can compete further.

An exhibitor is only eligible to represent one Group in the State Final.

An exhibitor having won at Group Level cannot compete further until after the Royal Melbourne Show.

Each cake entered must be the bona fide work of the exhibitor.

If for any reason a winner is unable to compete at Group or State Final level then the second placesetter is eligible to compete.

Professionals are not eligible, which is defined as someone that works professionally or derives the greater percentage of their income in that craft, art form or technique.

PRIZES

Winners at Country Shows will each receive a cash prize of \$15.00, and will be required to bake a second "Rich Fruit Cake" in order to compete in the Group Final.

State Final Prizes:

First: Voucher & VAS State Final Trophy

Second: Voucher

Third: Voucher

Class 2939 VAS Ltd CARROT CAKE

ENTRIES CLOSE: Friday 30th October 2026

Exhibits delivered to Homecraft Hall on: Thursday 5th November 2026 between 3pm and 6pm or Friday 6th November 2026 before 9.30am.

JUDGING: Friday 6th November 2026 at 10.00am.

ENTRY FEE: \$1

Colac Society Level Winner \$15.00

(OPEN CLASS)

INGREDIENTS

- 375 g plain flour
- 345 g castor sugar
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 1½ tsp bicarb soda
- 375 ml vegetable oil
- 4 eggs
- 2 tsp ground cinnamon
- 3 medium carrots, grated (350 g)
- ½ tsp ground nutmeg
- 220g tin crushed pineapple, drained
- ½ tsp allspice
- 180 g pecan nuts coarsely crushed
- 2 tsp salt

STEPS:

1. Preheat the oven to 180°C (160°C fan), grease a 23cm (9 inch) round cake tin and line with baking paper.
2. Sift the dry ingredients together into a bowl. In a separate bowl, beat the eggs and oil, then add to the dry ingredients. Mix well, then add the carrots, crushed, pineapple and pecans. Mix to form a smooth batter and pour into the cake tin.
3. Bake for approximately 90-100 minutes.
4. Remove from the oven and allow to cool for 10 minutes in the tin on a wire rack. Upend and allow to cool on the wire rack.

REGULATIONS

An exhibitor having won at a Show will bake another cake for entry in the Group Final; the winner will then be required to bake a further cake for the State Final at the next Royal Melbourne Show.

An exhibitor having won at State Level is not eligible to enter any other Show until after the Group judging, when, if not the winning entry, can compete further.

An exhibitor is only eligible to represent one Group in the State Final.

An exhibitor having won at Group Level cannot compete further until after the Royal Melbourne Show.

If for any reason a winner is unable to compete at Group or State Final level then the second placegetter is eligible to compete.

PRIZES

Winners at Country Shows will each receive a cash prize of \$15.00, and will be required to bake a second "Carrot Cake" with the winning recipe in order to compete in the Group Final.

State Final Prizes:

First: Voucher & VAS State Final Trophy

Second: Voucher

Third: Voucher

VAS LTD & SPOTLIGHT HANDCRAFT STATE COMPETITIONS

THE WINNER'S ARTICLE WILL COMPETE AT THE GROUP FINAL IN APRIL 2027

THE GROUP WINNER'S ARTICLE WILL COMPETE IN THE FINAL AT THE ROYAL MELBOURNE SHOW, 2027

VAS LTD & SPOTLIGHT COMPETITIONS

1. KNITTING
2. EMBROIDERY
3. PATCHWORK
4. CROCHET COMPETITION
5. SEWING COMPETITION
6. CROSS STITCH COMPETITION

VAS LTD & SPOTLIGHT COMPETITIONS

The winners of the Vas Ltd competitions must consent to provide the winning articles for competitions in the south-west group finals.

The winning articles at the south-west group finals will compete at the next Melbourne show.

REGULATIONS FROM VAS LTD AND SPOTLIGHT FOR KNITTING, EMBROIDERY, PATCHWORK AND SEWING AND CROSS STITCH.

Note - These rules apply to all VAS Ltd Competitions.

1. An exhibitor may represent only one Society at Group level and one Group at State level. An exhibitor may only win one Group Final in a show season; should the same article be entered again and found to have already won a Group Final

in the same show season the exhibitor must return the prize money and will be disqualified from exhibiting for 12 months

2. An article having won at a Show will compete at the Group Final. The winning article will then compete in the State Final at the Next Royal Melbourne Show.

3. An article having won at a State Final, is no longer eligible to compete in the competition.

4. Each article entered must be the bona fide work of the exhibitor.

5. If, for any reason, a winner is unable to compete at Group or State Final level then the second place getter is eligible to compete.

6. A person will not be permitted to win more than one Show within the State in any one Show year. Persons not adhering to this rule will be required to forfeit / refund prize money.

7. All work to have been completed within the last 12 months.

8. Professionals are not eligible

ENTRIES CLOSE: Friday 30th October 2026

Exhibits delivered to Homecraft Hall on: Thursday 5th November 2026 between 3pm and 6pm or Friday 6th November 2026 before 9.30am.

JUDGING: Friday 6th November 2026 @ 10am

ENTRY FEE: \$1 – 1st Prize \$15

Class 3125 VAS LTD KNITTING COMPETITION**Rules and Regulations**

1. A HAND KNITTED ITEM NOT MORE THAN 150CMS ON ANY ONE SIDE
2. Knitted in one piece incorporating at least 5 different patterns.
3. Each exhibit must be made from pure wool/wool blend of any ply.
4. Exhibitor to attach label from wool used.
5. Each exhibit entered must be the bona fide work of the exhibitor.
6. Professionals are not eligible, which is defined as someone that works professionally or derives the greater percentage of their income in that craft, art form or technique.
7. All work is to have been completed in the last twelve (12) months prior to its entry at a local Show.
8. The competition follows the three levels of competition: Show Level, Group Level and State Level.
9. An exhibit having won at a Show will compete at the 2027 Group Final. The winning exhibit at the Group Final will then compete in the State Final at the 2027 Melbourne Royal Show.
10. An exhibitor having won at Show Level is not eligible to enter the VAS Knitting competition at any other Show until after the Group Final judging.
11. An exhibitor is only eligible to represent one Group in the State Final.
12. If for any reason a winner is unable to compete at Group or State Final Level, then the second placegetter is eligible to compete.
13. An exhibit having won at State Final is no longer eligible to compete in the competition.
14. If an exhibitor is found to have won more than one Group Final the exhibitor must forfeit/refund all prizes and will be disqualified from exhibiting for 12 months.

State Final Prizes: First: Voucher & VAS State Final Trophy Second: Voucher Third: Voucher

Class 3222 VAS LTD EMBROIDERY COMPETITION

Rules and Regulations

1. THE EXHIBIT TO BE AN ARTICLE OF HAND EMBROIDERY ANY TYPE, EXCLUDING CROSS STITCH.
2. Each exhibit entered must be the bona fide work of the exhibitor.
3. Professionals are not eligible, which is defined as someone that works professionally or derives the greater percentage of their income in that craft, art form or technique.
4. All work is to have been completed in the last twelve (12) months prior to its entry at a local Show.
5. The competition follows the three levels of competition: Show Level, Group Level and State Level.
6. An exhibit having won at a Show will compete at the 2026 Group Final. The winning exhibit at the Group Final will then compete in the State Final at the 2026 Melbourne Royal Show.
7. An exhibitor having won at Show Level is not eligible to enter the VAS Embroidery competition at any other Show until after the Group Final judging.
8. An exhibitor is only eligible to represent one Group in the State Final. 9. If for any reason a winner is unable to compete at Group or State Final Level, then the second placegetter is eligible to compete.
10. An exhibit having won at State Final is no longer eligible to compete in the competition.
11. If an exhibitor is found to have won more than one Group Final the exhibitor must forfeit/refund all prizes and will be disqualified from exhibiting for 12 months.

State Final Prizes:

First: Voucher & VAS State Final Trophy

Second: Voucher

Third: Voucher

Class 3320 VAS LTD PATCHWORK COMPETITION

SPONSORED BY SPOTLIGHT

Rules and Regulations

1. THE EXHIBIT IS TO BE NO LARGER THAN 90CM x 125CM.
2. Machine/hand pieced and quilted by exhibitor only.
3. Minimal Embellishments. Small amount only, not to overpower patchwork.
4. Each exhibit entered must be the bona fide work of the exhibitor.
5. Professionals are not eligible, which is defined as someone that works professionally or derives the greater percentage of their income in that craft, art form or technique.
6. All work is to have been completed in the last twelve (12) months prior to its entry at a local Show.
7. The competition follows the three levels of competition: Show Level, Group Level and State Level.
8. An exhibit having won at a Show will compete at the 2026 Group Final. The winning exhibit at the Group Final will then compete in the State Final at the 2026 Melbourne Royal Show.
9. An exhibitor having won at Show Level is not eligible to enter the VAS Patchwork competition at any other Show until after the Group Final judging.
10. An exhibitor is only eligible to represent one Group in the State Final.
11. If for any reason a winner is unable to compete at Group or State Final Level, then the second placegetter is eligible to compete.
12. An exhibit having won at State Final is no longer eligible to compete in the competition.
13. If an exhibitor is found to have won more than one Group Final the exhibitor must forfeit/refund all prizes and will be disqualified from exhibiting for 12 months.

State Final Prizes:

First: Voucher & VAS State Final Trophy

Second: Voucher

Third: Voucher

Class 3126 VAS LTD CROCHET COMPETITION - VAS - CROCHET ANIMAL

SPONSORED BY SPOTLIGHT

Rules and Regulations

1. CROCHETED ANIMAL NO LARGER THAN 30CM X 30CM X 30CM MADE FROM PURE WOOL/ WOOL BLEND OR COTTON OF ANY PLY.
2. Embroidered or crocheted embellishments are allowed.
3. No buttons or loose items as crocheted item must be safe for children.
4. Exhibitor to attach label from wool/cotton used.
5. Each exhibit entered must be the bona fide work of the exhibitor.
6. Professionals are not eligible, which is defined as someone that works professionally or derives the greater percentage of their income in that craft, art form or technique.
7. All work is to have been completed in the last twelve (12) months prior to its entry at a local Show.
8. The competition follows the three levels of competition: Show Level, Group Level and State Level.
9. An exhibit having won at a Show will compete at the 2027 Group Final. The winning exhibit at the Group Final will then compete in the State Final at the 2027 Melbourne Royal Show.
10. An exhibitor having won at Show Level is not eligible to enter the VAS Crochet competition at any other Show until after the Group Final judging.
11. An exhibitor is only eligible to represent one Group in the State Final.
12. If for any reason a winner is unable to compete at Group or State Final Level, then the second placegetter is eligible to compete.
13. An exhibit having won at State Final is no longer eligible to compete in the competition.
14. If an exhibitor is found to have won more than one Group Final the exhibitor must forfeit/refund all prizes and will be disqualified from exhibiting for 12 months.

State Final Prizes:

First: Voucher & VAS State Final Trophy

Second: Voucher

Third: Voucher

Class 3223 VAS LTD SEWING COMPETITION - Everyday Wearable Dress for an Adult or Child

SPONSORED BY SPOTLIGHT

Rules and Regulations

1. EVERYDAY WEARABLE DRESS FOR AN ADULT OR CHILD

2. Dress should be part or fully lined. Lining can include facing. Machine sewn & may be hand finished, embellishments allowed.

3. Knitted/Crocheted items not acceptable.

4. Dress to be judged on 50% presentation & 50% workmanship.

5. Each exhibit entered must be the bona fide work of the exhibitor.

6. Professionals are not eligible, which is defined as someone that works professionally or derives the greater percentage of their income in that craft, art form or technique.

7. All work is to have been completed in the last twelve (12) months prior to its entry at a local Show.

8. The competition follows the three levels of competition: Show Level, Group Level and State Level.

9. An exhibit having won at a Show will compete at the 2027 Group Final. The winning exhibit at the Group Final will then compete in the State Final at the 2027 Melbourne Royal Show.

10. An exhibitor having won at Show Level is not eligible to enter the VAS Sewing Competition at any other Show until after the Group Final judging.

11. An exhibitor is only eligible to represent one Group in the State Final.

12. If for any reason a winner is unable to compete at Group or State Final Level, then the second placegetter is eligible to compete.

13. An exhibit having won at State Final is no longer eligible to compete in the competition.

14. If an exhibitor is found to have won more than one Group Final the exhibitor must forfeit/refund all prizes and will be disqualified from exhibiting for 12 months.

State Final Prizes:

First: Voucher & VAS State Final Trophy

Second: Voucher

Third: Voucher

Class 3224 VAS LTD CROSS STITCH COMPETITION

SPONSORED BY SPOTLIGHT

Rules and Regulations

1. THE EXHIBIT TO BE AN ARTICLE OF CROSS STITCH ANY TYPE UP TO 60CMS ON ALL SIDES INCLUDING FRAME. MINIMAL EMBELLISHMENTS ALLOWED.
2. Each exhibit entered must be the bona fide work of the exhibitor.
3. Professionals are not eligible, which is defined as someone that works professionally or derives the greater percentage of their income in that craft, art form or technique.
4. All work is to have been completed in the last twelve (12) months prior to its entry at a local Show.
5. The competition follows the three levels of competition: Show Level, Group Level and State Level.
6. An exhibit having won at a Show will compete at the 2026 Group Final. The winning exhibit at the Group Final will then compete in the State Final at the 2026 Melbourne Royal Show.
7. An exhibitor having won at Show Level is not eligible to enter the VAS Cross Stitch competition at any other Show until after the Group Final judging.
8. An exhibitor is only eligible to represent one Group in the State Final.
9. If for any reason a winner is unable to compete at Group or State Final Level, then the second placegetter is eligible to compete.
10. An exhibit having won at State Final is no longer eligible to compete in the competition.
11. If an exhibitor is found to have won more than one Group Final the exhibitor must forfeit/refund all prizes and will be disqualified from exhibiting for 12 months.

State Final Prizes:

First: Voucher & VAS State Final Trophy

Second: Voucher

Third: Voucher