

Media Release

Mr Colin Brooks MP

Minister for Child Protection and Family Services
Minister for Disability, Ageing and Carers



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THE VICTORIAN FESTIVAL FOR SENIORS BACK WITH A BANG

The Victorian Seniors Festival is bigger and better in its 40th year, with the Andrews Labor Government supporting the statewide event to celebrate older Victorians and their invaluable contributions to our communities.

Minister for Disability, Ageing and Carers Colin Brooks has announced details of the 2022 Seniors Festival, which will feature live and online events, including concerts, dances, sport, the arts, history talks and tours.

The Victorian Seniors Festival, boosted by an extra \$400,000 in funding this year, is an integral part of the Labor Government's support for older Victorians by empowering them to connect, socialise and further their wellbeing.

Victoria is home to more than 1.5 million older Victorians and this year 79 local councils, businesses and community and cultural organisations will help deliver activities in every corner of the state.

The theme - Takin' it easy - focuses on presenting accessible and comfortable spaces, both live and online, to ensure our seniors feel relaxed to participate and ease back into events.

Building on the success of the previous Victorian Seniors Festivals, this year's events will include online and radio programs, as well as First Nations performances and entertainment from multicultural artists.

The Country Concert series will take the festival fun on the road to 26 regional towns and the Aged Care Tour will entertain aged care residents with music and magicians from September to December.

To ensure older Victorians can make the most of the Festival, Victorian Seniors Card holders can access free travel on public transport services from 2 to 9 October – including on V/Line.

For V/Line trips that require a reservation, bookings open on Tuesday 6 September. More information here: seniorsonline.vic.gov.au/free-travel

Information programs can be found at Coles stores, local councils, libraries and community organisations, or the online calendar at seniorsonline.vic.gov.au/festival

Quotes attributable to Minister for Disability, Ageing and Carers Colin Brooks

"Victoria's seniors make an invaluable contribution to our community – and the seniors festival is a chance to say thank you for all they do."

"Whether online or in-person, the month-long festival provides senior Victorians with opportunities to get involved, meet new people, learn new skills, or just enjoy the entertainment."

Quotes attributable to Minister for Transport Ben Carroll

"We encourage older Victorians throughout the state to get involved with this year's festival."

"Victorian seniors can make the most of the festival activities with free public transport services operating from October 2 to 9."

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