



About Adult Learners Week 2020

1–8 September 2020

Media backgrounder



[Adult Learners Week](#) is coordinated by [Adult Learning Australia](#), the national peak body for adult and community education. It is a UNESCO initiative supported in Australia by the Commonwealth Department of Education, Skills and Employment and run each year in the first week of September.

This year, Adult Learners Week celebrates its 25th anniversary. Hundreds of [events and activities](#) will be held around Australia and online to promote the benefits of lifelong learning.

Any adult education and training organisation can get involved in Adult Learners Week including neighbourhood houses, community centres, libraries, training organisations, local governments, Aboriginal learning cooperatives, employers, not-for-profit organisations, workplaces, men's sheds, U3As, community colleges, TAFE colleges and universities.

Our theme – ReNew You

Covid-19 has created an urgent challenge in Australia that education can help to solve. This year's theme for Adult Learners Week – **ReNew You** – promotes the idea that people can make a new start or create a new future through adult education. With social distancing requirements in place, some organisations will be offering additional online courses and activities.

Adult education and learning can help people navigate some of the challenges they face in a rapidly changing world. It is one way of increasing people's capacity to work by providing them with the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to successfully enter, remain in or return to work. Adult education is also particularly important to support disadvantaged adults who may face barriers in accessing more structured learning opportunities.

Adult Learners Week showcases a wide range of learning and upskilling opportunities on offer around Australia. To find out more, or to find a local event, visit adultlearnersweek.org.



Adult Learners Week 2020 Scholarships

Three #ALW2020 scholarships will be awarded to outstanding adult learners to enable them to continue learning either by taking a new learning pathway or continue an existing one. Adult learning providers are invited to nominate adult learners who are changing the trajectory of their lives through adult learning.

Nominations close on 26 August 2020.

Media interview opportunities

The following are available for interview:

- President of Adult Learning Australia, Associate Professor Annette Foley, Federation University
- Young WA father, Greg Nelson who left school early and struggled with literacy until his literacy tutor changed his life. One of Greg's greatest pleasures now is to share books with his young daughter.
- Single mum, Loran McKean, moved from Queensland to Victoria with nothing but a suitcase, a car seat and a child on her hip but managed to rebuild her life through a horticulture course, hard work and by giving back to her community.

To arrange an interview, or for further information, please contact Margot Gorski on 0412 393 394 or at margot@prmatters.com.au.