



Adult Learners Week Toolkit

Adult Learners Week 2026 (1–8 September) celebrates adult learning and the huge range of learning opportunities across Australia.

In the lead up to and during Adult Learners Week, we will showcase organisations that offer opportunities for adults to engage and re-engage with learning.

Make sure to add your event to the Adult Learners Week website so your organisation can be promoted nationally – www.adultlearnersweek.org/events/

This year's theme ***Follow Your Compass***. This theme will be used through our promotional materials and downloadable resources.

The compass has been a vital tool for finding the right direction for thousands of years and across many cultures. Its arrival changed the world forever. With a compass, people could navigate and explore in many new and exciting ways – far from land at sea, on cloudy days, in unknown lands or on starless nights.

The compass today remains a powerful symbol of discovery and direction, with different types of compasses for different purposes and paths.

This similarity with learning's ability to reveal new paths and open new horizons is a compelling one, and we are excited to see what events and themes you create from it.

Maybe it's past learners sharing inspiring stories of their journeys, or an event which showcases new learning pathways, or maybe an activity which explores the use of numeracy and literacy in compass and map reading – there are so many options!

www.adultlearnersweek.org
www.facebook.com/adultlearnerswk/

Why celebrate Adult Learners Week?

- To promote your organisation, classes and events
- To raise awareness of the benefits of adult learning
- To encourage new learners
- To demonstrate the impact that learning has on people's lives
- To celebrate the achievements of learners, providers, staff and volunteers
- To demonstrate the positive impact of learning
- To build relationships with other organisations in your area



Caption: Alamein Learning Centre in Victoria celebrating Adult Learners Week 2025.

And you can win prizes!

- > Be the first 20 organisations to register your event on our website and win \$200
- > Hold your event and you might win one of three \$1000 Best Event awards after ALW.

[Visit here](#) for all the details.

ALW 2026 Event Checklist

Organise your event/s

- Arrange planning meetings ☐
- Explore ideas for Adult Learners Week ☐
- Establish roles and responsibilities ☐
- Set dates and times for the event/s ☐
- Choose a venue or online platform ☐

Promote your event/s

- Add events to the Adult Learners' Week events calendar ☐
www.adultlearnersweek.org/events
- Use these resources to promote/brand events ☐
- Promote events through email, word of mouth, social media ☐
- Use our hashtags #ALW2026 #FOLLOWYOURCOMPASS ☐

Celebrate your event/s

- Photograph/video your event/s ☐
- Share through email and social media ☐
- Use our hashtags #ALW2026 #FOLLOWYOURCOMPASS ☐

Promote your Adult Learners Week Events

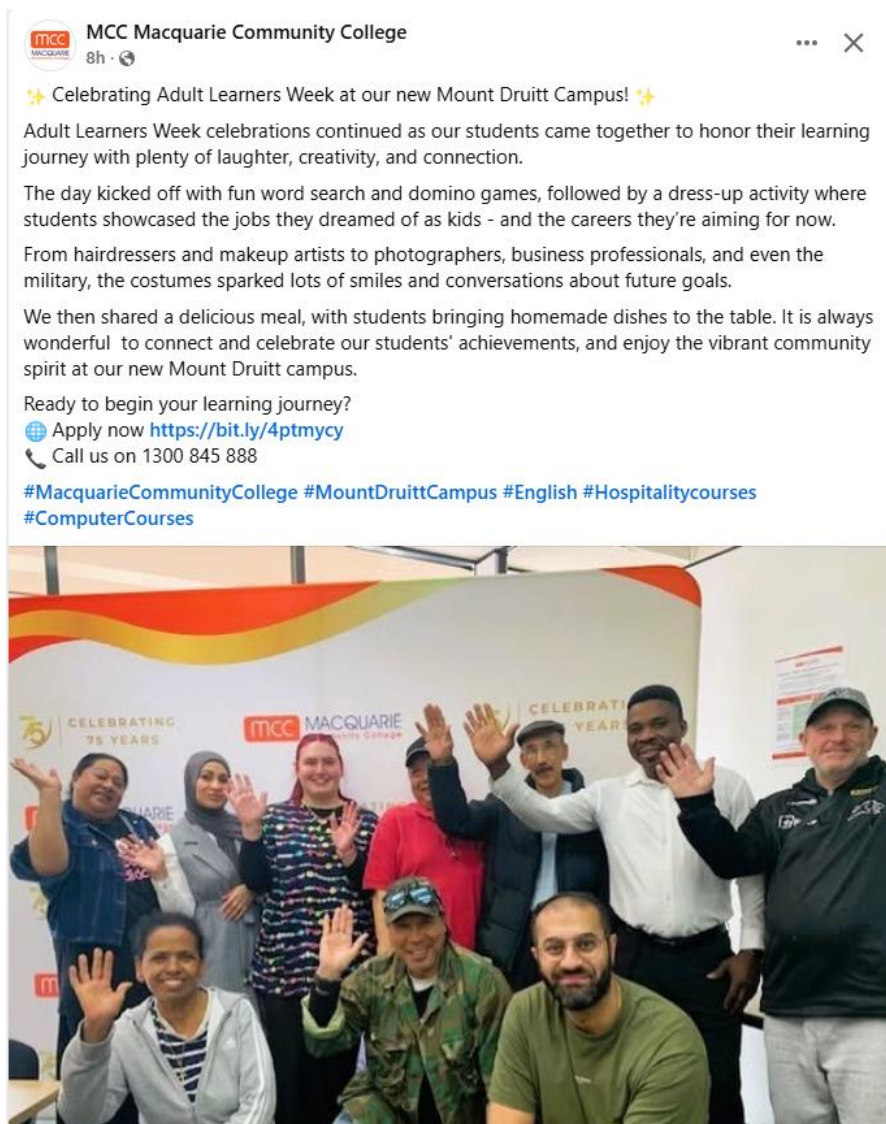
We need everyone celebrating Adult Learners Week to add their events to our calendar, so we can tell the world about you!

All activities uploaded to the ALW website will be promoted in the lead up to and during the Week - www.adultlearnersweek.org/alw-events

The types of **free or low cost** events that can be added to the platform include taster sessions, open days, morning or afternoon teas which show off your students' skills, award presentations – the sky's the limit!

These events can be face to face or online and can take place during Adult Learners Week or immediately before or afterwards. If they are multi-week events or program, they can start/finish outside the Week itself.

Email info@ala.org.au if you need any assistance.



Use our words

Feel free to use or adapt this text below for your promotional materials – on your website or social media, in your e-newsletters or invitations.

In September, we are joining in the celebration of Adult Learners Week 2026.

Every year, Adult Learners Week is celebrated across Australia by libraries, neighbourhood houses, local governments, adult and community education centres and organisations, U3As and all those who provide opportunities for adults to start or continue lifelong learning.

Coordinated by Adult Learning Australia (ALA) with the support of the Australian Government, Adult Learners Week will take place from 1 - 8 September. The theme for this year is *Follow Your Compass*.

Adult Learners Week highlights the positive impact of adult learning on individuals, communities and our society and aims to inspire adults everywhere to discover new learning opportunities and pathways.

Adult Learners Week emphasises that that adult learning is about more than gaining knowledge — it's about building confidence, making connections, and creating pathways to new opportunities, whether that's further study, a new job, or a fresh start.

Visit <https://adultlearnersweek.org/> to see our event/s (change to suit your needs) and hundreds of other free online and in person events and courses.

Promote your learners and educators

New Learning Together Award for an inspiring student educator team

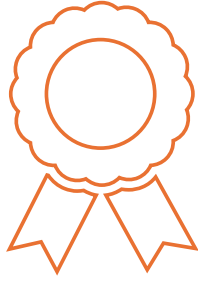
To celebrate this year's ALW, we are introducing a new Learning Together Award.

This award recognises the incredible ways in which adult learners and educators can learn from each other when they work together.

Do you know an exceptional duo who have learnt from each other in transformative ways?

Nominate a team [HERE](#) by 29 July.





ALW Scholarships: nominate a learner to continue their learning

Stories about students whose lives have been turned around by adult education are inspirational to others.

Three ALW 2026 scholarships of \$1000 will be awarded to outstanding adult learners to enable them to continue learning.

Entries close **19 August**. Nominate a learner [here](#).

Need help?

Read our [tips on writing a nomination](#) and about [previous scholarship winners](#).

Nominee stories will be shared across social media and winners will be announced during Adult Learners Week.



Caption: Here2Help (NSW) celebrate Piyanut (Nuk) Clear in 2024

Download Resources

We have resources available to everyone to download and use in either printed or electronic form.

These include:

- Logos
- Social Media images
- Event Posters
- Bookmarks

Print these for your centres and organisations and use in your social media and newsletters to networks and communities.

Visit www.adultlearnersweek.org/downloads