

MALA MESSENGER

Newsletter of the Mature Adults Learning Association Inc. Rockingham Branch

APRIL 2021

FROM THE CHAIR

How quickly a year goes. Term one is over and despite the lower numbers than usual for the term, those of you who did attend enjoyed and learned from the courses if the evaluation sheets are any indication. With lower numbers at present we need your support if MALA is to continue. Much effort goes into providing and running courses but we cannot continue to offer courses that are just not sustainable, being a not for profit organisation we just can't keep doing that.

As MALA has now grown to three branches we found a need to change the original constitution to reflect how we operate today. This work has been going on at committee level in each branch. In order that we can submit the proposed changes to the appropriate Government Department we will need to hold a Special General Meeting of members at which the changes are accepted by the majority of that meeting. As the quorum requirement is higher than that of a branch AGM we will need you to come along to ensure that we can get the job done. The committee and John MacDonald in particular have spent many an hour on this work on our behalf, so your support would be appreciated. A notice of the meeting will be issued as soon as the date is agreed.

The proposed Constitution will be available to be read on the Website soon and we will have some printed copies available at the reception desk if you require them.

Check out the new Term 2 program below, again unfortunately there are only limited courses on offer but you'll find some new and different courses to choose this time. Try something you have never done before. As we shake off the COVID effect, the availability of new courses is increasing and we look forward to Semester Two bringing in lots of new things for you to keep the brain ticking over.

Stay safe and happy until we see you again.

Bronwen Usher
Chair



"Age is an issue of mind over matter. If you don't mind then it doesn't matter."

Mark Twain



ENROLMENT DAY

Our Enrolment Day is Wednesday the 14th of April 2021

from 10:00 to 11:30

at the Rockingham Central Library

Course details and the enrolment form will be emailed to everyone as soon as we have them.



HAVE A GO DAY

MALA was well represented at the recent Have A Go Day held at the Mike Barnett Centre.

Many thanks to Martin, Julie, John, Esther, June, Nada and Janet for their work promoting MALA. Letting people know we are here and what we do is vital for us, so thank you all for your efforts.

The numbers were restricted under COVID rules but there was a pretty good turnout and we had a couple of dozen expressions of interest in our programs. A worthwhile day.

Our raffle winner was Gareth Evans and we look forward to welcoming Gareth to MALA the near future.



THINGS TO REMEMBER

We still have a small number of name tags without a contact number on the back.

This number is essential for us to fulfil our duty of care requirements and it is a safeguard for you should an emergency occur.

If you have not already done so please make sure you do so soon.

Please keep telling your friends and acquaintances about us.
Nothing works as well as word of mouth recommendations.



"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds that you plant."

Robert Louis Stevenson



BOOKSHELF

"THE GOOD WOMAN OF RENMARK" by Darry Fraser

Set in the Murray River area when the only form of transport for trade and travel was the paddle steamer on water or on horseback on land. Exposes the hardships of new settlers hoping to live and make a living along the river banks. How they dealt with the hardships and catastrophes in such isolated communities is well described.

Interesting characters and lots of historical knowledge kept me interested.



"THE LOST MAN" by Jane Harper

Set in outback Queensland this novel reveals the hardships of isolation and how some people cannot cope and relationships are tested. In a way I feel the title of the book should be the Lost People because so many of the characters seem unsure of their feelings or the future and find it difficult to seek help. It kept me intrigued but I enjoyed other books by this author more. Well worth a read though.

Many thanks Margaret for these reviews.



Feedback from our Bookworms

Phosphorescence by Julia Baird has been read by Chris who wrote:

This book is a good read. It seems simple, saying things that you think are just common sense, but it takes you in deeper to look at just what we take for granted, especially in the natural world and makes us realise just how much we get from nature and the ordinary things in life. The author has had a lot of challenges in her life and has been able to find a way of overcoming them by using the power of observation and developing resilience through letting the joy in the things around us help her. After I had lost a dear life-long friend I found that I was lifted by reading it, things didn't seem as black any more.

If you can get it, read it.



If you have read a book you have enjoyed, why not share it? – Drop us a line at :

malarockingham@gmail.com.au – attention Ed.



GET WELL SOON

A big GET WELL shout out to Joy Stewart.

Joy was our inaugural president and is still a great supporter of MALA
We are all thinking of you Joy and wish you a speedy recovery



THAT'S ALL FOLKS

Please note :

Should you at any time wish to be removed from our newsletter list please send us an email at:

malarockingham@gmail.com

So with Tom Stoppard's maxim in mind -

"If you carry your childhood with you, you never become older."

and with Oliver Wendell Homes Jr's advice that -

"Old age is fifteen years older than I am."

I enjoy every minute that comes my way. I hope you all do too!

Bronwen Usher
Editor



"I have noticed even people who claim everything is predestined and that we can do nothing to change it look before they cross the road."

Stephen Hawking

