

nexus INK



Autumn 2026

 nexus inc.

Nexus CEO Mark Jessop with Marita O'Connell and Ingrid Ganley at NDS Conference in Hobart



CEO Welcome

Welcome to our Autumn edition of Nexus Ink.

It's always great to be able to share client achievements and, perhaps more than ever, I am particularly pleased this season for us to share six client success stories focusing on the meaningful benefits of community based support.

We know that when people are engaged in communities that are important to them it can support their mental and physical health, enable skills development, and broaden their understanding of the world.

This edition's client stories highlight these benefits and remind us of the importance of continued and sustainable funding for these types of supports.

Reflecting on how far the disability sector has come in respecting the rights of people with disability since the days of institutional settings like Willow Court, it is disappointing to see the proposed NDIS cuts in the 2026 Federal Budget.

The depth of the cuts in the Budget took us by surprise, but we understand these changes will not happen right now but will be rolled out over the next few years. There will be also positive changes introduced including compulsory registration for some provider types, a focus on quality services, and the launch of the Thriving Kids program. Budget day was also the day of National Disability Services (NDS) Conference, so, representatives from the sector and state government partners got to hear our concerns about the potential impacts of the changes.

While our peak body, the NDS, lobbies to ensure people who are fully dependent on support are protected from these cuts, Nexus is hard at work looking at how to ensure all our clients are being assessed fairly and supported well during these changes.

We are already starting to implement new types of support to address potential funding cuts including more group support options. I was very pleased to see the successful launch of our Dungeons and Dragons Group this Autumn – the first program to start running out of Southern Community Access Hub. Watch this space for the official launch of the Hub and a great program of other group based activities coming this Winter!

As the changes to the NDIS begin, Nexus is committed to working with other providers to continue to fight for the rights of people with disability and to ensure the NDIS does not lose its sense of humanity as it strives for sustainability for future generations.

Mark Jessop
CEO, Nexus Inc.



Launch of Nexus Dungeons & Dragons Group

With the official launch of our Capacity Building Hub fast approaching, our Community Services (CS) team has been hard at work over the past few months, developing programs and trialing new activities in the space.

Our new purpose-built space in Hobart is designed to support clients to participate in creative activities, build everyday life skills, meet new people, and work towards employment goals.

The first activity to be launched at the Hub is our Dungeons & Dragons group sessions, which have quickly become a weekly highlight for many of our clients and staff.

Held every Thursday, the sessions bring clients and staff together to tell stories, solve challenges, and work as a team. With success depending on collaboration, clients are enjoying the social connection, teamwork, and creativity part of the session.

The group are already planning how to level up their gaming experience once the Hub is fully operational including using the space to 3D print custom characters, build scenery, and get involved in cosplay!

CS Assistant Manager, Jed, said seeing clients build social connections through the Dungeons & Dragons group sessions has been a very positive outcome.

“It’s exactly what our Capacity Building Hub is designed for - clients having fun, achieving their personal goals and building social connections,” Jed said.

“Two clients who met through the Dungeons & Dragons sessions have already formed a friendship and are now being supported together in the community outside of the sessions.

“Our team is very excited to have so many other activities in the pipeline and we really looking forward to the official launch this Winter!”

Nexus Team



NDS Conference 2026

As part of our commitment to ongoing training and development of our staff, we sent a group of our leadership team to the National Disability Services (NDS) 'Insights to Action' Conference at Ninja Stadium in Hobart.

It was a valuable opportunity for staff across all divisions to hear from expert keynote speakers, learn about upcoming NDIS changes, and connect with industry colleagues navigating similar challenges.

The day was packed with insightful discussions, including around the recently announced Federal Budget and associated changes to the NDIS.

Conversations throughout the conference explored what's changing across the disability sector, what it means for providers, and where to from here.

Our CEO, Mark Jessop, also took part in one of the panel discussions, covering the topic of disability support provider sustainability.



Inclusive Workplace Events

This Autumn, our teams gathered for a series of special events to mark three important occasions: International Women's Day, Harmony Week, and Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM).

These events provided great opportunities for staff from across Nexus to come together and engage with causes that matter in the workplace and the community. We were pleased to host several guest speakers who shared their time and expertise with us.

For International Women's Day, our Board Chair Gail Ward and Board Member Merrilyn Williams shared their insights on leadership and empowerment. During Harmony Week, we welcomed Sahana Sehgal and Tabitha Zachariah from the Migrant Resource Centre Tasmania to discuss fostering an inclusive corporate culture. For SAAM, Zoe from the Sexual Assault Support Service (SASS) reflected on bystander intervention in the workplace. Our team greatly appreciated the opportunity to learn from these guests.

Thank you to our guest speakers and to everyone who joined us to make these gatherings meaningful.

"A feminist is someone who holds and acts on the simple belief that all women and girls should have equal rights and the same opportunities as men and boys. Anyone can be a feminist."

- Nexus Board Chair, Gail Ward PSM.

Nexus in the Community



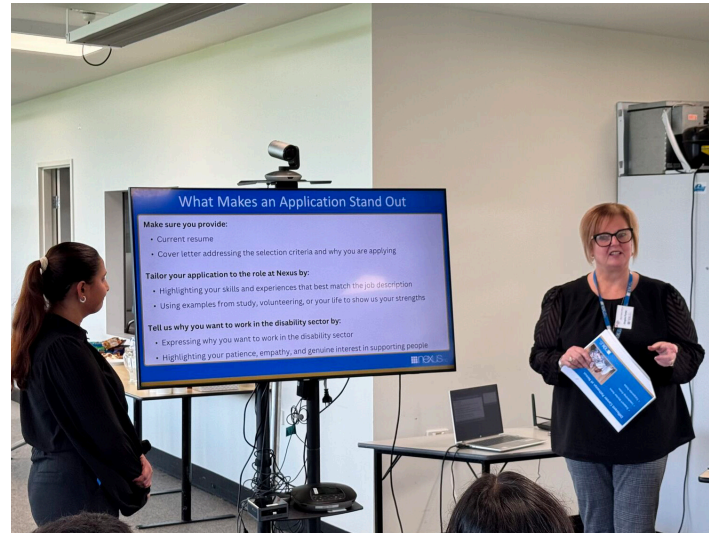
Nexus at the Employment and Careers Expo

As we do every Autumn, our team headed along to the Hobart and Southern Tasmania Employment and Careers Expo to connect with job seekers in the community.

From those just starting their career to those looking for a change, we talked to a wide variety of people about our services, available roles and training opportunities. We also discussed pathways into the disability sector and how Nexus can help break down common barriers to becoming a Support Worker.

One of the highlights for us this year was the number of students we spoke to who were eager to kickstart their Support Worker careers in the disability sector.

Our Compliance, Risk and Reporting Officer, Jessica, also took part in a great panel discussion called “The Next Step” where panelists talked about navigating career changes, returning to work, and addressing resume gaps.



Migrant Resource Centre Presentation

We often hear from people that they would love to get into support work but are worried about the barriers they face to enter the industry.

At the Migrant Resource Centre Tasmania’s Migrant Network Meet-up, we had the opportunity to talk about these challenges and how Nexus supports people to take their first steps into the sector.

Angela and Seema from our People and Culture team enjoyed connecting with attendees and discussing our services, the different career pathways available at Nexus, and tips for applying for roles in the disability sector. Their presentation also covered how Nexus can assist in overcoming common barriers when starting a career as a Support Worker at Nexus.

Angela and Seema also attended a Q&A session, which led to some great conversations about support work. Thank you to everyone who attended - we hope to welcome some of you to the Nexus team soon!

Hilltop Hike

As a community-based organisation, we love to support local community initiatives such as Hilltop Hike, which work to raise awareness and vital funds for mental health and suicide prevention in the Huon region.

This Autumn, we hosted a table at the Hilltop Gala Dinner in Hobart to support this important cause. It was great to have members of our Board, Management Team and Community Partners there on the night.

Our team appreciated the opportunity to be part of the event and support the Hilltop Hike in raising awareness for mental health.



Client Stories

Tiffney and Anthony

Tiffney and Anthony made the most of their visit to the annual SteamFest in Sheffield, enjoying a full program of activities throughout the day.

Moving through the variety of stalls and displays, surrounded by people in steampunk costumes, Anthony and Tiffney enjoyed food, show bags and plenty of ice cream!

Tiffney picked up a show bag to take home, and Anthony took his time checking out all of the sights of the festival including displays of steam powered machinery.



Jason

Jason had a fantastic time at Ninja Stadium recently, cheering on the Tasmanian Tigers as they faced the Victorian Bushrangers in the Sheffield Shield.

As a huge cricket fan, Jason took some time after the match to stop by the statues of local cricketing legends Ricky Ponting and David Boon.



Chloe

Chloe has been busy over the last few months working on her latest project – a third book! Chloe is passionate about writing and storytelling and has already written two books.

One of her books, Ruby Winter, was successfully published – a massive achievement! Ruby Winter tells the story of a young girl who experiences hardship but eventually finds hope and the opportunity for a better life in a safe, caring home.

All the best for your next book, Chloe!



Client Stories

Kalon

Kalon hit the road in a Nexus van for the first time on Good Friday, heading into the community with his Support Worker, Taylah.

One of the highlights for Kalon was trying a new coffee shop in Salamanca and then going to a lookout place. It was great for Kalon to get some fresh air and explore more of his local area.



Tania

Spending time out in the community and trying new things has been a highlight for Tania over the past few seasons.

Not letting the shorter days of autumn slow her down, Tania visited a museum, attended an ANZAC Day service, enjoyed some quiet time in the park, and stopped in for lunch at a few of her favourite local spots.

These experiences have been part of a steady run since summer, when Tania ticked off one of her big goals — travelling outside Tasmania for the first time on a trip to Melbourne with her Nexus Support Worker!

Todd

Todd loves planning outings and getting out into the community, particularly when it involves exploring mountains, bridges and beaches!

Recently this involved a trip to Collins Cap, where Todd enjoyed the fresh air, beautiful countryside, and taking in the views. On his way home he stopped for pizza from his local pizza shop after working up an appetite!



CAPACITY BUILDING HUB

COMING WINTER 2026 TO GREATER HOBART!

Are you looking for flexible, inclusive ways to build skills, meet new people, and make the most of your NDIS funding?

Welcome to the Nexus Hub, where you can:

Create, have fun and meet new people



Get ready to get a job



Build everyday life skills



To learn more or register your expression of interest, visit our website: nexusinc.org.au/service



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