

January 2026 Newsletter

Cathy Gill's Report

Welcome to 2026, Hoping all had a Merry Christmas and a happy & safe entry to 2026.

Majority of staff will be due to renew their NDIS worker screening check in April or May 2026. You will receive an email notification from Services NSW to advise that your NDIS Workers Check is expiring, and you need to renew. This should come around 90 days from your expiry date.

The NDIS Workers check is valid for up to **5 years** from date of issue.

To check/renew your worker screening check.

Go to **service.nsw.gov.au** and log in to your account (you will need access to your phone, email & password).

If password is forgotten, request to make a new one.

Once in click on **NDIS Workers Check** button- View and manage your check.

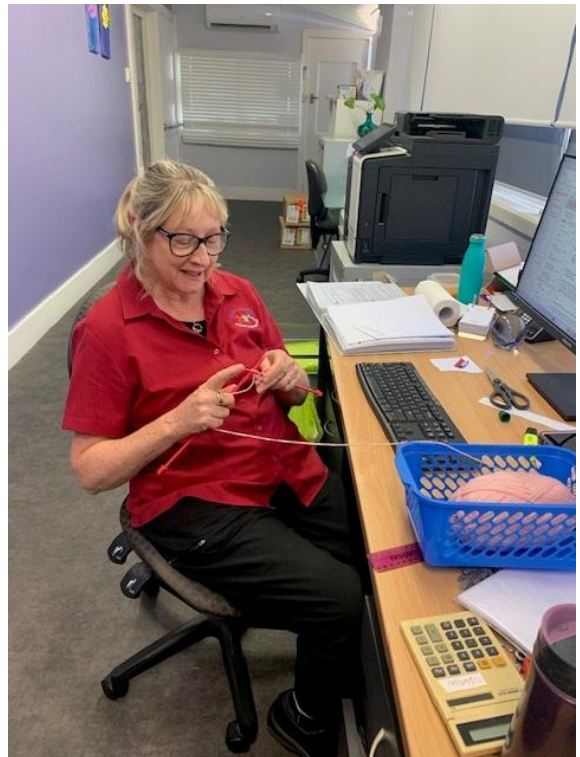
You will have to visit a service NSW office to complete the renewal.

There will be a cost to renew (\$107.00).

All in a days work.



TP teaching me how to hang washing.



Lynn is often seen sitting at her desk knitting....
& Lisa is forever grateful

Staff meetings

Thursday 5 February 2026

Thursday 5 March 2026

We are organizing First Aid & Complex Care refresher training in the coming months.

First Committee meeting for 2026- Wednesday 18 February 2026

Hybrid -online & in person



Australia day celebrations at Albion Close



Suzie out and about



Robyn looking amazing in her new clothes



Donna & Raeline enjoyed the music on a recent visit to their doctors.



Spotlight on Our History

WASInc committee is entering its 33rd year of governance as a not for profit, charitable service provider of long term residential accommodation & support to adults with an intellectual disability.

WASInc family members have been involved with the service for over 60 years.

Formerly the Westlakes branch of the Challenge Foundation until they relinquished the accommodation side of the service and a volunteer committee was formed made up of family and community members. WASInc commenced under Westlakes Accommodation Services until 2016 when a change of name and we became Westlakes Access & Support Inc.

The volunteer committee today is still made up of many of those family members.

The disability sector is now a highly governed, jointly funded through state & federal governments, managed by the National Disability Insurance Agency and overseen by the NDIS Quality & Safeguards Commission.

We have survived many changes in the sector and years of block & individualised underfunding. We continue to provide service to our residents.

Many small services have not managed to survive the underfunding, compliance and governance required in the sector. WASInc with a committed governance team has survived.



January



**Happy "Australia Day" Birthday Errol.
& many happy returns!**



Wishing you a powerful and
successful Year of the
Fire Horse!



May 2026 bring you speed,
strength and success in all you do.

Important contacts

Westlakes Access & Support Inc Ph: 49 587 442 a/h Ph: 0409 587 442

National Disability Insurance Agency Ph: 1800 800 110

NDIS Quality & Safeguards Commission Ph: 1800 035 544

Disability Advocacy Service -Hunter Ph: 49 27 0111 / 1300 365 085

Hunter Region Tenants Advice & Advocacy Service (HTAAS)

**Free telephone advice, information, advocacy, and (where appropriate) representation
at the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT).**

Access is via the telephone advice line on 4969 7666 or freecall 1800 654 504.

Registrar of Community Housing Ph:1800 330 940