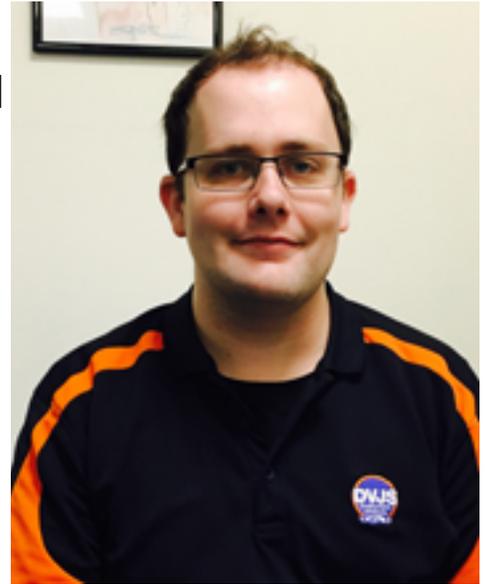


Alan's Story

DVJS employee Alan is one of many DVJS success stories, whilst in high school; he became a carer to his father for ten years until his dad's passing. He had focused on his Dad for so long, he'd neglected himself, so on top of the depression, he experienced as a result of grief, his anxiety escalated and he was bounced between employment agencies.

One job option enrolled him in a business course, where he completed up to Cert. IV, but as the other students were a lot older, they weren't proficient on computers so he had a lot of free time to make his work look graphic and technical. His employment agent at the time informed him that Graphic Design was a career path, that's when he realised his hobby could be a job.

Through his employment agency, he did a Diploma in Graphic Design, but although it was only two days a week, with the challenges he was experiencing mentally that was a lot, he finished it though and after graduation was doing what he could on the side but his Dr said he was not mentally ready for more yet.



Alan's friend knew the owner of 'A Couple of Nerds', a tech company who understood his current situation so he worked there for a year before joining DVJS as a jobseeker client. DVJS were excited about his passions whereas, in the past, employment agencies had thought Graphic Design was unrealistic. DVJS was willing to try to pursue Graphic Design and his DVJS employment consultant shared his designs and the DVJS team wanted to update their style and have more of an online presence, so they interviewed him and he got the job! He's been here for a year.

Alan's fondest part of the job is marketing a positive message; he gets to feel good about marketing DVJS to employers because it could get someone a job. He says he's very grateful for the opportunity because DVJS understand his limitations but expect him to do a job. They put their money where their mouth is, and as long as you have skills you're a candidate.

Moving forward, Alan just wants to be happy, financially and emotionally comfortable, and able to pursue creativity and design. He doesn't want to live life being too serious and is inspired by the Dr Who quote, "What's the point of being grownup if you can't be childish sometimes?"