

[music playing]

[Narelle] Good morning.

This is the last
podcast for the year

for The Digital Access Show.

We've had some amazing guests,

from people with impairments,

disabilities,

deaf, blind impairments,

people with hearing
impairments, just...

people talking about all types
of issues with communication,

digital communication,
the barriers and solutions.

NDIS providers talking
about what they're doing,

website developers,

all types of people.

So I thought I'd bring in...

my bosses,

the directors...

of Digital Access Solutions
and Assistive Technology,

Allan Parker and Mark Muscat,

to talk about the year
in review and change.

Thank you, gentlemen.

[Mark] Thank you.

[Allan] Thank you.

[Mark] By the way,
Narelle's lying.

She's the boss.

[Allan] Mark, you stole the
words out of my mouth, Mark.

[Mark] On my contact on

my phone, it's got "The Boss."

And obviously there's
another boss of mine,

but that's, when it comes
to the business side of it,

it's "The Boss."

So whenever I get a
call, it's "The Boss."

[Allan] Mark, on my phone,
I've got "The Admiral."

[Mark] The Admiral.
There you go.

So, we've got the
boss and the Admiral.

-[Mark] Yeah, hello, everyone.

-[Narelle] Do you two mind?

[Narelle] Do you two mind?

Okay.

[Allan] Despite that, Admiral,

may I say a pleasure
to be with you?

[Mark] Yes, pleasure,
for being with all of us.

[Narelle] We...

You know what?

One of the things I love
about working with you guys is,

I always come away from
our meetings laughing.

And we do work
well together as a trio.

One of the things I want to
look at this year is the change.

Has enough change happened?
What's doable change?

What doable change needs
to happen in regards to...

digital accessibility
and communication?

Over to you, Allan.

[Allan] Oh, goodness. I was going to say, hang in there, Mark.

Here we go.

Gosh.

What's changed?

If I go globally,

the world is a bit
crazy and unstable.

We haven't seen so many,

we haven't had this
many wars in a long time.

So there's some...

There's concern about that.

However,

particularly over
the last few weeks,

we've seen some

significant breakthroughs,

not just change,

but we have a ceasefire...

in Gaza,

and we can't underestimate...

how important every
step of change is.

And I think I,

Narelle, I hear people say, oh,
yeah, but it's a 20-step plan.

And I go, yes, it is,

but let's celebrate
every one of the steps.

And I think we as a society have
got a little bit too critical,

and harshly evaluating
change instead of noticing...

the things that people do that's
making the world different.

Yeah, that would
be my first comment.

[Narelle] Mark,
what do you think?

[Mark] Well, I mean,
the world is changing,

but unfortunately for people
with disabilities, it isn't.

I think I probably will say
that we are in probably...

technically, not a good state.

I'm currently in a
hotel or an apartment,

where I've got a
touchscreen intercom service,

and I had to get up at
2.30 to allow the other boss,

my boss,

[Narelle] His partner,
in other words, yes.

[Mark] Elise, who's
been on this podcast.

But, you know,

I had to go,

I had to take the
call on my phone,

go down, you know,
250 metres away.

And this is all, yeah, just
to meet her to let her in.

This is all because
of my disability.

It shouldn't be happening
in the 21st century.

I should have been able
to access that intercom...

service

to buzz her in and allow
her to come up to the room,

and, you know, open the
door and say, hello, darling.

You know, that hasn't changed.

We're still having
situations where...

people are not situation
aware or disability aware.

And it disturbs me to
the point that, you know,

I'm not even sure
where we're going.

I'm not putting the
advocates down,

but I don't think the advocates
are educated themselves...

in the context of...

what is there.

People might say,
and people have said this,

and I turn to agree,

I'm not going to argue with the
next comment that I get told,

and that is that, you know,
as a person with a disability,

we must advocate for everyone
with the same disability.

And, look, I agree with that.

But when, you know,
there's not enough...

For me, there's not enough
advocacy in academia

when it comes to
people with disabilities.

There's no...

There's no academic
or formal research...

into what is required by
a person with a disability

for accessibility.

So, yeah, changes are
happening around the world,

but I still feel that
we're being left behind.

[Allan] Yeah, yeah.

May I jump in there, Mark?

And this is not a...

you tell me and then I go, oh,
yeah, well, this happened to me.

But I had a funny
experience in a hotel similarly.

In the last week,

I arrived in a hotel room

and I promise you it was
no more than 16 degrees...

in the room.

It was freezing.

And the air conditioning
unit, Mark, was so...

complicated...

that I, with sight,

couldn't manage the temperature.

So, I had to get somebody to
come and do something with it.

And they didn't know
how to manage it.

Now, this raises, for you two,

who are both much more
technically oriented than me,

this raises
something that I think...

the IT industry needs
to be attentive to,

is I don't think we
encourage user testing.

I'm a relatively competent
and capable person.

I couldn't get an AC to change

the temperature in my room.

The staff in the
hotel couldn't get it.

So we've installed software

that wasn't user tested,

and I think we've got to
get back to user testing.

And in user testing,

consider accessibility in
a number of categories.

Yeah.

[Mark] And one could even...

Sorry, Narelle. I was
just going to say, Narelle,

one could even argue that the
paradigms have not been updated.

So are we still using the old
paradigms of user accessibility,

and user access,

and they haven't been updated...

for the kind of technologies
that are now available?

Maybe. I mean,
it's a hard thing.

That's more of an engineering
or systems type problem.

And also involving the diverse...

or intersectionality of
people with a disability,

or people with abilities,
I'd like to say.

So, I think that's
where we need to,

there needs to be a lot
more formal research...

into those particular practices.

Or into the theories, sorry.

[Allan] In that research,

Mark, I'd like to see...

some work put into...

technology that disables people,

as well as disabled people
having access to a computer.

I must confess,
I leave 50 percent of websites,

because I consider
bad design in one sense,

but from another,
complex usability.

[Mark] Yep.

[Allan] Yeah.

[Narelle] Yeah.

[Allan] I booked an
international airline ticket...

In the last 24 hours.

And from start to finish, it
took an hour and 35 minutes.

[Mark] Oh, God, I
don't feel so bad now.

[Allan] Now, that's just simply...

somebody who hasn't said there
are 15 steps in this manoeuvre.

How can we make it 10?

Or how can we make it seven?

[Narelle] Yeah.

[Allan] But 15 was
just so overcomplicated,

and complicated, not complex.

-[Narelle] Yeah.

-[Mark] Yeah.

[Allan] Irrelevant tips.

[Narelle] Yeah. That
really segues into...

something that
determines all of that,

which is the legislation.

We know that there is legislation
in a lot of countries...

talking about disability
and digital accessibility.

One that's been interesting this
year is the European Union's,

they call it the ADA Act,

which was brought
in on the 28th of June,

this year,

which is if you want to sell
goods and services within the EU,

you must meet the
WCAG 2.2 level AA.

Here in Australia,
it's quite interesting,

because we're going through the
Disability Discrimination Act.

What are your

thoughts about that?

[Allan] You go first, Mark.

[Mark] I bow to your superior knowledge on this one, Narelle.

I mean, I've had, obviously,

I've dealt with the DDA since 1992 when it was first adopted...

in various ways,

and over the last 30-odd, 33 years now.

I'm very happy that the Human Rights...

Commission are now doing the review.

I think it's a bit too late.

But that all came out of the Disability...

Royal Commission,

which, you know,

is led to where we are now.

Yeah, as I said,

your knowledge on this, Narelle,
is a lot more than mine.

But, you know, when
it comes down to...

So, I'm just giving everyone
here a bit of a history of ...

why we are doing that review.

So, the Disability Commission...

Narelle, you probably can
fill in the gaps for me here,

but they identified a number
of points that were lacking...

in the DDA,

when it came to the...

the way that people with
disability here in Australia...

can live their lives.

And basically that was all
around accommodation, employment.

I think education was...

one of the...

one of the sections
that were in it,

health.

So what we all would
call the pillar stones of...

our existence...

were pretty much identified,
which is really sad because...

it shouldn't be...

Everyone knows that
health is important.

Everyone knows that education
and employment is important.

We should not

have been left behind

when other diverse groups,

you know, have

actually leapfrogged,

I wouldn't say...

Yeah, I wouldn't

say leapfrogged.

I'd say they've just leaps and

bounds in getting their points,

and getting their groups more

acceptance and more, you know,

maybe I've got that sort of

language wrong there, but more...

more acceptance,

where the disabled community

is certainly being left behind.

You know, with the

technologies that we have,

we should be far ahead...

of where we were in
the 90s and early 2000s.

But we're still suffering
from poorly designed systems

that blind people can't use,

or hearing impaired people
can't access meetings,

and conferences

without having to get some
Auslan interpreters, et cetera.

So, and that's a lot of
money to fund that kind of...

resource.

So, I think the DDA review
is actually very worthwhile.

And I'll let you,
Narelle, go on about...

from here about what we feel
about the digital accessibility,

because it's sort of been...

sort of put on the back shelf.

And there's some good
reasons why that's happened,

but I'll let you take that up.

[Narelle] Yeah,
it's interesting.

When I wrote that article
a couple of weeks ago...

about the Disability
Discrimination Act review,

and I did a bit of research,
and it's really interesting.

We have standards for access to
public buildings in Australia,

public transport, education.

Now, they're mentioned in the
Disability Discrimination Act.

And you must remember,
as Mark said earlier,

1992,

the internet really
wasn't around then.

So, digital accessibility
is not explicitly mentioned.

It is implicitly mentioned...

in I think it's section
five or section six,

where everyone must have equal
access to the goods and services,

and there is an
accompanying document

that talks about that.

However,

it's not there explicitly.

And you know what?

You can have access
to the public transport,

the education,

the building premises,

but if you can't access digital
information in those buildings,

or around those areas,

it doesn't make any
difference, does it?

What are your thoughts, Allan?

[Allan] Yeah.

I concur with most
of what you're saying.

There's a part of me
that wants to draw it down,

and go,

true, yes.

How do we shift from where
we are to where we need to be?

[Narelle] Yes!

[Allan] No, how do we
shift from where we are

to where we desire being,

and what are the
steps along the way

that we need to be very
clear and explicit about,

so that we pull it down
into what can I, we, do?

[Narelle] Yes.

What is doable? Exactly.

[Allan] Yeah.

Now,

I'm sitting here toying with the
fact that I had a meeting about...

an organisation who's involved
in disability this morning.

[Narelle] Yeah.

[Allan] And I've still got
the charts on my wall,

and I'm debating whether
to go to the charts or not.

Let me go to one chart.

[Narelle] Okay.

[Mark] While Allan's
talking about charts,

I agree with what
Allan just said.

It's about the direction
that we need to take...

to actually improve the
situation and actually work with...

Allan, you back?

[Allan] Mark, did you go to the
presentation I did this morning?

[Mark] No.

[Allan] I put up a chart and
the word says situational.

[Narelle] Yeah.

[Allan] We've got to be better at being situationally responsive.

Situationally responsive,

as well as

long-term legislative,

political, social change.

[Narelle] Yeah.

[Allan] What I want to say that situational responsiveness is...

that we've got...

systemic change

that needs to be done.

We've got to ask the question,

do I stay out of

systemic change?

And say, in this case,

the NDIS is just

doing what it does,

and there's little

I can do about it.

And can I get on
and do what I can do?

And that means that
we go to the left and go,

deal with what I can,

must, and need to do.

Yeah.

[Narelle] Yeah.

[Allan] And the other
choice is to go right.

And then we've got to
look at the family system.

And how do we support
people mobilising themselves,

and their families in
the situation they're in.

[Mark] Yeah.

[Allan] The next thing is once

we've got that small cone...

managed in a systemic way,

working together on
what they can change.

Then we go to the next step,

which is schooling,

and that means educating
people around what a system is,

and how do we
operate as a system,

not as different
segments and bits.

How do we coordinate
and work together?

And how do we
make it a learning...

process?

And can we make it learning
through doing and experimenting,

and exploring what we
don't already know or do?

Yep.

The next step is once
we've got those taken care of,

can I actually approach
the education system,

the political system,

or the government system,

as you are, Narelle.

You're sitting on the Disability
Discrimination Review.

[Narelle] I went to a couple of
meetings there and got involved.

[Allan] Now, I've talked with
another disability organisation.

So it fits in here.

The bit that I've put on the
far left-hand side of the chart...

is community
networks and systems.

And you're bringing up, Narelle,
earlier in our conversation,

let's find out what
Canada's doing.

Let's find out what
Scotland's doing.

Let's find out,
when Mark's in London,

let's find out what
the British are doing.

Let's find out what the
Americans are doing,

and find out...

in practical reality,

what's happening around the
world that we can get engaged in,

we can learn from,

and can we steal from them

and apply it to our system,

so we're not
inventing the wheel?

[Narelle] Yes.

[Allan] My last comment,

is you mentioned
the European Union,

and them making the change.

Now, if they've made the
change on the 28th of the sixth,

and they're now looking
at world standard AA...

as a requirement,

then we want to know what
they did and how they did it.

[Narelle] Yes.

[Allan] And I want
to make an offer

that I'm going to research about

the European Union's application

and strategy around,
how did they get...

that to happen?

-[Narelle] Yeah. That's awesome.

-[Allan] Yeah?

[Narelle] Because
if we can take that,

and make a doable
change that's measurable,

achievable, realistic,

and timely in regards to digital
accessibility here in Australia,

we can improve everyone's lives.

[Allan] Absolutely.

Absolutely.

And why go struggling working
out how to get this to happen

when we've actually got...

an institution like the European
Union who's done the work,

and put it into place,

and legislated it.

It's like, woo!

That's exciting news.

I hadn't realised that
change had happened.

[Narelle] Yeah, it did,
and it is exciting.

And the part that
comes from that is,

you've got that change in place.

There's the education framework
that follows the change,

because it's like any
piece of legislation.

[Allan] It's on that
chart that you can't see.

[Narelle] Exactly.

And this is it.

And I think one of the
problems here in Australia that...

is a doable change
is more education.

The three of us are out
talking about it continuously.

Mark on the assistive
technology side, because Mark,

if you can train a
person to use a computer,

to use a mobile phone, whatever,

however,

it's only as good as...

the application of the digital
accessibility at the point,

such as that
intercom that you had.

[Allan] Yeah. Yeah.

[Mark] That's right.

I mean, you can't...

You can't use something
that's not accessible.

[Narelle] Yeah.

[Mark] Without the accessibility
actually being implemented,

or made available.

And that's where it comes to,

I mean, that's a legal...

Yeah, I would have thought
that would become a legal,

or a legislative requirement,

that anything in a public
environment like accommodation...

would need to be,

you know, it would need to

have accessibility in mind,

because, you know, it's like
a wheelchair going upstairs.

It's not going to happen.

And like I've got a lot
of friends in wheelchairs,

and great friends, you know,

but you wouldn't wish
that on them, right?

And it's the same with us.

We shouldn't have to be
put in a situation where...

we have to find another solution
to something that, you know, is...

a problem because
of our disability,

not because,

you know, I probably
got that language wrong,

but it's a problem cause we can't
access it from our disability.

So, you know,

you know, that's
where my concerns are.

But in saying that, you know,
there is positive moves to make,

you know, with education.

And coming back to the
points that Allan raised,

you know, if we can
educate the lawmakers...

to actually incorporate
that into the laws,

I think that's how
you get change,

because it's not telling the
companies that you have to do it,

but it's just telling
the companies, well,

this is what...

certain citizens or
groups of citizens require,

to make their lives,

and it reduces, you know,

I just like to say that,

if you pay a whole lot of
money to actually fix a problem,

it's better than paying ongoing
amounts of money over time

to actually, you know,

bandaid the problem.

And that's, you know,

I think that's where some of
the NDIS funds have been,

you know, using support workers
to actually do things that,

you know, independent, blind,
or low vision people could do,

you know, through technology.

That's one example.

[Narelle] Yeah, I agree
with you fully there.

And really it comes back to...

just digital accessibility,

all forms of accessibility just
being standardised, normal.

I mean, taking into account some
of these really old buildings

that you can't put a lift in.

[Mark] Yeah.

[Narelle] And there
is some things,

like we'll never be able to pick
up a paper book and read it.

[Allan and Mark] Yeah.

[Narelle] We can't.

But there's other ways to do it.

[Allan] Yeah.

[Narelle] And if you're going to
have a meeting in a venue

where it's not
wheelchair accessible,

well, you move the venue.

If you're going to have
a meeting via Zoom,

which is what we're
using at the moment,

then Zoom is accessible.

But if you put it on,

I can't think of it quickly
off the top of my head,

something else that's
not so accessible,

then move it to Zoom.

[Allan] Yeah.

[Narelle] Just think
outside that square.

One of the things...

[Allan] Can I jump in
there, Narelle, and say,

if you've got a hotel's
air conditioning system

that is fixed and
hard to change,

lock it on 22 degrees.

[Narelle] Yes.

-[Narelle] Yes.

-[Allan] Yep.

[Allan] Imagine if they did
that one thing across the hotel,

how many complaints
do they get in a day,

and how much time
does that waste,

that could be put
into a meeting to go,

how do we make...

How many places are
there in our workplace,

or in our computer,

where we could actually
improve the ease,

and make things
easier, quicker, simpler

with fewer steps?

If we just applied
that principle,

quicker, easier, simpler,

fewer steps,

and provided choice...

for more people,

not just the top

of the bell curve.

[Narelle] Can you imagine
the change to our community,

our society,

more people able to get work,

because it's accessible?

More people having...

independence,

and that emotional,

and social change that we
know just going to work makes.

[Allan] Yeah.

[Narelle] The difference
mentally, it's huge, isn't it?

[Allan] Yeah, yeah.

[Narelle] What is one
thing from each of you,

as a measure,

that people could do
right now that's doable,

in regards to change
for digital accessibility?

Allan, what's one tip from you?

[Allan] I think it's twofold.

It's probably three.

Firstly,

anybody who is
watching this podcast...

to find three friends,

have a chat about it,

find out how much
they encounter...

access as a difficulty,

and their time wasted,

irrespective of what
their ability or disability is.

Start a conversation
about our need to improve...

accessibility,

in general.

Secondly,

include in that conversation,

that there's an
organisation who actually...

specialises in
auditing and providing...

to change.

I think that's a
really important...

factor,

and one for us to remember,

because in our three different
ways, we're all out there...

educating and liberating people

by finding small things
every day that they can do

to make the workplace...

more accessible
and more equitable.

[Narelle] Yes. Awesome.

Mark,

I love yours, Allan.

Mark, what's yours?

[Mark] Similar to Allan's,
I always say that people,

try to walk...

in the other person's shoes,

and experience the things
that they have problems with.

For me, it's about
listening to people,

you know, when they describe

their issues with accessing...

any platform that they
have or want to work with.

I think the big one
for me at the moment,

and there's a lot of young
people that like TikTok.

I have not used TikTok.

It's something that we might
have to start looking into,

so you never know.

This podcast might
end up on TikTok.

It's like the young people say,
oh, yeah, everyone's on TikTok.

Everyone's on TikTok.

I thought, well, I've
just got to try that,

because I heard it's
not really accessible.

There's some
things that are not,

and there's some things
that work really well,

and it's just a
case of, you know...

So, it's just walking in that...

that group's shoes basically,

sort of experience
what they're having,

[Allan] Yeah.

[Mark] And you know,

I'll use TikTok as an example
because it is unfamiliar to me.

But you know,
I think it's what it's about,

just being able to appreciate,

and understand what
people are experiencing,

and there's not a lot of
that going on at the moment.

There's some...

There's just, you know,

and you get that from...

You get that from some
developers who'll say, oh,

I'm developing it to...

what my client wants.

Well, that's fine.
The client's right.

Everyone says
the client's right.

But it's the developer's job to
actually explain to the client,

well, you know, if you want
a bigger group of audience,

you know, you really need
to look at how the audience,

and how some of the audience
are going to experience...

your product,

your actual,
you know, your shop front.

Because, you know,
if it's a messy shop front,

no one's going to
come in the shop.

But if it's a good,
clean place to go,

and it's got bright lights,

and it's all, you know,

it's all nice and
beautiful to look at,

people are going to
investigate it even further,

and that's the same
with websites, you know?

Not saying that you need to
put fancy graphics and all that,

and people say, oh,
but if I do fancy graphics,

it's not going to be
accessible, no, that's a myth.

That's a myth that's been
around for a long time,

You can have fancy graphics
and animation and all that,

but you can also
have it accessible,

so that people like ourselves...

can actually do what
we want to do with it.

So, yeah.

[Allan] Narelle, do you?

[Narelle] Don't be
afraid of change.

-[Allan] Nice.

-[Mark] Yeah. Yeah.

[Narelle] It's as
simple as that.

[Mark] That's why we call her the
boss cause she's very succinct.

[Narelle] No, but the thing is
people are very afraid of change.

-[Allan] Yeah.

-[Narelle] They look at dollars.

[Narelle] And I would say,
what's the cost of lost sales?

Allan, you said in
the thing, you only...

50 percent of
websites, you're off.

That's 50 percent of businesses
and websites you look at

that they didn't get your money.

Mark,

would you go and stay

where you are staying again?

[Mark] No.

I mean, the single answer is no.

I wouldn't because of the complexities that I've had to...

go through to get in and all that, no.

It's a nice place, by the way. It's beautiful.

But yeah.

Yeah.

[Allan] Narelle, would I go back to the hotel?

No.

No, and let me tell you why.

Going to Mark's point, they didn't listen very well.

-[Allan] Yep.

-[Narelle] Yes.

-[Mark] Yeah.

-[Narelle] Yeah.

[Allan] Their solution to the problem wasn't the air con.

The solution was let me bring in a heater,

and let me get you some extra blankets.

-[Mark] Wow.

-[Narelle] Yeah, yeah.

-[Allan] And

-[Narelle] Yep...

[Allan] And I went, that's solving the problem,

not meeting the need.

We've got to get more skilled at identifying the need,

which is going right back to Mark's very early comment.

And my comment on the chart,

get clear about what I want to
do and must do and need to do.

-[Mark] Yeah.

-[Narelle] Yes.

[Narelle] Exactly.

And next year, our
podcast for next year,

because I said this is the
last one for this season.

We're starting, I will tell,

we're starting to tape
next seasons next week.

But I've got this idea,

and it's, we've talked
about change today,

and we know the
Disability Discrimination Act,

there is going to be
change, which is fantastic.

Hopefully it's positive change.

We wait and see.

And there are other
things happening.

But we're going to start
looking in two areas.

One area is what's
happening in other countries.

As you said, Allan, you're
looking at the European Union.

We've got contacts in
Canada, UK, America.

We're looking at what's happening
with digital accessibility,

from a practical point of view.

That's our first thing.

And the second,

we have, there was
the AUCUA conference,

the Accessible Usable
Communication Conference,

and we had 14
great speakers there

And we are actually going to go,

and as a podcast
with each of them,

talk to them all,

and then we're going
to create a webinar...

around each of what those
speakers was talking about.

Why?

They're experts in their fields.

They're experts in
bringing disability

as just a normal part of life.

And whether it's Simone
Eyles from Disinfluencer,

pointing out
everyone is different,

or whether it's
Belinda Vesey-Brown,

talking about documents
and accessibility,

and what is good accessibility
versus what is bad,

or Melanie Robertson
from the point of view of,

well, what did she have to do
to make a website accessible...

for a deaf blind person?

Tracey Whitelaw, looking from...

the point of view of a
Chief Digital Officer

of Local Government
Association of Queensland,

and what is management's
responsibilities in all this?

I think we've got a really
good series for you next year.

Any thoughts, gentlemen?

[Allan] I think you have
just nailed it beautifully,

Admiral.

[Narelle I wish I
could roll my eyes.

I used to roll them at my kids
and I can't roll my eyes anymore.

Consider my eyes are rolling.

Thank you.

[Allan] I shall.

I shall.

[Narelle] Mark?

[Mark] As one of the speakers,

I'm assuming I'm
still one of the people.

[Narelle] Yes, you are.

[Mark] All right.

I'm looking forward to it.

I think it's a good idea.

And we...

Yeah, it would...

be a very interesting series
of webinars and podcasts.

[Allan] Yeah.

[Mark] I think next year,

I think the big thing for
us next year is going to be,

well, this year it
certainly has started.

AI is going to be,

I think, a very big...

discussion point as well,

where it fits into our

daily lives, accessibility.

I want to...

So hopefully, I might do a...

couple of episodes.

Maybe Ellen and I should
do some on the legalities of AI,

where it comes to
vision impairment,

because a couple of questions
have come from clients about...

is it good for us, is it bad?

We all know, and I
think there's a lot of...

drums beating and so forth,

but there's a lot of information
that's not being told...

about the legalities of, you
know, what data is being sent,

what data isn't safe

and all that sort of stuff.

So, I'd like to do
some stuff with AI...

next year as well with
Digital Access because that...

concerns me,

and I think people need to be...

brought to,

or an educational type...

series of that.

But I think...

I think next year is
going to get interesting,

especially now with the...

Web Content Accessibility
Guidelines version three, is it?

[Narelle] It's in draft.

It's not going to

come out for a while.

It's in draft.

[Mark] I think there's going
to be talk about that next year.

[Narelle] Yep.

-[Allan] Yeah.

-[Narelle] That's it.

[Mark] And, yeah,
looking forward to that.

I think we should get some
experts in that particular...

framework to come on.

-[Allan] Yeah.

-[Mark] So, yeah.

[Narelle] Yeah.

[Allan] I think my comment,
Narelle, two if I may.

One is I think a
regular conversation,

a round table even,

around...

AI but in a very particular way,

and looking at and guiding
people what is and what isn't AI.

[Narelle] Yeah.

[Allan] What are the pros?
What are the cons?

What are the things
we don't know?

What are the traps?

[Narelle] Yeah.

[Allan] What are the security
things around our using...

of our websites and software

that we need to be considering?

I think there's a whole
lot of really useful...

discussion to take out the hype,

and ask some really important
questions and do some sorting.

[Narelle] You two
are the experts in that.

I'll just sit back and
let you two run that one.

Merry Christmas.

And look,

I want to say thank you to all
the wonderful guests we've had.

There's been so many,
Joseph Lee, Jeb Ryan.

I can't think of them all.

I think there's been about
40 episodes this year.

And to you two gentlemen,

throwing ideas at me,

just being on the

show yourselves,

both of you have been on it
talking about different areas.

There's one more person.

I'd like to thank the
wonderful Emma,

who works from the Netherlands.

Emma has been wonderful.

She's taking on the
editing, the captioning.

We just throw it at Emma
and let Emma go for it,

and she produces every week...

what you guys get to see.

So thank you, Emma,
from the three of us to you.

You've done wonders.

And you're patient.

And thank you to
everyone that's listened.

It's been a slow, steady build.

We're up to 1,780 odd,

over the last two years.

And that's great.

Look, please share,
like, subscribe, review.

Tell everyone,

because the more we can educate,

all of us,

as a society about the
benefits of good communication,

the better as a society we are.

[Allan] Yep.

[Mark] Thanks to you,
Narelle, for actually hosting,

and doing an excellent

job in hosting the...

podcast.

You know, finding...

[Narelle] Someone had to do it.

What did you call me, Admiral?

I'm getting you back for
that one you two, sorry.

Admiral and The Boss.

[Mark] So, you know, we...

Yeah, it's...

[Allan] We value and
appreciate your input, and...

management of us, Narelle.

[Mark] Yeah.

[Narelle] Consider my eyes
rolled again, both of you.

So, we'll see you next year
on The Digital Access Show.

So, it starts again about
the first week of February.

We have two months.
We wanna get ahead of the game.

We have a couple of
weeks off over Christmas,

and the episodes are there
for you to go back and review.

You can definitely
email us at any time.

Contact us...

on our website,
on our Facebook page,

and on Instagram and LinkedIn.

And also at our website,
DASAT, dasat.com.au,

where you can find
all the old episodes.

If you've got ideas of
who you'd like us to talk to,

if you've got contacts
in other countries,

by all means,
please let us know.

The more we can find out and
educate, the better off we are.

See you next time.

[music playing]