

President's Annual Report 2023 AGM

31st October 2023

I am pleased to present my President's report to the 2023 AGM covering our achievements in the 2022 financial year.

Some of our key achievements included:

- Aug 2022 - \$1000 Be Connected 'Get Online Week 2022' Grant.
- July 2022 - \$2,500 of Be Connected 'Building Digital Skills' Grants to assist with business running costs and one-on-one support for seniors.
- July 2022 - \$5000 Be Connected 'Digital Devices' Grant to purchase digital devices for loan to seniors.
- Feb 2023 - \$500 of Be Connected 'Building Digital Skills' Grants to assist with business running costs and one-on-one support for seniors.
- Training of additional Digital Mentors to assist with workshops and one-on-one sessions.
- Collaboration with the Bega Valley Shire Libraires.
- Digital workshops for seniors at Bega, Bermagui, and Tura Libraries.
- One-on-one digital support at local libraries, supported by our digital mentors.
- Supported over 50 seniors on their digital journey.
- Membership option for Seniors to join SoS Digital Support Inc. for a small yearly fee.
- Our current member subscriptions include 4 registered learners, 5 digital mentors and 2 volunteers.

Some of our future plans include:

- Aug 2023 - Successful application of \$50,000 Be Connected 'Capacity Building Grant' to cover the costs involved in training 47 new Digital Mentors. (Payment of \$25,000 received. Additional funds will be paid upon Jan 2024, upon successful training of at least 20 new Digital Mentors).
- 3 of our Digital Mentors have completed additional training to become 'Lead Digital Mentors' to deliver the 'Capacity Building Grant' outlined above.
- Aim to train home carers as Digital Mentors through local carer organisations such as IRT and Sapphire Coast Support Services.
- Aug 2023 - Successful approval for \$1000 'Get Online Week 2023' grant.
- Oct 2023 - Successful approval of additional \$5,000 Be Connected 'Building Digital Skills' Grant to assist with the overheads and running costs for SoS Digital Support Inc. and allow us to run more workshops through the Bega Valley Shire Libraries as well as offering one-on-one digital support to seniors.
- Application for other grants will be looked at as they become available and as the committee deem necessary to continue to support our senior community.

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Savvy Online Seniors

Digital Support Inc.

- Aim to increase the number of volunteers, committee members and financial members so that we can continue to grow SoS Digital Support Inc. and support more seniors through ongoing workshops and one-on-one support.

I would like to thank the current committee, Trish Howard, Beverley O'Brien, Chris Oyrer, Debbie Gardiner and past committee member Sam Nerrie for their efforts and valuable contribution over the year. It makes the role of President a lot more pleasant when working with such a committed team.

I would also like to acknowledge the dedication and contribution of our lovely volunteers and members that helped make 2022-23 a very wonderful year. It has been an honour to be the President of SoS Digital Support Inc. during this time.

OUR MISSION:

To CONNECT seniors with their family, friends, and the community in the most direct and engaging way possible: through the devices that you always carry with you.

We'll do this by creating a secure, FUN and SAFE environment where you, our LOCAL 50 and over community, can access affordable ongoing digital support.

I look forward to seeing 2023 continue the upward trend of success in our Not-for-Profit Group.

Thank you.

Julie Novotny
President

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