

# SUNSHINE COAST BUSINESS WOMEN'S NETWORK

# WINNERS

## *their stories and their 'Why'*



*Emma Gibbons*

Emma Gibbons of Huds & Toke Pty Ltd, is winner of Micro/Small Business Woman of the Year Award sponsored by University of the Sunshine Coast, Faculty of Arts & Business.

**What we do -**

Huds and Toke create, manufacture and brand awesome Australian made dog treats, horse treats and small animal treats. We supply these products nationally to pet stores, produce and saddlery stores and pet owners all over Australia. Our products range from treats for specialized training, dental chews, general reward treats as well as a healthy gourmet range even able to cater for our furry friends birthday parties. They look good enough to serve at high tea!

**Why we do it -**

As an animal loving team, we do it because we want to "Inspire the Love of Animals" by "Treating Animals Brilliantly". We love being able to promote a bond between an animal and its owner whether it be through treats used as reward for training or simply those indulgent moments that you want to share a gourmet treat with your pet or horse, just because you love them. It truly brings us so much joy.



*Maria Woods*

Principal/CEO of Sunshine Coast Grammar School, is the winner of Outstanding Business Woman of the Year Award, sponsored by Garland Waddington.

**What I do -**

I am honoured to be the Principal/CEO of Sunshine Coast Grammar School. I have overall strategic and operational oversight of the entire organisation. I am responsible to and report directly to the School Council and PMSA (Presbyterian and Methodist's Schools Association) who own the school. With over 1220 students from Prep to Year 12, an Early Learning Centre, 900 families and 200 staff, it is a very large and vibrant learning community on the Sunshine Coast.

**Why I do it -**

I am passionate about education and the opportunities we can provide for our students to contribute locally and more broadly. I firmly believe that an excellent education will be the stepping stone into an amazing future and that schools partner with families to grow and support young people through important foundational years that build character. I feel incredibly blessed to work alongside young people who believe in service above self. I have been so fortunate to have found the career I am absolutely meant to be in. I do this because as an educator I do believe we are making a difference and that everyone (students, staff, parents) is committed to ensuring students are able to do and be the best they can.



*Melinda Anne Bingley*

Melinda Anne Bingley of MAB (Mind And Body) Personal Training & Adventures, is winner of Young Business Woman of the Year, sponsored by National Australia Bank. Melinda is currently at Mt Everest, literally walking her talk as we write this article on her behalf.

**What she does -**

Melinda just loves life and is passionate about making fitness FUN. She specializes in Personal Training, Corporate Adventure Days and Individual One Day Adventure Experiences. There is a wide range of opportunities to make fitness fun: Private Personal Training Studio for both men and women, Group Kayak Adventures, Group Mountain Climb Adventures, Group Hiking Adventures, Group Outdoor Sessions, 8/10/12 Week Challenges, through to Self Development and Healthy, Happy Lifestyle Coaching.

**Why she does it -**

It's my passion to live life to the fullest, eat clean, be active, be adventurous, get outdoors to connect with nature because I believe that is where you connect with yourself at the deepest and healthiest level. The fulfillment I get from helping people to achieve a healthy happy lifestyle is just so amazing and I have so much gratitude for every day I help make a positive change in people's lifestyles.



Sunshine Coast Business Women's Network Winners



Brooke Bennett

Brooke Bennett of Kawana Shopping World, is the winner of Professional Business Woman of the Year, sponsored by Telstra Business Centre, Maroochydore.

**What I do -**

I am the Marketing Manager of Kawana Shoppingworld and have held this position for 8 ½ years. Kawana Shoppingworld is a successful sub-regional shopping Centre that has recently undertaken a multi-million dollar redevelopment adding 60 specialty stores, an Aldi Supermarket, and a casual dining precinct. I am responsible for providing a positive return on investment for my retailers and investors through strategic marketing.

**Why I do it -**

"Success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success. If you love what you are doing, you will be successful". I love what I do. Simple. There's always something different every day in shopping centre marketing, and there's always the opportunity to put a new twist on something old and make sure you are enjoying what you do at the same time.



Debbie Battaglini-Clarke

Debbie Battaglini-Clarke of Bank Of Queensland Maroochydore, is the winner of Corporate Business Woman of the Year, sponsored by The Events Centre Caloundra.

**What I do -**

I have been the co-owner of BOQ Maroochydore since 2007 with my husband. My role primarily is Marketing Director but my tasks also encompass strategic development, event management, finance and HR – in effect all of the business functions other than the operational aspects of banking. BOQ Maroochydore is a multi-award winning full service bank, that specialises in business banking – with a heart.

**Why I do it -**

Our aim is to provide the best banking services to our clients that we can. We get satisfaction from being a small part of their business and personal achievements. Personally, I get a great deal of satisfaction also in giving back to the local community in which we do business in, via our charity events which engages a lot of our clients and business networks. It's the combination of being a small business owner and a good corporate citizen.