

MARCH 2010 NOMINEE

CLAIRE MALCOLM *NPI MEDIA*

Why have you nominated this member?

I really admire Claire for her kindness, her dedication and her passion for life. She has already achieved amazing success both personally and professionally, and I know she will reach even greater heights. She loves travel, loves life, is brave and adventurous. She has so many friends, and a generous and encompassing nature which draws people to her. Claire has always been very modest about her success, and instead prefers to selflessly give others the opportunity to shine.



What specific achievement should she be recognised for?

For her wonderful support of other professional women and her role in the IBWG Dubai specifically. She has also successfully leapt from one career (in hospitality) to another (journalism) without so much as batting an eyelid. Her ability to manage change with all its vagaries, while continuing to thrust forward vigorously in her never-ending search for the adventure of a lifetime and taking on courses to improve her opportunities to communicate, astound everyone. If you have a project in mind you know it is in safe hands as Claire's attention to detail and organisational skills will see the project to a successful conclusion with some additional flourishes. She has also always quietly been a great supporter of local and international charities.

MARCH 2010 NOMINEE

DEDRA STEVENSON

DEDRA STEVENSON PUBLICATIONS

Why have you nominated this member?

A published author, she is breaking new ground for women and UAE nationals by creating modern folklore tales for the region, and about the region along with effectively promoting her work and spreading it to other parts of the world as part of a personal endeavour to bridge the gap between East and West.



What specific achievement should she be recognised for?

Getting her first book to the USA! Within the next few weeks *The Hakima's Tale: The Revenge of the Blue Jinni* will debut in the USA literary market. In addition, she is launching the second book in her trilogy, entitled *The Hakima's Tale: The Dawn of Redemption*, at the end of May 2010. This event is certain to attract extensive press coverage and interest, and promote her literary efforts to a wider audience.

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FEBRUARY 2010 NOMINEE

EMMA SIMS
DESIGN HR

Why have you nominated this member?

Emma has remained positive and focused throughout difficult times in Dubai. Her previous employer cancelled her contract, but Emma was determined to succeed. During the last 12 months, Emma has started her own business targeting SMEs in the region to offer a unique service in a very professional way. She is always cheerful and positive and it is this quality that motivates her clients to do business with her.

What specific achievement should she be recognised for?

Emma is proud to announce that her business is already making a profit - this is a fantastic achievement for a six month-old company in these challenging times. Her first and biggest success to date was securing an agreement with Ecolab Gulf Fze.



FEBRUARY 2010 NOMINEE

FARRAH KOUDSI ***FARRAH'S DELIGHT***

Why have you nominated this member?

Farrah combines her full-time job as a corporate trainer (which she is also equally passionate about) with her dream of designing and creating the most wonderful cakes and baked goodies. Currently working out of her own kitchen she has the end goal of growing her business an opening her own shop in Dubai. Her obvious talent, endless enthusiasm and unfailingly friendly and open demeanour – plus her warm smile – are major influencers for her future success.



What specific achievement should she be recognised for?

She is on the way to achieving her dream and has had the courage to develop it and turn her love of cakes into a commercial reality. She really is an inspirational woman.

APRIL 2010 NOMINEE

GEORGINA KELLY *CREATIVE INTELLIGENCE*

Why have you nominated this member?

Georgina has been an active and supportive member of the IBWG Dubai for many years, and has always been willing to share her expertise. She relocated her company here from London several years ago, and has many well-known clients in her portfolio, and has built a solid reputation in the brand creation marketplace.



What specific achievement should she be recognised for?

She has always been willing to give advice and support to IBWG Dubai members, and she is currently very active in the IBWG Dubai Mentoring Programme, choosing to have three mentees, all of whom have benefited from the real life scenarios that she has shared with them. Georgina has given up her weekends and taken the time to bring them into her office to give valuable hands-on training.

FEBRUARY 2010 NOMINEE

DR HIBAH SHATA
SPECIALISED DENTAL CLINIC

Why have you nominated this member?

Dr Hibah has done so much for autistic children with the formation of her specialised centre which currently supports over 60 families whose children who have varying degrees of autism. She deserves recognition for following her heart with courage, belief, hard work and commitment.

What specific achievement should she be recognised for?

She should be recognised for her selfless achievement and how the journey along her remarkable road to fulfil her dreams empowers and encourages others around her to further work towards reaching their own goals.



JANUARY 2010 NOMINEE

JANE DRURY

Expat Woman



Why have you nominated this member?

I don't know Jane very well, but I have observed her over the past 10 years or so and remember when Expat Woman was a dream, and she was a little bit afraid of following that dream. Fast forward 10 years and just look at what she has achieved!

What specific achievement should she be recognised for?

Starting a fabulous supporting networking website and community for women new to Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Qatar, and providing a platform for all of us to share tips and recommendations on life and living in the Middle East (as well as moan and groan occasionally!).

FEBRUARY 2010 NOMINEE

JULIE LEWIS ***MOUNTAIN HIGH***

Why have you nominated this member?

A modern-day adventurer, sportswoman and risk-taker who inspires others to achieve their dreams, Julie is a dynamic all-rounder buzzing with creative energy who is focused not only on her business goals but on ensuring that any woman who joins one of her trips has the experience of a lifetime. She is always full of life and ideas and very energetic.



What specific achievement should she be recognised for?

For her sheer enthusiasm and infectious positive personality which is the very essence of her business success. She has also recently relocated to Hong Kong where she has established a second complementary business unit to her Middle East operation – so watch out Asia!

APRIL 2010 NOMINEE

JYOTI ANAND *SHAPE XPRESS*

Why have you nominated this member?

I have known Jyoti for the past 15 years and she found her direction at the age of 40, when she put herself through school for three years, stayed in a new city, bought herself a home and stayed put to study nutrition and health.

What specific achievement should she be recognised for?

She has now opened up three branches of Shape Xpress in Dubai, all of which are extremely successful operations.



JANUARY 2010 NOMINEE

LISA STEEL - Change Associates



Why have you nominated this member?

Her more-than-sound business achievements in the hospitality and mainstream commercial fields, coupled with her forthright yet delightful take on things, make Lisa an inspiration for anyone who has had the pleasure of working with her. That she remains true to herself in being the successful business woman she is, underlines the value of an uncompromised inner anchor in all that one does.

What specific achievement should she be recognised for?

Ability to stretch herself from the 'attention to detail' aspects of marketing and exceeding client expectations all the way through to the operational elements of a business sets her apart. Lisa truly allows the projects and her ventures to take centre-stage. An inspiring combination of tenacity and professional humility. As peers, we celebrate her continued success with pride.

JANUARY 2010 NOMINEE

LOREY FENTON

LMC Dubai



Why have you nominated this member?

One of the most creative and talented PR people I have ever met, Lorey made the mammoth leap from the comfort of the corporate world to set up her own business - with a small agency detour along the way - and has steadily amassed a great portfolio of clients most of whom came to her by reputation and recommendation. She continues to inspire me to make the leap and to embrace the challenge, and is incredibly supportive along the way.

What specific achievement should she be recognised for?

Stepping outside her comfort zone and realising her dream of being her own boss, and managing to make her freelance mark while juggling a young family; and always with a smile on her face and willingness to be there for others.

APRIL 2010 NOMINEE

DR MILLICENT GRIM *GULF EYE CENTER*

Why have you nominated this member?

Millicent has been an IBWG Dubai stalwart for seven-plus years and is a fixture at the monthly breakfast networking events. Her success story in launching the Gulf Eye Center in Dubai into an undeveloped market, ahead of the game, is the perfect example of female entrepreneurial success in this city (along with her husband and partner, Francis). She is also one of the most gentle, supportive and all-round lovely people that make up the diverse expat scene.



What specific achievement should she be recognised for?

Taking a niche market need/concept and successfully transforming it through hard work, dedication and a lot of marketing effort into a recognised, well-respected – and trustworthy – specialist medical practice; as well as for her recent expansion with a second service as part of the Dubai Mall medical centre offering.

NIMA ABU-WARDEH

www.cashy.me

Why have you nominated this member?

Nima recently launched the Arab world's first English-Arabic personal finance website. The idea for cashy.me was born from the belief that we all could do with a bit of help when it comes to managing our finances. We work hard for our money and have little time to make sure that it works for use and the website provides real world suggestions and solutions in a friendly and entertaining format supported by personal finance experts, journalists and public comment.

What specific achievement should she be recognised for?

Launching cashy.me in between juggling a busy career as a BBC broadcast journalist and mother. This website is long overdue, and will help people throughout the region to get on track financially and plan better for their future, something we all need to do.

MAY 2010 NOMINEE

SARAH LORD

KILLIK & CO/THE WEALTH CONSULTANCY

Why have you nominated this member?

Sarah stands out in her industry field as a straight-talking no-nonsense financial planning consultant in an industry filled with wheeler-dealer car salesman types. Her experience and background in the UK financial services industry have enabled her to approach the UAE market with a fresh perspective and she is also a recipient of the International Award in Financial Planning. Sarah is confident, proactive and a welcome addition to the business community in Dubai.



What specific achievement should she be recognised for?

As a respected chartered financial planner back in the UK, Sarah took a bold step to realise her long-term ambition and set up her own wealth consultancy company which she subsequently expanded to Dubai when she relocated to the UAE. She is also an inspiring example of female success in a traditionally male-dominated world and clearly relishes the challenge of a new emerging business environment.

APRIL 2010 NOMINEE

SUE READER
AIMS (MENA)

Why have you nominated this member?

I have nominated Sue for her energy and business vision in getting this off the ground.

What specific achievement should she be recognised for?

Innovation and the drive to introduce an innovative product into the country as well as educating people about the benefits. Sue also started this completely from scratch and found the motivation to make it happen.



MARCH 2010 NOMINEE

SUE-SHARYN WARD ***PRODUCTIVITY SOLUTIONS***

Why have you nominated this member?

For her unwavering commitment to the growth and continuity of the IBWG Dubai over the past 23 years. Sue is a founding committee member and devotes many hours of her personal time each week for the benefit of the entire membership. She is also a tireless networker and promoter of the IBWG Dubai and of women in business throughout the region.



What specific achievement should she be recognised for?

The development of the IBWG Dubai website, creating the quarterly newsletter, very often with little input from the group members – and updating and managing the database and membership list. Sue is also an avid history buff and has compiled extensive data on the history of the UAE which she loves to share with individuals and companies wanting to explore and understand the unique culture in which we live.

JANUARY 2010 NOMINEE

SUSAN MACAULAY

Strike Communications/amazingwomenrock.com



Why have you nominated this member?

An amazing woman par excellence! Susan spends her professional life helping people to become the best that they can be. She continues this theme through into her personal life via her website – www.amazingwomenrock.com - challenging women to look at other women's lives and to see how much we can accomplish if we only believe in ourselves.

What specific achievement should she be recognised for?

Rebuilding and learning to live her life to the fullest after being married for 20 years. Facing the dream of sharing experiences and stories with amazing women around the world. Having the courage to keep hold of the dream when things didn't work out quite as she planned, but still finding a way to bring them to life – in a slightly modified, but nonetheless excellent form.

FEBRUARY 2010 NOMINEE

SUZI CROFT *APPETITE CATERING*

Why have you nominated this member?

Suzi started a specialised sandwich business which, in just a few years has evolved it into one of the foremost catering businesses in Dubai. Her sustained success with her mobile corporate catering (as part of a retail complementary business) is a superb example of applying a well-known concept to fill a void in the Middle East market. The daytime heat makes a lunchtime stroll challenging at best, for a large part of the year. Its packaging, presentation and product consistency has made Appetite lunches a trusted part of offices that span all sectors. The product has maintained excellence and a signature that is all theirs. This has been an exercise in tenacity, creativity, amazing talent and all-out mind-blowing 24/7 effort. And, in the middle of it all, she welcomed her second child.



What specific achievement should she be recognised for?

Appetite Catering is a smartly positioned company that has maintained its competitive foothold in extremely tight market conditions during the past 18 months. Susie has managed to protect her industry space in trying economic conditions that challenged us all. She has the guts, determination and creativity that has helped create a successful business

and a wonderful product.

MAY 2010 NOMINEE

ZENA HABI *FITNESS O2*

Why have you nominated this member?

Zena has successfully carved out a business and personal positioning niche in the tough world of physical fitness through sheer grit.

What specific achievement should she be recognised for?

By her own admission, Zena has raised herself above the stereotype of the Arab (Jordanian) woman and has emerged as the poster girl for sheer determination, hard work and business savvy. Her clean living and inspiring journey has fittingly earned her the coveted role of brand ambassador for Reebok in the region. She is living her dream and encourages and inspires those around her to do the same.

