recoanising achievement

#### Celebrating 5 years of Amazing Gympie Women in Business





### Nicole Millard stay at home mum FINALIST

PROFESSIONAL/ENTREPRENEUR WOMAN OF EXCELLENCE

Couture Millinery label in January 2013, at the t Cindy Vogels.

Industry, having started designer/manufacturer ther, from their garment 80's. Cindy was the face g her high school years She also represented geants in her early 20's, a Tourism Australia'. She on Design on the Gold he industry thereafter in ing for a decade living role of support for her children.

e beckoned as Cindy's to Long Flat in Gympie. d it's country charm way mall acreage here' says made the move in Jan that Cindy dreamed up usiness that would cater and that required 'High for race days. She has rel, Switzerland and the ave found homes. One tress and wife of Cadel emington on Melbourne hion on the field awards

am Nicole, the part owner, Co-Director and Social Media Manager for Stay at Home Mum. I wear many "hats" as I also work part-time night shifts at Gympie Hospital, plus I juggle an active family life with two children, Aliyah & Blake, and a very supportive husband, Craig (who is not the plumber!) Basically, I don't sleep (which would be fine if I was a vampire!)

I have been told (by my partner in crime, Jody Allen) that I have terrible taste in shoes, but one thing I do have is great taste in Facebook Content!

Apart from being able to work on Facebook every day (which I love!), I also keep pace with the leaders in social media and manage other social media modalities such as Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, Google Plus and Linked In. I am proud to have been instrumental in achieving 376,000 fans on the main SAHM Facebook page, and almost 27,000 fans on our dedicated recipes and cooking Facebook page "Stay at Home Mum Foodies".

I manage a fantastic team of Facebook moderators and an assistant Social Media Manager (who are all mums and without whom I would sleep even less and probably be insane). I also work closely with our advertising team to promote all the brands we work with through our various social media channels.

My other fun duties for SAHM - I have a regular segment on Brisbane radio on Wednesdays (96.5 FM with Ruby Slipperz) to promote tips and hints from the SAHM website (which is great for me because I do love to talk!) I also star in a few You Tube videos on the Stay at Home Mum channel.

I am known for my quick wit, sense of humour and Aries temper and love nothing more than a good chat, a laugh and glass of wine.



### Rita Malik TAILOR MADE TRAVELLING WINNER

JUDGES AWARD

#### FINALIST

PROFESSIONAL/ENTREPRENEUR WOMAN OF EXCELLENCE

After working as a psychologist for most of my professional Alife, 4 years ago I established the online travel agency Tailormadetravelling (www.tailormadetravelling.com). The agency specializes in tours for independent travellers to Europe.

I realized that not everyone wants to experience a European holiday with 40 other travellers in a bus on the exact same itinerary. Or - at the other end of the spectrum - not everyone wants to hire a car and make their own way, driving on the highways and into the cities of Europe.

The business concept of offering tours for independent travellers to choose from, which are then tailored further to their personal preferences, interests, available time and budget has proven to be very successful. The company has grown from a sole owner/operator business to a team of 4, with an overseas office in Frankfurt, customers from all over Australia and overseas.

We take care to plan and organize the European holiday in every detail - airport transfers, sightseeing and excursions with qualified local guides, reservations for hotels in the historic centres, priority admission and events tickets. First class seat reservations in Europe's luxurious trains ensure a hassle-free holiday and little time spend travelling from one destination to the next.

Our tours cater for families as well as our 'White Christmas tours', which includes visits to Christmas markets and the Christmas days spend in idyllic villages in the European Alps surrounded by snow-covered mountains with romantic horsedrawn sleigh rides, visits to rustic mountain huts with roaring fireplaces, have been described by many of our travellers as a lifetime dream come true.

The focus of our business is on sustainable travel that lets our travellers experience the highlights of Europe as well as `off the beaten path' destinations providing the customers with authentic travel experiences.

# Decisions tougher every year Women in Business Awards

recognising achievement

THE 2014 Gympie Women in Business Excellence Awards held this week were as successful as the women who make up the network.

Held at the Gympie Regional Gallery on Wednesday night, 10 winners were announced and a number were highly commended, to celebrate Gympie region women making a positive difference to the community.

Winners were chosen from 60 nominations, which were narrowed through a rigorous process to 40 finalists.

Cr Rae Gate, who has chaired the judging panel since the awards' inception, had the difficult task of leading the process. "Each year it is increasingly more difficult to select a winner because of the high calibre of the professional women in our region," she said.

excellence awards (2014

Judging with Cr Gate were Gympie mayoress Dulcie Dyne, a strong advocate for all women in our community, and successful business woman Selena Cartwright who won the top award in the award's first year.

GWIB director Shannon McVey said the calibre of entries received this year was phenomenal.

"Each year we put the spotlight on women whom their peers believe strive for and achieve excellence. "These are women who have taken their career, their business or their personal commitment for the community to the next level," Mrs McVey said.

"We celebrate their achievements and acknowledge their contribution to our community."

## ➤ A full list and description of the GWIB Awards categories – PAGE 35.

EXPERTS: 2014 GWIB Excellence Awards judges, Cr Rae Gate, Mayoress Dulcie Dyne and Selena Cartwright.

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Celebrating 5 years of Amazing

Gympie Women in Business