

Recommendations – Melinda Beckett-Hughes

“Melinda is an excellent business coach with a remarkable ability to see the wood for the trees and focus on the really important issues that need to be addressed. Very results oriented and fun with it!”

Top qualities: Great Results, High Integrity, Creative

John McGuire – *Regional Chairman, Royal Bank of Scotland*

“Melinda worked as an executive coach with talented senior managers in Asda who would progress to director level. She achieved great results through her knowledge and understanding of the retail sector and the cultural challenges this gave combined with an ability to build great rapport with the coachees. She is great fun to work with and always brings an innovative perspective to business problems.”

Top qualities: Personable, Expert, High Integrity

Karen Powell FCIPD – HR Director George@AsdaWalmart

“Melinda is enthusiastic, and committed to running an ethical business. While on the Community Foundation Board her insights added real value to the Board.”

John Sandford - *Treasurer/Trustee, Community Foundation for Greater Manchester*

“Melinda was my executive coach around 2002/3 for a couple of years. She helped me enormously to navigate a complex internal political landscape during a period of restructuring, where my job was on the line and I had a particularly difficult upwards relationship. I also have a slowly progressive disability that at the time was just beginning to colour my relationship with work. She helped me understand and play to my strengths while gently encouraging me to develop areas that needed further work. She is well versed in the tools and techniques of executive coaching, but at all times her approach was personal and geared to my situation. Her starting position is of values and integrity, and this permeates all that she does. Melinda is highly professional and at the same time personable and engaging - and now she has become a dear friend too.”

Top qualities: Personable, Expert, High Integrity

Shail Patel – *Senior Technology Manager, Unilever*

“I've known Melinda professionally for over 25 years now, throughout the start up and establishment of Portland International. She has also undertaken business consultancy and executive coaching projects within our organisation over the years. Melinda is special - she understands business - she understands people and what make them fly - she understands how life fits together. Her experience is wide and deep, coloured and textured by her own many talents. Her new business "Ayuda" will no doubt provide a huge opportunity for her and her partners to contribute to planning and delivering change - both for businesses and lifestyles. I wish her every success !”

Top qualities: Great Results, Personable, High Integrity

Marie Gill – *IR Director Asda*

"I have worked with Melinda as my career coach on a couple of "crossroad" moments, when for reasons outside of my control, change challenged my self-confidence and self esteem. One of Melinda's greatest attributes is how quickly she understood exactly where I was mentally, why I was where I was, and through a series of open discussions, helped me to work out where next.

The most important aspect for me was quickly rebuilding my self confidence, recognising that I had assets to leverage and value to add. Melinda helped me to get back on track quicker than I otherwise would have, and gave me the confidence to believe in myself, as a foundation to choosing to be self employed and master of my own destiny for the last ten years."

Top qualities: Great Results, Expert, High Integrity

Steve Bolton – *Logistics Consultant (ex GUS Logistics Manager)*

"Melinda worked as an Executive Coach to a number of Senior Executives within a large UK retailer. Her approach was pragmatic, insightful, challenging yet supportive which worked well for all concerned during a time of considerable business change.

She blends her knowledge and experience of the commercial world with a fresh approach to coaching. Melinda also worked in partnership with me to drive the culture change programme as part of the broader business change agenda. Her input was invaluable."

Top qualities: Great Results, Expert, High Integrity

Nicky Little – *Head of L&D, Matalan Group*

"I have known and admired Melinda as one of the UK's most successful business coaches over the last 17 years. Her experience in working with large corporates and assisting them in creating massive change is probably unrivalled in the UK.

She has a professional background which makes her a complete all-rounder. She has a unique business brain yet combines this with thoughtfulness, sensitivity and the ability to get to the heart of a problem and solve it.

I am biased - as I am also a friend, but I trust her integrity totally.

George Metcalfe - *Chairman, International Institute of Coaching for Great Britain & Ireland*

"Melinda supported our Executive Development programme at Asda with specific focus on our high potential leaders. She designed a range of assessment activities tailored to our needs & coached a number of our Senior Leaders with the key aims of raising self awareness, creating career development plans and preparing them for promotion. Feedback from her coachees was consistently positive - Melinda builds trust, is incredibly insightful, constructively challenging and supportive. I always found Melinda to be highly professional, values driven and I thoroughly enjoyed working and learning from her. I wish her continued success with her new business ventures."

Top qualities: Personable, Expert, High Integrity

Dorothy Matthew – *Head of Exec Development, Asda Walmart*

“Melinda is a five star professional with an eye for detail and a finely honed strategic approach to management, career development, change and lifestyle coaching. Melinda is like an expert at discerning your USP and clearing away the clutter to make you and your business soar and plan for the future establishing high but realistic achievable goals with inspirational clarity. I highly recommend Melinda.”

Caroline Clegg - *Owner, The Performance Factor*

“I have worked with Melinda on several coaching and leadership programmes and have found her to be both personable and highly professional. She is an excellent communicator and can immediately create rapport with people at all levels. She has great integrity and is fun and stimulating to work with.”

Jackie Arnold - *Executive Coach and Coach Supervisor, Coach 4 Executives*

“I worked with Melinda whilst Head of Development at a large UK Financial Services business. Melinda was one of only two executive coaches hired to provide coaching for the middle to senior executives. Each coaching intervention was unique, being tailored to the needs of the executive and their performance within the business. I found Melinda to be highly focussed, flexible and creative. Her personal and professional integrity is clear and unshakeable.”

Top qualities: Personable, High Integrity, Creative

Tony Nicholls – *Head of Learning and Development, Co-Operative Financial Services*

“I have long been an admirer of Melinda Beckett-Hughes and her many successes at Portland International, both nationally & internationally. Melinda has an innate skill for creating effective solutions for both business and people issues. Her personal charisma and leadership ensures that she commands attention and also attracts some of the most capable, enthusiastic and driven peer-group to work with her, people that share a similar history of skill & achievement in business and with individuals. She forms meaningful and successful partnership approaches. That is why she is successful and great to work with.

The Ayuda initiative establishes a symbiosis of talent, enthusiasm and skill. It affords opportunity for any business to enjoy a head-start on any project or initiative, confident that all the bases will be covered. I recall a wide-ranging success of Melinda, working with an international lighting company based in Germany and with a commitment to raise its profile and the skill level of its team, drawn from bases around the globe. That set the standard for expansion and started a relationship that has endured.

If you want skill and enthusiasm linked to commitment and achievement, this is the place to start.”

Malcolm Howells - *Company Owner, Howells Consultancy*

“Melinda is a very focussed person who knows what she wants to achieve for her clients and always works hard to address the client's needs.”

Bob Griffiths - *Owner, RGA Services*

“Melinda has amazing energy and commitment to making a difference and from the first time I called her out of the blue when I was thinking of taking up coaching she has found time to be helpful despite her busy schedule.

She has been very active in setting up and championing networks for coaches while being very successful with her own businesses.

She approaches things in a very holistic and creative way making sure her clients get a fresh and relevant approach.”

Rachel Spooncer - *Executive Coach, Perspectives*

“I recommend Melinda Beckett-Hughes without hesitation. She is a consummate professional who takes great pride in the quality of her work.

Her honesty, integrity, pleasing personality ensures a positive working relationship.”

Kath Robinson DL - *Kath Robinson and Associates.*

“I have known and worked alongside Melinda for over 20 years and never, in that time, have I heard or seen any criticism of her, in fact all I have ever heard is praise for her diligence and particularly for the quality of her work and her honesty in all she does.

She is generous of heart and has a real empathy for people with problems and is driven to help. I would recommend any company that she was in to any of my clients.”

Laurence Mintz - *Chairman, NCC Asset Management*

“Melinda and I are both corporate coaches with 15 plus years of experience and I can, with confidence, endorse Melinda as a excellent coach. She is smart and holds herself to high standards. She is available and dedicated to her clients.”

Katrina Burrus, PhD, MCC - *CEO, MKB Conseil & Coaching*

“Melinda is an amazing person and a superb professional. Her energy, clarity of thought and coaching skills allowed her to grow in the face of adversity. She is definitely a person to know and have around to support your own development.”

Christian Worth - *Personal and Business Coach, Christian Worth*

“I would recommend that everyone should meet Melinda. She rapidly helped me understand who I am and in a remarkably short time became a trusting confidante to share my hopes and fears through working with me in identifying my blend of skills and talents. In all a great, friendly and trusting experience”

Top qualities: Personable, Expert, High Integrity

David Guest – *Senior Manager, Property Sector*

“Melinda presents an extremely broad set of skills from personal coaching where I have seen her operate with the most senior clientele to generic business advice. Her input is always measured and constructive and she has a warm personal manner which engenders trust and confidence.”

Top qualities: Personable, High Integrity, Creative
Karen Tyler – *Trading Director, Mamas & Papas*

“Melinda is an expert Business Coach, insightful, challenging and supportive. Gets to the heart of the matter quickly. Highly recommended!”

Top qualities: Great Results, High Integrity, Creative
Peter Craddock – *Head of Operations, Skipton Group*

“Melinda is an honest, reliable and highly professional executive coach with integrity and passion for what she does. She is always true to her values and is great fun to work with. She inspires people to reach for their dreams. I'm delighted to recommend her.”

Jacqui Pownall - *Personal branding Director, Unique Style and Image*

Overall Top Qualities: Great Results, High Integrity, Creative, Personable, Expert