

Non-Executive of the Year

Consultant shares vast experience

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Winner: Ian Guyler, Ian Guyler Business Consulting

TURNAROUND and transformation specialist Ian Guyler began his business consultancy practice in 2002 and since then has guided and advised many business clients through challenging and changing times.

He has a financial background (FCMA qualified) and wide management experience and has helped business leaders to bring their teams together so that they point in the same strategic direction.

For a one-man band, Ian has carved out a big presence on the local business scene which is why he is the worthy winner of this year's Non-Executive of the Year Award, sponsored by Choose How You Move.

He now wants to strengthen that presence further with a change of branding and a new website.

Many local business people already know him for his charity work with the Lord's Taverners, his love of Leicester City, the Tigers and the county cricket team and his years of supporting – and in previous years organising – the Leicester team at the MIPIM property conference in Cannes, France.

When it comes to work, he prides himself on his abilities as a business consultant supporting the likes of local operations such as John Cheadle – now called Schoolwear Solutions – Total Motion, Bakers Waste, Notts Sports, M&E Accident Repair, Blueprint Interiors, The Inspired Villages Group (a networking roles using and developing his contacts for the benefit

of the IVG business).

Some of his previous roles have been with BWB Consulting, D-Drill, Qualvis Print and Packaging, ATM Automation, Waldeck Engineering. Ian has also been a trustee and chairman of the The Lincolnshire Home Improvement Agency Charity from 2008 to 2014.

His company is called Ian Guyler Business Consulting.

The 54-year-old from Billesdon – affectionately known as “Guyler” – grew up in Milton Keynes before coming to Leicester Polytechnic in the early 1980s to do business studies.

After graduating, he joined a graduate training scheme at TI Group, spending three years at its £30 million turnover subsidiary TI Desford Tubes.

From there he went to Fisons Pharmaceuticals in Loughborough, ending up as finance manager for the Consumer Health Division. Following a take-over and sale of the business, he was offered redundancy which he invested in some buy-to-lets in Leicestershire.

His next two roles as finance director and then division financial controller, were with EMAP's newspaper division until the group was sold to Johnston Press and he took redundancy again, buying a few more houses. Ian now has more than 15 properties in his portfolio.

He then joined an engineering firm in Nottingham as finance director, helping to turn it around before taking a career break, following the England cricket team to New Zealand then heading out to the 2002 football World



Ian Guyler (left) was the winner of the Non-Executive of the Year Award sponsored by Choose How You Move.

Cup in Japan and the famous England rugby World Cup victory in Australia in 2003.

He began his business consultancy practice in 2002 after getting requests from business contacts, banks and accountants for help. Since then he has guided many business clients through challenging times but in more recent years developed a portfolio career of non-exec/consultancy roles with a number of companies.

He also has a keen interest in bringing business and schools together to help in the careers and recruitment of young people. This enthusiasm is reflected in an event he is organising and sponsoring at the 2019 Leicester Business Festival.

Ian said: “Sometimes the role I take on will be as non-executive director which can be as wide or as narrow as the company wants and needs.

“In the SME world you've got to roll your sleeves up and create a relationship with the board and help them improve.” There are always companies out there that you can help change.”

Runners up

Andy Reed OBE, Director,

Saje Impact: Andy was the Labour MP for Loughborough between 1997 and 2010 and is now the director of Saje Impact Ltd. He serves on various sport and charity boards in a voluntary capacity. He has a wealth of experience in government relations and sports policy and is also the founder of the independent Sports Think Tank. He was chairman of the Sport and Recreation Alliance from 2010 to 2016 – the umbrella body for the 320 national governing bodies and associations of sport and is now a vice-president.

Simon Proffitt, Chairman,

Leicestershire Cares: Simon joined

the Leicestershire Cares Board as chairman in March 2015. He was a founder member of Cares and has been on the leadership team. He worked in financial and general management for the pharmaceutical industry for 24 years, including at AstraZeneca in Loughborough, employing 1,500 people until 2008 when he left to become chief executive of the hospice care charity LOROS. Simon has held several non-executive roles, most notably as a member of Loughborough University's Council (governing body) for nine years. He received the HRH Prince of Wales's East Midlands Ambassador Award for Business in the Community for 2006-7.

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