

Hi #firstname#,

Welcome to High Ideals Member News.

from the desk of Gary Scholz Global and Environmental Impact Manager...



I was asked this week to share some thoughts for "from the desk" in this newsletter, on a more personal level, why I became involved with High Ideals and about the impact this has had on my career.

There were a number of primary reasons why I joined High Ideals. I guess the first was when the concept of High Ideals was explained to me by Karina Butera at a conference which I attended last year, it really resonated with my values. I definitely do want to deal with good people when doing business! I do want to know who I am dealing with and that that person has good intentions and is who they say they are.

I was involved in the finance industry for a number of years, and was appalled at what went on both overtly and covertly in the industry. The Sub Prime fiasco in 2007 which contributed to the recent stock market crash is one such example of the corruption and dishonesty brewing in the finance industry.

For me none of these types of attitudes and behaviours fed by greed are going to serve anyone for too long, and so for me, High Ideals is a timely model that I believe can be part of the change many of us want to see in the world today.

I do get a good feeling that there is a huge shift happening globally, so I am passionate and proud to be part of what High Ideals has to offer.

Through joining High Ideals I have had some significant changes happen in my life.

Because of my passion for environmental and social issues I was offered the role as Global & Environmental Impact Manager. It's a role where I get to share positive information and resources with our members. It's also great because I am actively involved in something that makes me feel good about doing my little bit. So much so I was able, this week, to finally finish a conceptual document with the help of three High Ideals members, this concept had been brewing in my mind for years and now is almost ready to be sent out to some of the biggest businesses in the world. My hope is that they take on the ideas.

On top of this, because of my association with High Ideals, I came across the opportunity to buy a business that is a great fit with my ideals and the answer to a major dilemma that had been stopping me from making the move into my full time profession of choice for many years. I moved on from a job that was totally incongruent with me. I was also recently able to source help in a contractor emergency through contacting HI members. I now work with many High Ideals people and am proud to say that half of my Project Balance team are High Ideal members. That in itself is a huge benefit of promoting my business, when I make contact with potential clients, one of my business anchors is 'High Ideals', which says a lot for the people I want to do business with.

If I look back 12 months, my life has completely changed. For me it's all about the right people, the right place and the right time, and as well it's been a huge reminder to me to never give up on what you're passionate about. Staying focused on who you are and what you want to do while you're here makes for a happier and balanced life.

I'd encourage all members to use High Ideals as a platform for getting the most out of your businesses and to ensure you really promote that, let other people know about the benefits High Ideals can and will bring so that our membership base can grow and in turn have the massive impact many of us are wanting in our world today. Word of mouth is still the best way to promote any business, let's all get out there and let people know about High Ideals.

spotlight on values...

by Carol McGowan

This month's value is Welcoming Feedback.

The first question to be answered is what actually is feedback?

new member update...

A reminder that we have a few spaces left for our Leap of Faith offer available to the first 50 membership applications received. If you know of someone who embodies the values of High Ideals direct them to the High Ideals website.

notable special offers...

If you are a promotional member who would like to offer your services at reduced rates or special value to members, please make sure you enter your special offer details on your home page log-in.

If you would like to see what special offers currently are available to High Ideals Members, don't forget to check out all the [special offers](#).

events on the horizon...

Thursday, September 17th
Sydney gathering. Venue TBA.

Thursday, October 1st
Melbourne gathering.
CQ Bar, 113 Queen Street Melbourne
From 6.30pm till 9pm
Guests welcome!
Email info@high-ideals.com to register.

general notices...

Please remember to update your business cards and CVs to reflect your membership with High Ideals.

You can download the High Ideals Founding Member emblem from the 'Members Only' section of the website.

The first question to be answered is what actually is feedback?

Feedback is information we are provided with about ourselves that we may or may not be expecting or have requested. It is also possible it may provide us with information we are not aware of so it can come as a surprise.

How do you welcome feedback when you are not expecting it?

There are a number of considerations that might need to be taken into account here are a few:

- The tone the feedback is delivered
- How threatening the feedback is emotionally and personally
- Your respect for the person delivering it
- The circumstances in which it is delivered
- The intention of the person delivering the feedback ie: are they trying to build you up or bring you down to size

It can be said that not all feedback is good. At High Ideals we describe Welcoming Feedback as the "demonstration of the commitment to self improvement and therefore showing gratitude and grace when others are giving feedback or critique you, your efforts, services or products."

How does that definition sit with you? What might you need to change or reconsider in order to more readily welcome feedback?

making a global & environmental impact... a note from our Managing Director, Karina Butera

Since we asked our fearless Global and Environmental Impact Manager, Gary Scholz, to write 'From the Desk' in this newsletter, we felt it would hardly be fair to expect him to also write his regular column. So I thought I'd write something, and just share with you what I've learnt since Gary joined our High Ideals team.

I guess I was one of the many people who was concerned about the environment, but had a bit of a guilty conscience because I didn't really do much more than put my recycle bin out each fortnight. Having Gary as a key part of the business has meant we've had many discussions about the impact we can all have environmentally, and I'm now happy to say there are lots of little things I do that make a difference. So I feel like I'm finally starting to do my bit for the environment.

The best thing about this is that I've noticed my bills drop dramatically since working harder to do my bit for the environment. All my utilities bills have dropped since I've started reducing my water usage, being vigilant about turning lights and power off whenever not using them and shutting off the ducted heating vents and closing doors in the rooms that don't get used as often. I'm also saving money at the shops as I am more mindful I purchasing products in bulk or simple packaging, which ultimately work out a cheaper option. My new mindfulness of the lure of consumerism has saved me lots of money at the fashion outlets as I really question how much I need that new item of clothing when I have a wardrobe full of perfectly good clothes.

So, because of my newly energised commitment to the environment, not only do I have a clearer conscience, but a fuller wallet. Ya gotta love that, don't ya!!!!

Hope you too are enjoying going easy on the planet and your wallet.



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