



MY STORY: ADVERSITY ACHIEVEMENT ADVOCACY

www.womenempowered.co.uk

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2017

9th Feb

A VOLUNTEER
RUN SOCIAL
INITIATIVE

What WE Are About



Reena Ranger
Chairwoman & Co-Founder of WE

WE, as we like to call ourselves and feel we are, is a wholly social initiative run by volunteers. Our aim is to empower women (and men) to make the best of their

individual skills and talents to help them achieve whatever personal and professional goals they have. WE is open to all. We work at a grass roots level to try to ensure we are accessible to anyone who would like to reach us.

WE encourage mothers to bring daughters and everyone to bring their sisters and friends. We also encourage men! After all men make up 50% of our population and they need to be part of the discussion so that we can effect change, to our own world and the larger one.

Our exciting network is growing and we hope to ENGAGE more women (and men) in discussion, to ENCOURAGE fresh and varied thinking, to EMPOWER confidence to take your next step and

ENABLE access to organisations and mentors to support you through your journey.

“Our exciting Network is Growing”

Our Great Team



From Left to Right : Sunita, Pritti, Reena, Kajal and Dee

WOMAN EMPOWERED

Engage, Encourage, Empower, Enable
Networking events held three times a year. Hear from speakers who have excelled or are leading their field. An opportunity to be inspired, motivated and meet like-minded or new people.

contact us
info@womenempowered.co.uk

WE FOCUS

Engage, embrace and enhance the debate

A discussion group where you can articulate the bigger issues and share your views and concerns. Join us and enhance the debate!

Contact us
focus@womenempowered.co.uk

GRIT

Less lifestyle, more life!

Our monthly blog where the WE community share their life experience and stories. A place to read about the gritty things in life that aren't often talked about but probably should be.

Contact us
grit@womenempowered.co.uk

YOU, ME & WE

Together we can make a change

Our charitable arm - contact us to pledge your time and find out how you can get involved.

contact us
we@womenempowered.co.uk

EVENT SPEAKERS

Kanya King MBE
Founder of the MOBO awards

Kanya has always been an innovator, but she's also had a lot of practice at persuading people to come round to her way of thinking. The youngest girl of nine children born to a Ghanaian father and Irish mother, Kanya grew up in a "crowded council flat" in Kilburn, North London in notably less enlightened times. But while her family faced "a huge amount of discrimination", Kanya was influenced far more by her father's advice to "be the best you can be".

It was that advice that motivated her to start contributing to the family finances, aged just 17. It drove her to study English Literature at Goldsmiths College and later, while working as a TV researcher, gave her the courage of her convictions that there was a place for a mainstream British awards ceremony celebrating music influenced and inspired by black music. When she couldn't find a financial backer who agreed with her (or, indeed, find many supporters in the wider music indus



try at a time when Britpop was at its peak and British urban music was so far under the radar it was practically invisible), she "put her money where her mouth is" and re-mortgaged her house to fund the TV production herself. That she not only persuaded Carlton TV to broadcast the 1996 event, but also managed to organise and book it inside six weeks, is testament to the dynamism of a woman who has become a watchword for great British entrepreneurship and business acumen.

The first MOBO Awards succeeded against the odds with many high influencers in attendance from the world of music, film and sport and everything Kanya has done since has proved it was anything but a one-off.



Mani Kohli
Founder of Khubsoorat Collection

A mainstay in the industry, fashion entrepreneur, Mani Kohli's name is now synonymous with strength, determination, creativity and relentless passion for work. Mani has been the head of Khubsoorat Collection for 30 years, and is now head of the British Asian Fashion Network –

an organisation that she has created to promote, collaborate and connect members of the British and Pan Asian fashion community.

Born in India, a runaway bride at the age of 18, Mani emigrated to the UK with her new husband. Subjected to physical and mental abuse from her husband, realising that she had made a wrong choice of life partner she was left divorced, a mother of two young children and bewildered and in an exposed in a foreign country. The

hunger and need to provide for herself and my children brought about the birth of her business.

Mani has steered the Indian fashion scene towards innovation, Mani pioneered the term 'couture' for British Asians. Her stunning and unique designs have paved the way for original and artistic interpretations of bridal, fusion and pret fashion. She is renowned for her timeless, feminine and refined designs.

A hands on designer with a goal is to ensure her creations allow women to feel strong, feminine and glamorous, Mani shares her story from troubles to triumph.



Rajesh Agrawal
Deputy Mayor of London for

Rajesh Agrawal is the Deputy Mayor of London for Business. Born in India, Rajesh moved to London in 2001.

As an entrepreneur he founded RationalFX in 2005, and Xendpay in 2014, both companies utilising technology to reduce the cost of international money transfer for businesses and individuals. Rajesh is passionate about promoting entrepreneurship and creating opportunities for young people.

He was appointed Chair of Oxfam's Enterprise Development Programme in 2015 and has been a Patron of the Prince's Trust for many years. As Deputy Mayor Rajesh aims to be a strong voice for London's business community, protecting jobs and growth, and ensuring that the capital remains the most attractive place to do business in the world.



JADAU
BY KANWAL TOOR

WRITE FOR GRIT - Less lifestyle, more life!

GRIT

WE believe words have the power to change lives. You can change someone's point of view, their aspirations or even their beliefs. If you have a passion, an inspirational story or a cause that's close to your heart WE want to hear from you. GRIT is your opportunity to have your say and talk about the gritty things that matter in your life. Words have the power to change lives. And WE can't wait to hear yours.

MARCH - The true meaning of motherhood

Do you feel there are pressures or expectations from society to become a parent? Have you experienced difficulties trying to conceive, chosen to adopt or experienced IVF? Did you make a conscious decision not to have children? Do you find not being a Mother challenging or liberating? Please share what motherhood means to you.

APRIL - Health Matters

Do you, or a loved one, have experience of living with a medical condition? Has your life been impacted by cancer, diabetes, depression or heart disease? Please send your advice and insight to help raise awareness of any health-related issue that is important to you.

MAY - Breaking stereotypes

Have you achieved success in an unusual or traditionally male dominated field? Do you have personal experience of dealing with other people's preconceived national, cultural or religious stereotypes of the type of person they think you should be? Please share how you have broken stereotypes or been limited because of them.

JUNE - Going back to work

Have you returned to work or started a business after a career break? Are you keen to get back on the career ladder or create a new lifestyle? Do you think



SUNITA BEHL Editor GRIT

there is a right time to go back to work after children? Please share your experience, how you managed the transition getting back to work and your advice for others in a similar position.

JULY - My new direction

Has an event such as marriage, divorce, having a baby or a health issue prompted you to make a major change? Have you changed your career, lifestyle, religion or outlook on life? Tell us why you chose to take a new direction and how it has impacted you.

AUG - What every entrepreneur should know

Are you an established entrepreneur? Please share your business and advice tips for those who may be contemplating starting a new venture or what you had wished you knew when you were starting out.

SEPTEMBER - Giving back to society

Do you think it is important to give your time, money or skills to benefit others? Have you volunteered with a charity, organisation or educational establishment? Tell us about your experience

and the impact that giving back to society has had on yourself and others.

OCTOBER - No one ever talks about...

Please share your views and thoughts on any topic which you feel is not discussed often enough and that you would like to raise awareness of.

NOVEMBER - Do men need empowering too?

What is the role of men in women empowerment? Does empowering women really make men less relevant? What is the role of the man within the family? What messages should we pass onto younger generations of men as gender roles become less defined? Share your thoughts and views.

DECEMBER - 2017 highlights

To round off the year we'd love to hear your personal highlights from the past 12 months. If you could turn back the clock to 2016 would you have done anything differently this year? Write a letter to yourself of your proud moments, memories and achievements and your hopes for the New Year.



you, me & we

You, Me & WE holds many projects throughout the year where we ask you to donate your time.

We collaborate with SWAT in a food distribution to the homeless on the last Thursday of each month. To join us please email Pritti at swat@womenempowered.co.uk

Every few months we visit the Seva Care home to spend some time with the residents and bring a little joy. To join us please contact Dee at sewa@womenempowered.co.uk

If you have suggestions for future projects, please contact Kajal at we@womenempowered.co.uk





Each time YOU nurture something good,
it ends up nurturing YOU.

YOU CAN CHANGE A CHILD'S LIFE FOR THE PRICE OF A COFFEE & A PIECE OF CAKE

Paint Our World works to support and heal underprivileged children who have been through unimaginable trauma like child sexual abuse and being orphaned. For **£6 per month** or **£72/12 months**, you can sponsor a child's emotional empowerment needs; this includes art, zen painting, game therapy, play therapy, dance & movement therapy, narrative therapy, sports & reading.

Paint-Our-World | paintourworld | YouTube | www.paintourworld.org | info@paintourworld.org



Signature Ambry
by appointment only

Affordable Designer Fashion
info@signatureambry.com
www.signatureambry.com
0787 709 1487

Past Speakers



Rt Hon Baroness Verma
Government Spokesperson for Higher Education (BIS) Women and Equalities and Whip

for the Cabinet Office. Launch Event - May 2012



Tasmin Lucia-Khan
News Anchor and TV Host
Launch Event - May 2012



Geeta Sidhu-Robb
CEO & Founder of Nosh Detox
Delivery Launch Event - May 2012



Kiran Sharma
Managing Director of KIKIT Ltd and Manager to singer Prince
Entrepreneurship Event September 2012



Rupinder Virdee
Director of Revolution Creative Agency
Entrepreneurship Event September 2012



Sally Overhead
Founder of MOJO-MUMS
Entrepreneurship Event September 2012



Sadia Siddiqui
CEO / Creative Head
Make an Impression Event - May 2013



Nina Wadia
British Actress
Make an Impression Event - May 2013



Nihal Arthanayake
DJ, Radio & TV Presenter
Make an Impression Event - May 2013



Alpesh Patel
Co-author, 'Our Turn: The ultimate start-up guide for female entrepreneurs'
Former Visiting Fellow in Business, Corpus Christi College, Oxford. Founder Praefinium Partners
Entrepreneurship Event September 2012



Priti Patel
MP Member of Parliament for Witham
Is it a Man's World Event - January 2013



Cllr Lurline Champagne
OBE Chairman, Harrow West Cone Ass, Fmr Cllr Pinner Ward, Harrow Mayor (2004/5)
Is it a Man's World Event - January 2013



Cllr. Mrs Mimi Harker
OBE Mayor of Amersham, Amersham Town Council, Cabinet Member Responsible for Community, Young People, Communications, Sports & Leisure, Chiltern District Council, Parliamentary Candidate 2005
Is it a Man's World Event - January 2013



Kulveer Singh Ranger
Global City Adviser, Former Adviser to Mayor of London, Former Vice-Chairman of The Conservative Party (Cities)
Is it a Man's World Event - January 2013



Ritu Sethi LL.B (Hons)
Solicitors Book Launch Event - March 2013



Farzana Baduel
founder and managing director, Curzon PR
How To Have Your Voice Heard 5th June 2014



Rupa Ganatra
co-founder of Men's e-commerce site Yes-Sir.com
How To Have Your Voice Heard 5th June 2014



Sunny Hundal
British journalist, blogger and an academic
How To Have Your Voice Heard 5th June 2014



Shavata Singh
Founder of Shavata Brow Studios
Entrepreneurship Event - October 2013



Shashi Gossain
Founder & Managing of Pharmaclinix Ltd
Entrepreneurship Event - October 2013



Hiro Harjani
Chairman of Aftershock
Entrepreneurship Event - October 2013



Gurinder Chadha
OBE Film Director
Think Big - February 2014

Past Speakers



Ahlya Rafique Fateh
Editor Think Big - February 2014



Neev Spencer, Neev Spencer is officially the most listened to British female DJ in the UK.



Kavita Oberoi OBE
Founder of Oberoi Consulting Creating and Seizing Opportunities! 9th October 2014



Rishi Rich Song Writer / Music Producer / Artist Management Think Big - February 2014



Valerie Vaz MP
Elected as the Member of Parliament for Walsall South Creating and Seizing Opportunities! 9th October 2014



Dinesh Dhamija-
Founder Ebookers.com Creating and Seizing Opportunities! 9th October 2014



Vivek Oberoi Bollywood Actor Philanthropy Me and We - July 2014



Baroess Sayeeda Warsi
British Pakistani Lawyer, Politician and Conservative Parliamentarian The World in Which WE Live January 2015



Yalda Hakim
Presenter, Impact – BBC World News and Journalist The World in Which WE Live January 2015



Sunny and Shay
Sunny and Shay are the Stars of Channel 4's The Family which - May 2015



Paul Sagoo is the founder and Director of Lemon Group International Ltd - May 2015



June Sarpong MBE
is a television and radio presenter - May 2015



Lisa Sohanpal (MBA, MSc, BSc) is the Co-founder of Mini nom's - May 2015



John Stapleton is an entrepreneur, business leader - May 2015



Ranvir Singh is the multi-award-winning presenter of Good Morning Britain - March 2015



Henna artist, Pavan is the Guinness World Record Holder - March 2015



Sach Kukadia founded SECRET-SALES.COM - March 2015



The Baroness Flather was born in Lahore & educated at UCL - June 2016



Seema was elected MP for Feltham and Heston - June 2016



Karan Bilimoria is the founder of Cobra Beer - June 2016



women Empowered

The Ismaili Women's Activities Portfolio in partnership with
Women Empowered present:

"Real Life, Real Stories – Be Bold For Change"

Celebrating International Women's Day

Date: Thursday 16th March 2017
Place: Social Hall, The Ismaili Centre, London
Time: 7.45pm Registration and Refreshments
8.30pm Programme starts

Join us for short, engaging talks delivered by a distinct group of inspirational speakers who through adversity, tenacity and sheer determination have been bold to effect change in their lives and the lives of those around them.

Our starting line-up includes the Founders of secretsales.com, Nosh Detox and Fortune Law and the Managing Director of the Financial Services Industry, with more speakers soon to be announced.

As spaces are limited please register at wap@iiuk.org

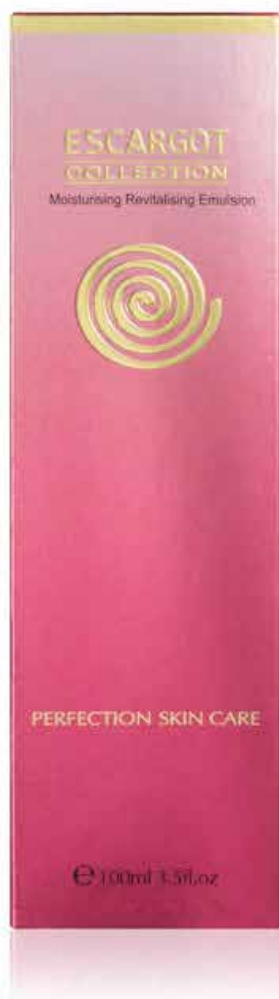
Light refreshments will be served.

Requested contribution: £5 per adult.



 www.facebook.com/escargotcollection

 [@thesnailcompany](https://twitter.com/thesnailcompany)



we Focus

Engage, embrace and enhance the debate



KULVEER SINGH RANGER FRSA

Chairman - WE Focus

As proud WE Champion I am delighted to have been asked to chair WE Focus. Discussion is good but sometimes we avoid the elephants in the room for fear of seeming ignorant, insensitive or just not politically correct. WEfocus aims to provide a forum to air our thoughts on some key questions that we may think we understand but really want to discuss in more depth and find out what WE really think! So I hope many of you will engage, embrace and enhance the debate by getting involved and I look forward to hearing your thoughts..

WE Focus is a discussion group. It's a place to share your thoughts views and opinions and learn others' perspectives. It aims to engage and encourage people into discussion and debate and break down barriers and question perceptions.

Contact us
focus@womenempowered.co.uk



VICEROY'S HOUSE An Evening with Gurinder Chadha, hosted by Women Empowered

Women Empowered (WE) is proud to host a Q/A with BAFTA-nominated Director, Gurinder Chadha at The Nehru Centre on Tuesday March 7th from 6pm, to discuss her latest epic drama, Viceroy's House.

Releasing in UK cinemas on Friday March 3rd, Viceroy's House tells the true story of the final five months of British rule in India and coincides with the 70th anniversary of the Independence of India and the founding of Pakistan. The film stars Hugh Bonneville as Lord Mountbatten, Gillian Anderson as his wife, Lady Mountbatten, Manish Dayal and Huma Qureshi as their staff, and the late Om Puri.

Viceroy's House unfolds with Lord Mountbatten and the regions political elite - Nehru, Jinnah and Gandhi - wrangling over the birth of independent India, until conflict erupted and a decision was taken to divide the country and create Pakistan.

The film examines these events through the prism of a marriage - that of Dickie and Edwina Mountbatten - and a romance - that between a young Hindu servant, Jeet (Dayal), and Lady Mountbatten's assistant Aalia (Qureshi). The young lovers find themselves caught up in the seismic end of Empire, in conflict with the Mountbattens and with their own communities, but never ever giving up hope.

The film is deeply personal to Gurinder, whose own family was caught up on the tragic events that unfolded as the Raj came to an end.

The evening will also feature Dr Rami Ranger CBE talking about his
personal experience with Partition.

This is a free event on a first come first served basis. Seats are limited and to reserve your place please email info@womenempowered.co.uk