

ICT Executive Profile

Bridget Gray: Managing Director, Harvey Nash PLC Asia Pacific



What is your current role and what is your scope?

I am Managing Director of Harvey Nash PLC for the Asia Pac region. Harvey Nash is a global talent business. Our business offers a unique portfolio of services including ICT recruitment, executive search & board leadership services as well as the delivery of technology solutions via our offshore capabilities. I am one of the first female Managing Directors in Harvey Nash and am proud to be a mentor to high-talent females in Harvey Nash to maintain our talent pipeline.

What attracted you to a career in ICT?

I have always found technology and the benefits it can bring to people and life fascinating. Technology breaks down barriers, gives a voice to individuals and enables change and access to opportunity regardless of borders or divisions.

Tell us about the highpoints and lowpoints of your career?

I am so excited to be back home in Australia after 11 years working in talent in London. This is a wonderful opportunity to utilise my global experience to support and promote the local ICT marketplace.

A very constructive time in my career was working in a boutique firm whose beliefs did not line up with my own value system, whilst offering minimal support or development. This experience helped me shape out what I do want from my career and organisations that I work for and demonstrated to me the importance of offering support, inclusion and development to staff.

What does work life balance mean to you?

Work/life Balance means lots of different things to different people at different stages of their life. For me it means making sure I plan my downtime in such a way that allows me to spend as much quality time as I can with my three year old daughter, family and friends. I always look forward to my swimming classes with my daughter on Saturdays where we get to splash around and have a great time. I believe it is the responsibility of leaders to allow the people they work with, to achieve their own work life balance.

What attracted and kept you in the ICT industry throughout your career?

I love the way the ICT industry continually evolves and provides as much opportunity and potential as you allow yourself to imagine. The truly exciting thing about ICT is that you never stop learning. If you embrace ICT, there are always more fascinating concepts to grasp and be inspired by.

What ambitions personal or professional do you still want to achieve?

On a personal front I have many ambitions that I still wish to achieve including writing a book and travelling to the many places I have not had the opportunity to visit as yet. From a professional standpoint, I still have a lot I would like to do around supporting the ICT field to become an even better industry to work within.

What's the one piece of advice you'd give to yourself starting out on your career?

Just go for it! I think that early in our career we sometimes feel we need to achieve a certain level of experience to earn the right to play in high profile opportunities. The truth is the sooner we put ourselves into the learning experience and in a position to contribute, the quicker we develop and evolve. Often we are our own worst enemies, we just need to get out there, back ourselves and give it our best shot.

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