

TRUSTING IN THE ANSWERS

'Life is about love and relationships. Without them, the magnificence of human experience and emotion has no meaning.'

It was my favourite Principal, Sister Maureen, at the then Iona Primary School, who told me whenever I felt lost or uncertain in life, to ask for the answers and trust when the time is right, they would be given to me.

Since 2006, I have been passionate about learning about human behaviour-relationships, dating and personal development and so, in 2012 I established my own Life & Relationship Coaching business. I soon became disillusioned with matchmaking after working with another matchmaker, that I changed course and began working in events.

After then losing my job as an Events and Marketing Manager when COVID-19 hit at the beginning of 2020, I took Sr Maureen's advice, did a lot of asking and tried to figure out what my next move would be.



Not really knowing what to do, I finally made the decision to recommence coaching when I received an out of the blue call from another colleague I had not spoken to for years. He wanted to introduce me to someone!

There is no way to explain it than within minutes of meeting Linda, I just knew we were meant to work together. We connected at a deep level, spoke about our love for helping people to find meaningful and long-lasting connections, and brainstormed what we thought the Perth dating scene needed. It was at this meeting a seed was planted and the next time we met, **HYTCH** was conceived.

Upon reflection, I truly believe Linda and I were brought together as business partners for a real purpose, to create HYTCH, help people forge meaningful, lasting connections and find love.

I remember the famous quote by Napoleon Hill, "every adversity, every failure, every heartache carries with it the seed of an equal or greater benefit." Had I not lost my job, been searching for purpose in my own life,

and failing at initially starting my own matchmaking business, I never would've followed my intuition about working with Linda, nor known in my heart that I had been given another opportunity to have the courage to try again.

Of course, launching a business never goes off without a HYTCH! We have faced a number of challenges, such as going into lockdown on the week of launch, and for our first big 270 people event, our co-host suffered a stroke and was hospitalised. Luckily, I had all my events experience to fall back on!

The most important thing I have learnt along the way is to trust in my 'why' and know whatever challenges I am given, if I stay true to my purpose and remain authentic, then I will be given whatever I need to get through the challenges - learn and eventually, grow.

In setting out to achieve my goals, I always start with my vision for HYTCH which is to be Perth's premier exclusive matchmaking agency and give people more opportunities to meet like-minded people in friendly, relaxed settings.

Looking back to my time at Iona, I have always known the strength that comes from having an open heart and the reward that comes from serving people. I also believe that what Sister Maureen told me all those years ago has shaped me into the driven, courageous person I am today.

Amanda Harrigan
(Class of 1994)
www.hytch.com.au

