

Winners' stories

Quarter Three, 2026

All stories have been summarised
– if you would like to read your full,
original nomination, please contact
your nominator.

Be A Star helps you to recognise and thank your colleagues for all their great work and contribution to Compass UK & Ireland.

Over the following pages you can now read all our Q3 winners' stories – celebrating and shining a light on our extraordinary people!

**Recognising
the remarkable**

Central Functions





Christian Owens

Sales

When Compass pursued its first airport retail location, Christian helped create a standout bid that captured the client's vision from the very first presentation. His creative designs impressed so much that one was transformed into a permanent in-store mural, helping secure the opportunity.

“He absolutely nailed it – well done, Christian.” - Nominator Kate Putnam

Jacques Braddick

Sales

Since stepping into a team leadership role, Jacques has helped transform a complex CRM programme, improving data quality and giving colleagues the tools to work more effectively. His calm, supportive approach has built confidence across the team and created strong foundations for success.

“Colleagues feel supported, listened to and valued.” – Nominator Pippa Drakeford

Daniel Pitman

Human Resources

Dan played a key role in bringing a new testing platform to life, providing expert guidance through a complex rollout. Always approachable and solutions-focused, he helped overcome challenges, protected the candidate experience and became a trusted sounding board during a critical project.

“Dan's time and knowledge were invaluable in helping me overcome challenges in the best way possible.” – Nominator Jess Knight

Lee Watkins

D&T

Following a major system deployment, Lee became a key problem-solver during the critical support period. He worked through challenges with patience and professionalism, keeping stakeholders informed and helping ensure a smooth transition while maintaining stability behind the scenes.

“His work has not gone unnoticed and is very much appreciated.” – Nominator Kerry Crompton-Harris

Leon Jones D&T

During the largest mobilisation of the year, Leon became the driving force behind getting six locations up and running. From tills and Wi-Fi to security and systems readiness, he kept everything moving, solving problems calmly and helping deliver a seamless day-one launch.

 **Leon has carried the D&T mobilisation at scale, under pressure, with zero fuss.” - Nominator Lee Stone**

Louisa Noble Foodbuy Group

For two years running, Louisa has single-handedly organised a major regional trade show, bringing together suppliers, brand partners and customers for a standout industry event. Her organisation, determination and ability to build strong relationships have earned widespread respect.

 **Louisa coordinated multiple suppliers and brand owners to come together in support of the region.” – Nominator Anna Matthews**

Meltem Pacal Foodbuy Group

Just six months into a new role, Meltem suddenly found herself leading the company's hot drinks programme alone. She quickly rose to the challenge, managing supplier negotiations, pricing decisions and major projects, all while remaining approachable, positive and trusted by colleagues.

 **She has had to learn so much in such a short period of time and has successfully managed the entire category on her own.” – Nominator Ann Watts**

Nathan McNulty Eurest, Dine and 14forty – Central

Nathan has a talent for turning complex numbers into clear actions that help the business perform better. Through his insight, fresh thinking and willingness to challenge constructively, he has become a trusted partner who helps colleagues make confident, informed decisions.

 **His ability to translate complex financial data into meaningful, actionable information has been invaluable.” – Nominator Paul-James Brown**

Suzanne Berry Sales

While leading a major £40m bid, Sue became the person everyone could rely on. She kept a complex project moving through resource challenges and tight deadlines, while providing unwavering support, practical solutions and reassurance that helped the team succeed.

 **She managed my time, energy and focus with tact, support and humour.” – Nominator James Bunt**

Zoe Hammett HSEQ

During one of the UK's largest sporting events, Zoe responded immediately when a colleague suffered a severe allergic reaction. Racing across a busy site with emergency equipment, she helped manage the situation and support those affected until medical assistance arrived.

 **A true star and a living example of a fantastic colleague.” – Nominator Migle Tuslaite**

CH&CO



Calin Lazea

CPU

Calin is the person who keeps the operation moving. From managing deliveries, drivers and last-minute challenges to navigating major business changes, he does it all with quiet determination. His commitment, resilience and reliability have never wavered.

“He is not only an exceptional employee, but an exceptional human being.” – Nominator Carly Mitchell

Chloe Flude

Gather & Gather

Chloe's journey has been remarkable. After starting with the team at just 16, she has worked her way into a leadership role - developing new colleagues, managing her own team and leading from the front. Her growth, determination and influence continue to inspire others.

“She is an inspiration to her team with her leadership style, helping them progress their own career along with her own.” – Nominator Joshua Taylor

Daniela Micu

Gather & Gather

Daniela brings energy, professionalism and flexibility wherever she's needed. Travelling long distances to support different teams, she settles in instantly, helps train new colleagues and becomes a favourite with customers. Her ability to step into any role makes her an invaluable support.

“It's clear to see the impact Daniela makes to our business, our clients and, more importantly, our customers.” – Nominator Marc Novelle

Georgia Thompson

Vacherin

Georgia has transformed the client experience through her creativity, energy and commitment to service. From supporting colleagues through a major systems change to delivering memorable events, including an interactive Earth Day activation, she consistently finds ways to engage, inspire and delight.

“Georgia remains a consistently positive and vital member of the team.” – Nominator Emma Shutler

Isabel Neve

CH&Co Leisure

When a major workforce team relaunch needed delivering at pace, Isabel became a driving force behind its success. Balancing day-to-day operations with complex project work, she helped transform the service, contributing to a turnaround that saw the department consistently cover its costs.

“Isabel's tenacity and positivity shone through.” – Nominator Steve Woodman

Joanne Gibson

Gather & Gather

When a key team member left, Joanne stepped up without hesitation. Alongside her usual responsibilities, she took on extra tasks, helping maintain high standards, successful audits and smooth day-to-day running while providing invaluable support to the wider team.

“I wouldn't have got through the past couple of months without her going the extra mile on a daily basis.” – Nominator Nathan Knight

Kamil Ornal Vacherin

Kamil has helped transform performance while creating a workplace where people feel supported and valued. His calm leadership, positive attitude and unwavering support for colleagues have driven an impressive rise in customer feedback, exceeding client expectations and inspiring the team around him.

“His leadership, dedication and commitment have driven an incredible improvement.” – Nominator Maja Duzowska

Marcus Rowles Gather & Gather

Marcus has transformed the workplace dining experience through creativity and genuine care for customers. From launching a popular Friday Lunch Club to creating bespoke meals for people with dietary requirements, he makes everyone feel included, valued and excited to visit.

“The care and lengths Marcus goes to is truly astounding.” – Nominator Rachel Buckley

Michal Kaminski CH&Co Leisure

Michal has a rare talent for turning events into memorable experiences. Known for remembering clients by name and making everyone feel valued, he builds lasting relationships while supporting colleagues, creating the kind of welcoming atmosphere that keeps people coming back.

“He knows many clients by name and remembers their preferences, making everyone feel welcome and valued.” – Nominator Victoria Vronska

Miki Matsuda Gather & Gather Ireland

Miki is the person who helps everyone feel welcome, supported and set up for success. From guiding new starters to managing critical behind-the-scenes processes, she keeps the team running smoothly while creating a positive environment where colleagues can grow with confidence.

“Miki demonstrates the true meaning of teamwork and always puts the wellbeing and success of colleagues first.” – Nominator Paulina Wieteska

Raimonds Jaudzems Gather & Gather Ireland

Ray has spent years setting the standard through consistency, professionalism and kindness. No matter how busy or challenging the day, he remains calm, patient and supportive, treating everyone with respect and fairness. His example inspires colleagues and strengthens the whole team.

“You can always expect to be treated with kindness and patience from Ray.” – Nominator Isabel Arribas

Vongpradith Senathit Vacherin

Vong takes real pride in every drink he serves, earning such a strong reputation that customers are happy to wait for his coffee. His calm attitude, reliability and willingness to support colleagues make him a trusted teammate and an important part of daily operations.

“No matter which station he is assigned to, he brings the same level of commitment, professionalism and positive energy.” – Nominator Thalita De Paula

Education



Danielle Lazar-Ebb

State Schools

When Danielle took over a struggling group of schools, she focused on rebuilding confidence, pride and standards. In less than 18 months, she transformed team morale and performance, achieving outstanding quality scores while helping colleagues feel part of something bigger.



Her tenacity and self-motivation have driven superb results .” – Nominator Rob Scharf

Ian Wright

Independents

During the move to a new site, Ian became a steady source of support for the whole team. He quickly mastered new systems, helped colleagues adapt with confidence and tackled every challenge calmly, playing a key role in making the transition a success.



He approached every challenge with calm efficiency, quickly mastering processes and helping others do the same.” - Nominator Helen Allan

Jane Lyddiatt

Pabulum

As Jane heads into retirement after nearly 17 years at the school, she leaves behind countless memories and a huge impact on those around her. A trusted colleague through years of change, she has supported teammates, cared for pupils and helped the kitchen thrive.



Jane is so caring to us and the children, always delivering great service – she really helped me grow in my work.” – Nominator Georgina Rose

Jason Pollard

Independents

For more than 18 years, Jason has been a trusted part of school life, building strong relationships across the boarding houses he supports. Always willing to help, even on days off, he recently helped deliver a student event described as the best ever.



The girls described the event as the finest they have ever attended.” – Nominator David Ellams

Katie Morley

Independents

Katie has helped transform lunchtime for a child with complex allergies, ensuring he feels safe, included and able to enjoy the same experiences as his friends. Through thoughtful menu adaptations and genuine care, she has given a family invaluable peace of mind.



Katie has given this family confidence, reassurance and peace of mind.” - Nominator Joanna Walsh

Kelly Bennett

Universities & Colleges

Kelly took a bold step from Hospitality Supervisor into a chef apprenticeship and is already making her mark. Combining a flair for presentation with newly developed culinary skills, she has earned exceptional customer feedback, repeat business and praise for creating memorable dining experiences.



The food was beautifully presented, lovely and fresh and of excellent quality.” – Nominator Lisa Scattergood

Lauren Marshall CH&CO Education

When a gas leak left the kitchen without gas for a week, Lauren refused to let 900 pupils go without meals. She quickly found practical solutions, kept service running and avoided the need for external catering, earning fantastic feedback from the client.

“Thanks to her initiative and determination, we were able to keep everything running.”
– Nominator Alisha Wilkinson

Matthew Cruse Universities & Colleges

Two years ago, Matt was working on the counter. Since then, he's achieved a distinction in his chef apprenticeship, reached the final of a national apprentice competition and helped deliver high-profile hospitality for VIP guests. His ambition and willingness to learn have been remarkable.

“He put himself forward, stepped outside his comfort zone and placed 3rd in the final.” – Nominator Michael King



Lorraine Hughes State Schools

When a vulnerable child was mistakenly dropped at school on an inset day, Lorraine acted immediately to keep them safe. She provided reassurance, maintained contact with school leaders and personally helped ensure the child was safely reunited with their family.

“I believe Lorraine showed excellent safeguarding knowledge as well as kindness towards the child.” – Nominator Mark Bailey

Robert Hunter Independents

Rob continues to be a steady source of support for his team, sharing his expertise, mentoring colleagues and helping maintain high standards. His determination, positive attitude and commitment to others have inspired those around him and made a lasting impact across the operation.

“He is more than a Head Chef, he is a role model and his presence alone lifts team morale.” – Nominator Saima Shah



Q3 winner
Lorraine Hughes from
State Schools, nominated
by Mark Bailey

Roquiato Sa Embalo Jalo Independents

Roqui has transformed the experience for people with allergies, creating a lunch service where they feel safe, included and understood. By remembering individual needs and always finding solutions, she turns what can be a daily worry into a positive experience.

“Roqui is completely to thank for me feeling safe and comfortable while eating at lunch and events.” – Nominator Guy Kaye

Tracey Titterton State Schools

Tracey's journey from primary school cook to high school manager has been remarkable. Embracing a completely new challenge, she transformed her site with fresh ideas while becoming a trusted support across the wider area, earning a reputation for reliability, determination and passion.

“I would not have got through the last year without her help and determination.” – Nominator Clair Whelan

Zoe Mepham State Schools

Zoe is the person colleagues turn to when they need support. While navigating personal challenges with remarkable resilience, she has continued to provide exceptional support across the contract, always putting others first and helping the team succeed behind the scenes.

“I genuinely could not do my job running the contract without her support.” – Nominator Jayne Willcocks

ESS



Ben Blundell

EGI

Ben's impact stretches far beyond the kitchen. Alongside supporting colleagues and customers with positivity and resilience, he volunteers his time helping a local hospice raise funds through the safe reuse of donated items, benefiting both the community and the environment.

 **His positivity, resilience and selflessness are genuinely inspiring.” – Nominator Warren Clark**

Gabriele Bate

DMA

When staff transport became unreliable and costly, Gabriele took ownership of finding a better solution. She personally reviewed every pickup route, helping create a more efficient service that improved reliability for colleagues while saving the business thousands of pounds each month.

 **Gaby took full ownership of the situation and proactively led a complete review of the service.” – Nominator Jamie Skeates**

Gemma Hyde-Follmer

DMA

After seeing the impact mental health challenges were having on colleagues, Gemma took the initiative to become a Mental Health Champion. From supporting grieving team members to providing reassurance during emergencies, she's become someone people trust when they need help most.

 **Gemma makes a genuine and lasting difference to the wellbeing of those around her.” – Nominator Jack Ridge**

Jessica Barrett

DMA

Jess turned a training session into something genuinely memorable. By creating engaging content and sharing practical support available across Compass, she helped supervisors build confidence, strengthen their skills and feel more connected to the networks and wider business.

 **Her passion and authenticity shone through, making a lasting impact on everyone in the room.” – Nominator Aleksandra Tatłowska**

Jill Lawrence

EGI

Through their own time and dedication, Jill supports a local charity collection that helps people in need within the community. Her willingness to give back, support others and make a positive difference reflects a truly selfless commitment to helping those around her.

 **Her selflessness and commitment to supporting others shouldn't go unnoticed.” – Nominator Holly Young-Ferguson**

Lewis Graham

DMA

Lewis recently tackled the demanding task of deep-cleaning and reorganising the main chiller, transforming it into a spotless, efficient workspace. His determination, attention to detail and pride in doing the job properly have improved standards and earned praise from his colleagues.

 **His attention to detail and desire to do things properly make him a real asset to the department.” – Nominator Kevin Elliott**



Ross Middleton

EGI

Ross gives up his free time to coach young footballers in his local community, helping them build confidence, resilience and teamwork. Drawing on his own coaching experience, he creates a positive environment where young people can develop both on and off the pitch.



Ross's drive and passion doesn't go unnoticed." – Nominator Holly Young Ferguson

Stacey Fisher

DMA

During a major RAF exercise simulating threats to national security, Stacey spotted suspicious activity on her way to work and reported it immediately. Her quick thinking helped stop a planned sabotage scenario before it could begin, supporting the safety and security of the site.



Stacey's observations allowed a successful defence against a potential site intruder." – Nominator Kristy Flower

Siobhan Challingsworth

DMA

Siobhan has transformed her store through fresh ideas, strong leadership and a real understanding of what customers want. From driving impressive sales growth to creating an outstanding shopping experience and supporting new managers, she continues to raise the bar.



Siobhan's decision to begin a GM career pathway is a further reflection of her ambition, potential and determination." – Nominator Sarah Edwards

Victoria Martin

DMA

Victoria's impact reaches far beyond her day job. Through strong leadership, community projects and volunteering as a first responder, she has improved life for colleagues, service personnel and local families, while creating a culture where people feel supported and inspired.



Victoria has made a lasting and positive impact on the wider community." - Nominator Emma Boon

Eurest, Dine and 14forty



Claire Harriman Dine

When Claire took over as Unit Manager, the contract was on shaky ground. Within a year, she'd helped turn it around completely, with customer numbers soaring, sales up by 40% and new services launched successfully. Her energy, food offer and client relationships have transformed the business.

 **Without Claire, I genuinely believe we would have lost this account.” – Nominator Lee Hardman**

Colin Manson Eurest

When staff shortages put extra pressure on the kitchen, Colin rolled up his sleeves and led from the front. While managing shifts and supporting colleagues, he kept service running smoothly and standards high. His calm leadership gave the team confidence when they needed it most.

 **I'm proud to be part of a team led by someone who truly cares about both results and people.” – Nominator Andrea Marin Silva**

Jaffer Mohamed 14forty

When a security issue needed urgent support, Jaffer answered the call without hesitation. Asked at short notice to travel and stay overnight, he stepped in to help stabilise the operation and maintain service standards. His swift action delivered reassurance for colleagues and excellent results for the client.

 **Without hesitation, he responded to the request and made himself available during a critical period.” – Nominator Walter Montano**

Katie Lyon Eurest

Katie is the kind of manager who never asks others to do something she wouldn't do herself. While completing a development programme, she still finds time to support customers, work in the kitchen, cover night shifts and help colleagues at every level. Her dedication is impossible to miss.

 **Katie doesn't just see herself as a manager, she gets the jobs done.” – Nominator Connor Keightley**

Kranthi Kanderi Eurest

When the kitchen moved to a completely new setup, Kranthi was the driving force behind making it work. He helped organise equipment, storage and workflows, while training new colleagues and introducing smarter systems that helped the whole operation run smoothly from day one.

 **Kranthi has been a pillar of strength throughout our move and mobilisation.” – Nominator Natasha Harris**

Leigh Elliott Dine

Leigh achieved something most teams only aim for - an environmental health officer praised his operation as an example of best practice for others to learn from. In the same week, he created a great experience for work placement students, helping them build confidence.

 **Leigh and his team welcomed the students and made them feel part of the team.” – Nominator Claire Jordan**

Luke Kennedy Eurest

When a leadership gap needed covering, Luke stepped up and made an immediate impact. Alongside leading a complex portfolio, he oversaw a major refurbishment and completed a leadership programme, all while earning exceptional feedback from clients.

“**Luke has truly made the role his own and delivered far beyond expectations.” – Nominator Tom Bonner**

Marta Strbak Eurest

Marta turned a passion for baking into something special, achieving a distinction in her pastry qualification and earning such a strong reputation that the cake range was renamed after her. From creating memorable VIP celebration cakes to continually raising standards, her talent leaves a lasting impression.

“**The birthday cake for my client was incredible – it absolutely made his day.” – Nominator Peter Heatley**



Mark Dyer 14forty

When a serious issue affected a tenant area, Mark became the trusted go-to person. He worked late into the night and at weekends, keeping all parties updated with clear progress reports. His practical problem-solving helped drive the investigation and build confidence throughout.

“**Mark has been superb and has become the go-to person for help in resolving the issues.” – Nominator Lilian Destefani**

Rob Read 14forty

Most people never have to prepare for a royal visit, but Rob did. Entrusted with coordinating weeks of planning, security requirements and last-minute preparations, he led with professionalism and discretion. Thanks to his meticulous organisation, the visit was a huge success from start to finish.

“**His leadership and attention to detail played a significant role in making this visit such a success.” – Nominator Anne Roberts**

Healthcare & Retail



Aliz Szoke Medirest

When a colleague suffered a medical emergency while she was the only manager on site, Aliz stepped up immediately. She coordinated support, contacted family members and stayed by their side throughout, providing comfort and reassurance during an incredibly frightening experience.

 **It was Aliz's presence, kindness and calm support that made a lasting difference." – Nominator Alexandra Goss**

Annabel Cowan Medirest

While leading two major menu launches, Annabel became the driving force behind a complex rollout affecting thousands of meal choices. She solved system challenges, redesigned menus for specialist needs and kept everything on track, all while continuing her day-to-day dietitian responsibilities.

 **She remained tenacious and unflustered under pressure." – Nominator Kirstie Morin**

Anthony Hackett White Oaks

Anthony understands that food can be about far more than a meal. By listening carefully to patients and adapting dishes to their preferences, he helps create comfort, dignity and reassurance, making the hospice feel less clinical and more like home.

 **The food made it feel a lot less medical and ensured it felt different to hospital." – Nominator Beata Wojciki**

Egle Cironkaite-Disch Medirest

Egle's impact isn't defined by one moment but by the people she inspires every day. From supporting colleagues through difficult times to championing charities and helping team members grow, she creates a workplace where people feel valued, supported and motivated to succeed.

 **Our manager radiates a pure love and passion for her role, and the company she represents." – Nominator Natalie Plane**

Fiona Flaherty Central

Fiona supports multiple teams and contracts, yet always makes people feel like her priority. Known for her approachable nature and trusted advice, she helps colleagues navigate challenges with confidence while creating a culture where people feel supported, valued and heard.

 **The positive influence she has on our people and culture makes her an incredibly deserving winner." – Nominator Shannon Gipson**

Frank Hamilton Medirest

Frank has become an essential part of the wards he supports, bringing kindness, reassurance and a smile when patients need it most. His caring approach helps people feel comfortable and valued, while his dedication makes a lasting difference to colleagues and patients alike.

 **We cannot operate as well as we do without Frank." – Nominator Beverley Smith**

Hocine Dif Medirest

When a man suffered a cardiac arrest outside the hospital, Hocine sprang into action. With no emergency department on site, he immediately started CPR and helped revive the patient before the crash team arrived. His quick thinking and calm response helped save a life.

 **His actions were heroic and life-saving.” – Nominator Luke Redhead**

Jack Higgins Central

During a year of major growth and change, Jack was a driving force behind the finance team's success. Alongside improving commercial performance, he stepped up to lead critical reporting and reviews, providing clear insights that helped senior leaders make important decisions.

 **Jack has become a trusted advisor and has driven performance improvement throughout his time in these roles.” – Nominator Andrew Jones**

Janet Shuttleworth Medirest

When a distressed mother arrived in crisis carrying her baby, Janet responded immediately. While ensuring the baby was safe, she calmly built trust with the mother, helping prevent the situation from escalating and ensuring both received the care they needed.

 **By showing compassion, empathy and professionalism, Janet was able to stop a distressing situation escalating.” – Nominator Beverley Smith**

Janis Craggs Healthcare Retail

Janis has turned fundraising into a team effort, inspiring colleagues across multiple units to support dementia charities. From handmade raffle prizes to organising a charity skydive, her creativity and dedication have helped raise thousands of pounds for a cause close to her heart.

 **She does this with a humble attitude and asks for nothing back.” – Nominator Melissa Macleod**

Keiran Thomas Medirest

When three managers left in quick succession, Keiran stepped up time and again to keep the portering department on track. Taking on increasing responsibility, he worked weekends, nights and extra shifts while improving performance and providing steady leadership during a challenging period.

 **He consistently showed true leadership, professionalism and commitment to the team.” – Nominator Jolita Moonsam**

Manoj Sunwar Medirest

When a man suffered a cardiac arrest outside the hospital, Manoj responded without hesitation. Working alongside a colleague, he helped keep lifesaving CPR efforts going until the patient began breathing again, bringing calm, focus and teamwork to a critical situation.

 **He brought control to chaos and gave that patient a second chance at life.” – Nominator Luke Redhead**

Maria Costa

Medirest

Maria helps families facing some of the toughest moments of their lives feel supported and cared for. Through her compassion and personal touch, she turns temporary accommodation into a place of comfort, even organising festive surprises to bring joy during difficult times.



Maria truly understands that emotional well-being and holistic care are deeply linked to a patient's recovery journey.” – Nominator Janiina Eklund

Matt Brooks

Medirest

Matt played a key role in bringing a major new diagnostic centre to life. Working closely with partners and leading his team throughout the project, he helped ensure everything was ready for opening day, creating a lasting benefit for thousands of future patients.



The legacy of the work Matt has done will last for decades and will benefit many thousands of patients.” – Nominator Nicola Lamont

Megan Mullin

Instore

Megan has a gift for making people feel valued. Whether welcoming new starters, covering shifts at short notice or supporting customers beyond the workplace, her kindness leaves a lasting impression. For many customers, seeing Megan is just as important as their visit.



She really is a ray of sunshine and brightens up everyone's day.” – Nominator Mhairi Hopkin

Nicola Perugini

Medirest

For 28 years, Nico has been the reassuring presence at the heart of a busy emergency department. He combines compassion with unwavering dedication, helping people through some of their most difficult and vulnerable moments.



When Nico is around, everything feels easier and patients will be in safe hands.” – Nominator Shannon Gipson

Victoria Jenkins

Medirest

When staffing gaps and operational pressures hit multiple sites at once, Vicky stepped up to keep everything running. Supporting colleagues, maintaining standards and taking on additional responsibilities, she provided leadership and stability when it mattered most.



Knowing that Vicky was overseeing the area during my absence gave me complete peace of mind.” – Nominator Chelsea Gray

Ireland



Abosede Soyoye

Business & Industry Southern Ireland

Abosede has become the trusted face of executive hospitality. From high-profile events to operational administration, she embraces every challenge with confidence, earning recognition from clients and becoming someone colleagues can always rely on.

“Clients frequently ask for her by name, remembering the high quality of service she provides.” – Nominator Ion Pituscan

Eduardo Guarchaj

Business & Industry Southern Ireland

After moving alone from a remote part of Guatemala, Eduardo has become an indispensable member of the team. While adapting to a new country and language, he earned colleagues' respect and tackled every challenge with a smile.

“It's rare to encounter someone who so consistently exceeds expectations.” – Nominator Emma Nicholl

Fjantola Bedalli

Business & Industry Southern Ireland

Fjanola brings positivity to every shift. Known for her warm welcome, can-do attitude and fantastic customer service, she is always ready to help and to embrace new challenges. Her delicious salads leave customers coming back for more.

“She never ever says no and is always open to new challenges.” – Nominator Kamil Peplinski

Halailia Azevedo Gregory

Business & Industry Southern Ireland

Over the past two years, Lyla has grown from a packer into someone every team depends on. Always ready to help, learn and step in where needed, she has become a trusted colleague whose support, reliability and positivity make a real difference every day.

“She very quickly became a pivotal point of contact for every department.” – Nominator Peter O'Brien Gleeson

Hugo da Silva Lopes

Business & Industry Southern Ireland

Hugo is known for always being there when people need support. Through hard work, dedication and a genuine care for those around him, he helps create a positive team environment where colleagues feel valued, respected and motivated to do their best.

“He consistently shows commitment to his work and is positive and respectful in all situations.” - Nominator Gabriella Cristina Borges Melo

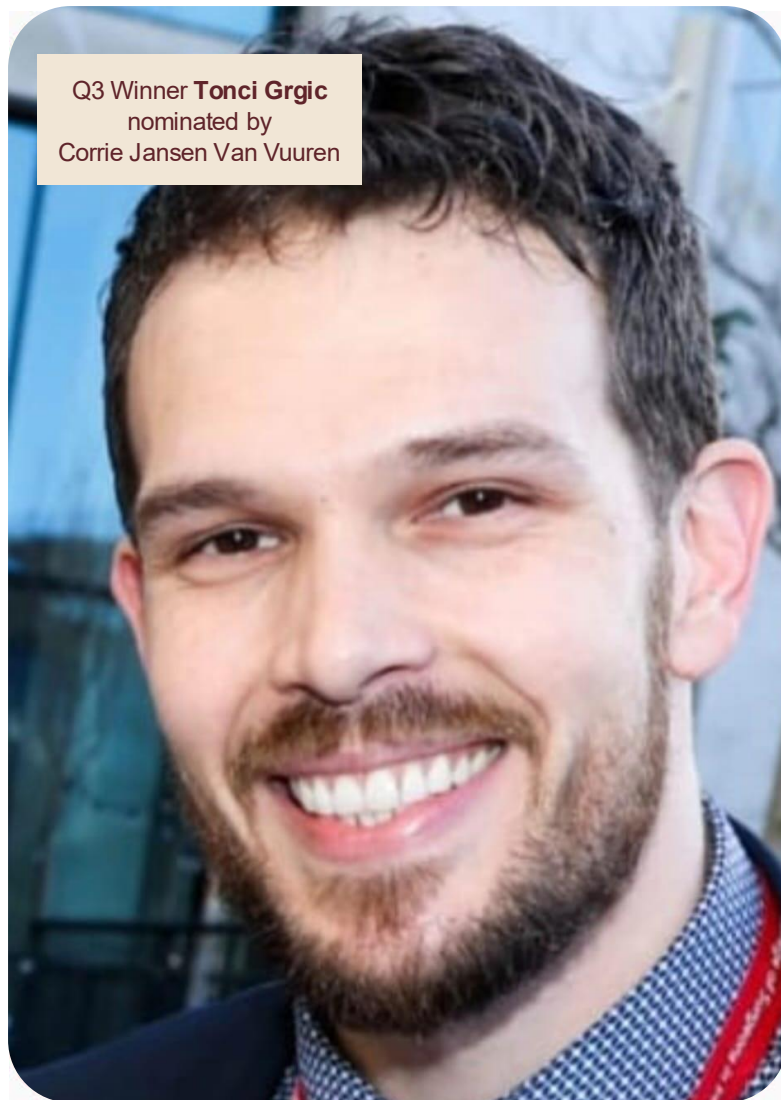
Isabel Sánchez

Business & Industry Southern Ireland

Isabel is the kind of colleague who always seems one step ahead. Her organisation, reliability and willingness to help keep things running smoothly, while her positive attitude creates a supportive team environment that colleagues notice and value every day.

“She is always one step ahead and ensuring everything runs smoothly.” – Nominator Elaine Nepomuceno Do Amaral

Q3 Winner **Tonci Grgic**
nominated by
Corrie Jansen Van Vuuren



Oscar Mora **Business & Industry Southern Ireland**

No matter the challenge, Oscar stays focused on finding a way forward. His determination, strong work ethic and commitment to doing his best every day inspire those around him and show that obstacles are there to be overcome.

“No obstacle gets in the way of his goals.”
– Nominator Armando Calero

Sinead Maye **Business & Industry Southern Ireland**

For 33 years, Sinead has been the team's go-to expert. When staffing shortages left her supporting 10 buildings single-handedly, she kept everything running smoothly. Her knowledge, attention to detail and positive energy make her someone colleagues rely on every day.

“Anything we don't know how to handle, she does.” – Nominator Thais Modolo

Osvaldo Prade Junior **Business & Industry Southern Ireland**

Osvaldo is the teammate everyone can count on. Whether helping customers, supporting colleagues or learning new skills in different departments, he approaches every task with enthusiasm and a smile. His flexibility, positivity and willingness to help make him a valued member of the team.

“No job is ever too big or too small for him.” – Nominator Craig Bester

Tonci Grgic **Business & Industry Southern Ireland**

Just seven months into a demanding hospitality leadership role, Tony had already transformed the guest experience. From introducing cocktail service and food pairing menus to raising service standards and training, his ideas have turned events into experiences and earned praise from clients alike.

“Tony has successfully transformed events from simple meals into memorable experiences for our guests.” – Nominator Corrie Jansen Van Vuuren

Levy





Q3 winner **Amy Rints** from
Jockey Club Catering

Amy Rints Jockey Club Catering

Amy is the person colleagues naturally turn to for help, guidance and reassurance. From supporting and training new team members to taking ownership of major event administration, Amy has grown into a trusted expert who helps others succeed.

“Amy is a confident, proactive and highly respected member of the team who consistently exceeds expectations.” – Nominator Lucy Edginton

Diego Castro Soto Midlands & South

When the largest event ever delivered arrived, Diego was at the heart of making it happen. From coordinating setup and stock to supporting traders and colleagues, he kept everything running smoothly while providing calm reassurance in a high-pressure environment.

“Diego is one of the most caring, conscientious and selfless colleagues I have worked with.” – Nominator Jack Stodel

Crystal Daly Midlands & South

Crystal brought colleagues together through a cultural diversity initiative that celebrated different backgrounds and encouraged meaningful conversations. Her journey to become a confident leader inspired others and showed the impact of stepping outside your comfort zone.

“She has set a powerful example by showing what can be achieved with determination and belief.” – Nominator Dragos Ionita

Hayley Goddard Midlands & South

When colleagues face difficult people challenges, Hayley is the trusted voice they turn to. Her support was especially important during a complex TUPE process, providing clear guidance and reassurance throughout, while helping colleagues feel supported, understood and confident.

“I could not have navigated it without her guidance, reassurance and expertise.” – Nominator Andrew Thomas

Karina Kanepe **Midlands & South**

Karina thrives in one of the busiest hospitality environments. While managing packed services and tight turnaround times, she stays calm, supports every department and never hesitates to get stuck in. Her steady leadership helps the team stay confident and deliver a great experience.

 **She never asks anyone to do something she would not do herself.”**
– Nominator Laura Joita

Kate Green **Constellation**

When the opportunity arose to lead a fine dining restaurant, Kate grabbed it. She strengthened teamwork, improved staff retention and raised guest satisfaction, helping deliver exceptional feedback and three consecutive mystery shopper scores above 90%.

 **Kate set about developing not just service skills, but a real teamwork mentality.”**
– Nominator Kevin Berry

Michelle Okoro **Wales, North & Scotland**

During a major mobilisation, Michelle became a driving force behind a smooth transition. Through her hard work, positivity and hands-on support, she helped colleagues settle into the new operation with confidence, making a complex change feel far easier for everyone involved.

 **Her willingness to support the team at every stage has played a huge part in making the transition such a success.”**
– Nominator Melanie Forrest

Renata Miric **Venue Collection**

A guest was deeply moved when Renata paused her busy shift to care for an injured bird that had flown into a window. Her simple act of kindness became one of the most memorable parts of the guest's stay and a powerful example of genuine hospitality.

 **Renata's actions became one of the most memorable parts of their stay.”**
– Nominator Dejan Miric

Terrence Wilson **Wales, North & Scotland**

During a major transition, Terry became the steady hand colleagues relied on. He improved delivery processes, strengthened safety procedures and helped teams adapt to new systems with confidence, keeping operations running smoothly while supporting others.

 **He became a go-to person for guidance, helping the team build confidence along the way.”** – Nominator Thomas Baillie

Warren O'Connor **Jockey Club Catering**

Warren put local suppliers centre stage at one of the UK's biggest sporting events, creating a restaurant where every ingredient came from within 60 miles. His passion for championing local produce earned attention far beyond the racecourse, including national television coverage.

 **We can now proudly state that we have our own TV star!.”** – Nominator Migle Tuslaite

RA Group





Charlotte Houston RA Venues

Charlotte is the quiet force behind the bakery, producing outstanding products with skill, organisation and care. While often working behind the scenes, she has supported multiple kitchen leaders, grown as a manager and become an integral part of the team's success.

“Charlotte is an integral part of the kitchen and most definitely needs to have her dedication recognised.” – Nominator John Hodges

Donna White RA Venues

Donna is the steady hand that keeps the operation running day after day. Warm, approachable and always ready to help, she balances the needs of the business with genuine support for colleagues, creating an environment where people feel welcomed and succeed.

“Warm and welcoming, nothing is too much trouble for Donna.” – Nominator Michael Piper

Cristian Maldonado Rapport

Although new to the team, Cristian made a charity event unforgettable. He volunteered his time, encouraged guests to attend, donated personally and brought incredible energy to the evening. His warm welcome helped turn a fundraiser into a memorable experience for everyone.

“He didn't just attend the event, he became the heartbeat of it.” – Nominator Manuela Teixeira

Elena Gutierrez Rapport

When a guest suffered an epileptic seizure during an event, Elena sprang into action. Staying remarkably calm, she called emergency services, followed first aid guidance and cared for the guest until help arrived, providing reassurance when those around her needed it most.

“Thank you Elena, for being a true hero and an inspiration to us all.” – Nominator Vishal Dwivedi

Francesca Viotto

Rapport

When staffing shortages created a challenge, Francesca stepped in wherever needed. From reception and client services to the Helpdesk, she kept everything running smoothly, adapting her shifts and supporting multiple teams while maintaining exceptionally high standards.

“It's during the busiest and most challenging times that you truly see who is willing to step up, and Francesca always does.” – Nominator Ana Maria Pirvu

Kevin Tipchu

Rapport

Less than six months after joining, Kevin became the person clients and colleagues asked for by name. When a staffing crisis threatened service over Christmas, he flew to another city to provide cover, helping the team deliver a seamless experience during a critical period.

“Kevin has become a household name within our building, an extraordinary feat for the newest member of the team.” – Nominator Chris Moran

Manuela Teixeira

Rapport

In January, Manuela took on an incredible personal challenge, running 100 miles to raise money for an epilepsy charity. Living with epilepsy herself, she pushed through long shifts, dark evenings and difficult days, inspiring colleagues and raising over £400 for the cause.

“She didn't run for a cause she read about. She ran for a cause that is part of her own life, every single day.” – Nominator Cristian Maldonado

Melek Orhan

Rapport

When a pregnant visitor collapsed in reception, Melek acted immediately. She stayed by her side, called an ambulance, kept her calm and comfortable, and coordinated support. Her quick thinking and compassionate care provided reassurance during a frightening situation.

“Melek didn't leave her side at any point, making sure she felt supported and not alone.” - Nominator Patrycja Blaszczyk

Noemi Milanesio

Rapport

When a colleague needed urgent first aid support, Noemi quietly stepped in and thought of everything. From creating a calmer environment and providing comfort items to reassuring the individual throughout, her kindness and attention helped them feel safe and cared for.

“Noemi responded with calmness, showing nothing but kindness and patience.” – Nominator Leanne Baker

Oliver Taylor

Restaurant Associates

Oliver is the teammate who always puts his hand up to help, whether that means covering shifts, working through the night or supporting race weekends. His energy, passion and commitment to developing his skills make him a valued part of the team.

“His commitment to the team and business is exemplary - very well done and thank you Ollie!” - Nominator Ben Tynan

Got any questions?

Check out:

compassbeastar.com

or drop us an email, we'd love to hear from you:

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A massive
thank
you