

Tammy's tops in the business world

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NADINE WILLIAMS
October 13, 2007 12:00am

A WOMAN who grew up in Morphett Vale and left school not knowing what she wanted to do with her life has been crowned South Australia's top businesswoman.

Tammy May, 29, director and owner of debt management specialists T/A MyBudget, scooped the pool at the 2007 Telstra Business Women's Awards held at the Stamford Grand Hotel yesterday.

Ms May, a mother of two young children and two step-sons, started her business in 2000 at age 22 and now employs 30 staff who service more than 2000 clients.

She won the Yellow Business Owner Award and the Australian Government Business Innovation Award before her name was announced as the Telstra 2007 South Australian Business Woman of the Year.

"I am so proud and overwhelmed," said Ms May, who acknowledged her "team" - husband Eddy and children James, 12, and Lucas, 10 (stepsons), and Maddison, 4 and Seth, 3.

"Wow! This is a girl who grew up in Morphett Vale, who didn't really know what I wanted to do with her life when she left school," she said.

"I did know I wanted to be self-employed, to work hard and make a difference in people's lives."

She said three months after landing her first job with solicitors Nicholls Gervasi she was solely responsible for debt collection at age 18.

"I learned that a lot of people don't really know how to manage their finances and I felt for them," she said.

"They weren't paying their money . . . I would know if I issued a summons they would have a judgment on their records.

"I thought 'what are they going to do?'"

She said helping people manage their finances was "like personal trainers at the gym".

"We don't just set the budget up, we actually manage it for them, we counsel them."

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Tammy May with husband Eddy, son Seth and daughter Maddison. Picture: MARK BRAKE.

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