

# media release



**MASTERS OF OUR INDUSTRY**

Master Builders Association of Victoria  
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## **Western region Apprentice of the Year Lee Mugavin is a chippy off the old block**

Carpentry apprentice Lee Mugavin was last night named the western section Apprentice of the Year in Warrnambool.

Hailing from Illowa, Lee was among four apprentices from the western region to be recognised for their commitment, skill and diligence. More than 150 apprentices, builders, family and friends attended the ceremony at The Carmichael, Warrnambool.

The other winners announced were carpentry apprentice Mark Rantall from Warrnambool and bricklaying apprentices Jeremy Coffey from Kirkstall and Sam Wilson, also from Warrnambool.

Master Builders' Careers Manager Jarrod Flanigan, who led the panel of judges, said this year's nominees were of an exceptionally high caliber.

"Section winner Lee is a 'chip off the old block' working in his father's business *Mugavin Homes*. He is a multi-skilled apprentice with a real eye for detail who has already built his own home," Mr Flanigan said.

"Joint Chairman's Award winners Jeremy Coffey and Sam Wilson work together at *Neil J Fary and Kerry L Fary* builders. They will be rewarded for their excellent work ethics and dedication to what is a physically demanding trade in bricklaying," he said.

"The Special Commendation goes to Mark Rantall, who is a mature aged apprentice and has illustrated immense dedication to his trade of carpentry. He is hardworking and loyal to employer *J.R. Porter Constructions* and will go far in his new career."

Executive Director Brian Welch said it was important that leading apprentices were recognised for their hard work, skill and perseverance.

"Master Builders applauds the outstanding achievements of Victorian apprentices in the building and construction industry," Mr Welch said.

"Regional winners are selected after an interview with a judging panel of three judges. Once awarded, they will be invited to attend the State Apprentice of the Year Awards on 16 May in Melbourne where the overall winners will be announced."

**Interviews and photos of winners available upon request.**

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