

18/03/2015

EMBARGOED until 9pm, Thursday 19 March 2015.

South West apprentice of the year Elton Brinkman proves age is no barrier in the building industry

Carpentry apprentice Elton Brinkman from Hamilton will be named the Master Builders South West Section Apprentice of the Year at The Carmichael tomorrow evening.

Elton will be among two apprentices from the South West region to be recognised for their dedication, skill and hard work.

The other winner on the night will be Chairman's Award winner Ethan Frankcombe from Warrnambool.

Master Builders' Careers Manager Jarrod Flanigan said that this year's nominees showed great determination and commitment to building their careers.

"Section winner Elton is a mature-aged apprentice who has shown a fantastic work and training ethic," Mr Flanigan said.

"Elton is a standout apprentice who proves that it is never too late to follow your dreams."

Ethan Frankcombe's well-planned future and high level of pride in his work impressed the Chairman, who believes Ethan will be an integral part of the building and construction industry in the future.

"Ethan is outstanding at his responsibilities and his bosses have even tasked him with the responsibility of looking after a new apprentice," Mr Flanigan said.

Master Builders Chief Executive Officer Radley de Silva said that apprentices are essential to Victoria's building industry.

"We need a skilled workforce in the building and construction industry that will continue to build Victoria.

"Acknowledging their hard work and dedication encourages apprentices across Victoria to continue their career path to achieve better and greater things in our industry."

Regional winners are selected after an interview with a panel of three judges. Once awarded, they will be invited to attend the State Apprentice of the Year Awards on 8 May in Melbourne where the overall winners will be announced.



MEDIA RELEASE



Media welcome – interviews and photos of winners available upon request.

What: Apprentice of the Year Awards (South West)

When: Thursday 19 March 2015 from 7pm to 9pm

Where: The Carmichael, 50-58 Cramer Street, Warrnambool

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