MEDIA RELEASE

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EMBARGOED until 9pm, Wednesday 9 March 2016.

BENDIGO APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR JACK SHAY BUILDS HIS WAY TO SUCCESS

Carpentry apprentice Jack Shay from Maryborough was named the Master Builders Bendigo Section Apprentice of the Year at the All Seasons Quality Resort Bendigo tonight.

Jack was among four apprentices from the Bendigo region to be recognised for their dedication, skill and hard work.

The other three winners tonight were Employer-Nominated winner Jarrod Cowan from Sunbury, and Chairman's Award co-winners Cody Storm from Barham and Christopher Wild from Epsom.

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

"Of Jack, the judges remarked they had seldom seen an apprentice with such enthusiasm for their work," Mr Flanigan said.

"Jack is a young man with ethical maturity beyond his years," Mr Flanigan said. "He recognises that a quality job will always be appreciated and valued highly."

Employee-Nominated winner Jarrod Cowan impressed the judges with his stand-out attitude toward his trade, employer and trade school," Mr Flanigan said.

"His determination and willingness to go the extra mile place Jarrod in a great position to succeed and grow within the building industry."

Chairman's Award co-winners Cody Storm and Christopher Wild both appreciate their employers enough to feel happily obliged to take on an apprentice of their own some day, and pass on the skills they have learned so there will be a sustainable building industry for years to come.

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 more 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 6 May in Melbourne where the overall winners will be announced.

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

What: Apprentice of the Year Awards (Bendigo region)
When: Wednesday 9 March 2016 from 7pm to 9pm
Where: All Seasons Hotel and Quality Resort, 171-183 McIvor Road, Bendigo VIC 3550

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