

16/3/17

EMBARGOED until 9pm, Thursday 16 March 2017.

GEELONG CARPENTRY APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR ALEX HUTCHINSON NAILS AWARD

Hamlyn Heights carpentry apprentice Alex Hutchinson was tonight named Master Builders Geelong Section Apprentice of the Year at Simonds Stadium.

Alex was among three apprentices from the Geelong region to be awarded for their dedication, skill and hard work.

The other two winners were employer-nominated Edward Trevean from Ocean Grove and Chairman's Award winner Alisha Grant from Drysdale.

Master Builders' Careers Officer Kathleen Peachey said that this year's nominees showed great determination and commitment to building their careers.

"Alex is a dedicated carpenter and gives back to the community as a volunteer of his time and skills," Ms Peachey said. "Having watched his employer go through the process of getting registered, Alex is keen to follow in his footsteps and the judges believe he has a very promising career ahead of him."

"Employer-nominated award winner Edward showed a love for woodworking at the age of 14 and has followed this passion into a carpentry apprenticeship," Ms Peachey said. "It also impressed the judges that he has taken on an OHS leadership role with his employer, Russell Armistead from Armistead Homes."

"Chairman's Award winner Alisha Grant has been a three-time nominee for the Apprentice of the Year Awards, a keen and passionate apprentice painter and decorator who impressed our judges with her maturity and work ethic," Ms Peachey said. "Alisha demonstrates a drive to succeed, and plans to one day launch her own business."

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

"We need a skilled workforce in the building and construction industry that will continue to provide the homes and infrastructure Victoria needs," he said.

"Apprentices help to build our communities," Mr de Silva said. "Acknowledging their hard work and dedication encourages apprentices across Victoria to continue their career path to achieve better and greater things in our industry."



MEDIA RELEASE



Regional winners are selected after an interview with a panel of three judges. Winners are invited to the State Apprentice of the Year Awards on 12 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 (Geelong)

When: 6.30 to 9pm Thursday 16 March

Where: Simonds Stadium, Geelong

Media enquiries:

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