

15/03/2017

EMBARGOED until 9pm, Wednesday 15 March 2017.

WESTERN APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR JACK HANCOCKS EARNS A VICTORY IN THE BUILDING INDUSTRY

Warrnambool carpentry apprentice Jack Hancocks was tonight named Master Builders Western Section Apprentice of the Year at The Carmichael.

Jack was one of two apprentices from the western region to receive awards for their dedication, skill and hard work.

The other apprentice was Chairman's Award winner Tyler Hards from Hamilton.

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

"Jack made a point of telling us he appreciates the early guidance he received from his high school teacher, who helped introduce the industry to him as a career choice by helping him find his employer," Ms Peachey said. "He wants to show his gratitude to his boss, whom he describes as 'the best ever', by staying with the company.

"Jack is a passionate apprentice," she said. "Down the track, he plans to get registered, start his own business and take on his own apprentices to keep the cycle of learning going."

Chairman's Award winner Tyler Hards completed his Certificate IV in Building and Construction while still doing his apprenticeship.

"He knows he still has lots to learn, especially on the business side of things and would like to become a registered builder in due course," Ms Peachey said. "Tyler's advice to anyone thinking of doing an apprenticeship is to go for it."

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.

"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. Once awarded, they will be invited to attend 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 (Western)

When: 6.30pm to 9pm Thursday 15 March 2017

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

Media enquiries:

Peter Sackett, Media Adviser, (03) 9411 4534, 0466 777 059, psackett@mbav.com.au