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New Zealand WorldSkills New Zealand

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Newsletter—November 2008

From the CEO's Desk

My thanks to all who helped make the 2008 WorldSkills National Finals held at Wellington Institute of Technology the success it was. Thank you to: WelTec for the fantastic venue; the Wellington committee for logistic and management support; NZ Defence Force for transport and labour; our valued sponsors who supplied materials and/or covered costs for competitors; judges; regional team leaders; and those volunteers who did the behind the scene jobs (distributing lunches, etc). All your contributions were essential to the smooth running of the event.

I am delighted to confirm that the 2010 National Finals will be hosted by the Christchurch Polytechnic & Institute of Technology (CPIT).

Congratulations to the 2009 Tool Blacks! We at WorldSkills believe we have selected a top-class team who will all perform well at the WorldSkills International competition. This year there is a very good spread of competitors from across the country, with a good number from "the Mainland".

Now the hard work begins as we embark on the road towards Calgary. Competitors will undertake specific training in their skill, under the guidance of their Skill Expert. I hope to have two training camps with one in Christchurch to allow for a visit to CPIT to scope the venue for 2010, and the second a few weeks prior to our departure for a final briefing, team photos, etc.

The WorldSkills International competition runs from 1-7 September 2009. All competitors will be housed in student accommodation, while the judges stay in hotels. It's not all stress at the competition either as the itinerary includes a visit to the Rocky Mountains and also an American Football game. The weather in Canada should be warm at this time of year.

All the equipment to be used at the competitions will be new and will be distributed to educational facilities after the event. The Canadian Government has timed the purchase of this equipment to coincide with the WorldSkills event thus getting more bang for their buck.

The WorldSkills NZ website, which we hope to replace in the near future, will be used as the method of communication for the Tool Blacks and into the future.

My thanks again to you all and best wishes for Christmas,

Peter Spencer



Lead-up to

Calgary

2008

- November—Tool Black Team announced
- November—Experts develop training plan for competitors

2009

- February—August—Individual Training—after work, weekends
- May—possible trip to Australia to compete in Mock Competitions
- May/June—Team Camp
- July/August—Team Camp
- 26 August Experts arrive in Calgary. Competition projects finalised.
- 29 August—Competitors, and Team Leaders arrive in Calgary
- 1-7 September WorldSkills international competitions
- 8 or 9 September—Triumphant team returns home!

Introducing the 2009 Tool Blacks

Marcel Woods – Automotive Technology – Northland Region

Marcel attended Northland College where at the age of 15 he gained University Entrance and was Dux for that year. His teachers encouraged him to go to university, but Marcel liked “playing with cars” and wanted to get a job working with cars.

Before going to NorthTec to complete a pre-apprenticeship course, Marcel visited several potential employers. Renton Motors in Kaikohe were interested in interviewing him when he had finished the course. Marcel was taken on by Renton Motors and has now completed his apprenticeship in Automotive Technology and is now working as the Service Centre Manager for Renton's.

Completing his apprenticeship is only the beginning for Marcel. He has just started working on gaining ATech® which is MITO's advanced technical programme leading to the National Certificate in Motor Industry (Advanced Technical) Level 5. He is also planning on gaining his Warrant of Fitness Inspectors certificate later this year. In addition Marcel wants to eventually do a Business Management qualification. Outside of work, Marcel enjoys fishing and Snowboarding.

Expert—Malcolm Whinham



Jemma Bond – Automotive Refinishing – Northland Region

Expert—John Tuau



Jemma attended Whangarei Girls High School and then went on to undertake a Visual Arts Course at NorthTec. After that she decided she wanted to do something completely different, but still using her artistic skills and thought of Automotive Refinishing. Jemma approached Rowsells Collision Repair Centre and was taken on for a month's trial. She's still there and completed her National Certificate in Automotive Refinishing in March 2008.

Jemma's job entails sanding, masking, priming, painting and buffing on both complete vehicles and vehicle parts. It is work that requires great attention to detail. One of Jemma's ambitions is to get into airbrushing cars and motorbikes.

When not at work, Jemma enjoys painting pictures, listening to music watching movies and going to the beach.

Jemma is proud that she is a woman and has succeeded in a male dominated industry thereby showing other women that they too can succeed. To quote Jemma, “One small step for man – one giant leap for woman!”

Thomas Townsend – Cookery – Auckland Region

Expert—Stephen Pope

Thomas attended Lynfield College in Auckland. He is now working for Sky City, Auckland and will complete his Advanced Cookery (level 4) qualification in January 2009.

Every ten weeks, as part of his job, Thomas is moved to a different outlet in Sky City to gain experience. So far this has included the main production kitchen, butchery and restaurants such as Rebo, Orbit and Dine. He has also worked in the convention centre which involves both inhouse-catering and out-catering. He has been part of the team for events up to 1,500 people.

Thomas enjoys being a chef and considers it a hobby in itself. He looks forward to travelling the world and learning as much as possible with his career. Thomas has entered numerous competitions and earlier this year attended a World Chef's conference in Dubai where he was able to experience a different culture and cuisine.

Out of work, Thomas enjoys sport, both watching a variety of sports and participating in wakeboarding in summer and snowboarding in winter.



Mike Shiefflebein – Cabinetmaking – Auckland Region

Mike attended Pakuranga College in Auckland where he attained NCEA Level One. Mike is a practical person and when he heard about a job going at Robinsons Marine Interiors Ltd he applied for it.

Mike is now 2 years into his apprenticeship with Robinson Marine Interiors Ltd and is working towards a National Certificate in Boatbuilding, Marine Cabinetmaking — Level 4. The work Mike does varies but mostly they are working on the interiors for Super Yachts. Often they make the cabinetry, set it up in the factory, then pull it apart again for shipping to the USA and final installation in the yacht.

Boats and boating have always been a hobby for Mike and outside work he is into wakeboarding, and touch. In the past he has played rugby and Le Cross. Mike is also building up a old-school Mitzy.



Daniel Cullen – Bricklaying – Waikato/Bay of Plenty Region

Expert—Greg Sinden



Daniel attended Matamata College. When he left school his father asked him to work in the family bricklaying business, Cullen Bricklayers – just on a temporary basis. Daniel is still there and is now nearly finished his apprenticeship.

Bricklaying is a timebased apprenticeship. Daniel is working towards a National Certificate in Masonry (Bicklaying) and has finished all the required unit standards, now just needs to complete the hours. He hopes to finish the apprenticeship before the end of 2009

Daniels job is varied. They work on new houses, cow sheds, and do tiling and paving. Most of the work is on residential buildings.

Outside of work Daniel enjoys socialising, watching sport and driving.

Tony Wells – Fitting – Waikato/Bay of Plenty Region

Expert—Roland Spirig

Tony attended Morrinsville College and now works for BLM Engineering in Morrinsville. He is working towards a National Certificate in Maintenance and Diagnostics Engineering (Level 4).

Tony got into engineering after he left school as he likes to work with his hands and engineering fitted very well with his hobby of cars. Tony has a R32 Skyline Coupe which he enjoys both working on and driving.

After he has completed his apprenticeship, Tony would like to travel so he can see what the rest of the world has to offer.



Elliot Wilkes – Light Fabrication – Central North Island Region

Expert—Steve Brooks



Elliot attended Feilding High School and attained NCEA Levels one and two. After he left school he got a job assembling Tractors but realised after 18 months that he wanted a job that would get him a qualification.

Someone Elliot knew worked at Total Sheet Metals (NZ) Ltd and encouraged Elliot to apply for a job there, which he did and was successful. Elliot is in the first year of his apprenticeship, working towards a National Certificate in Engineering – Fabrication – Light Fabrication. He is enjoying the work and knows it it a very good qualification to have.

Elliot's first aim is to gain his qualification, but the possibility of owning his own business in the future has an attraction for him. Outside work, Elliot enjoys working on cars and modifying them.

Jared Lamb – Welding – Central Nth Island Region

Jared attended Awatapu College in Palmerston North where he attained NCEA Levels one and two. While at school he was building a Go-Kart for a competition and went down to Total Sheet Metals (NZ) Ltd to get some components cut. From that visit, Jared was offered an afterschool job.

Jared worked for Total Sheet Metals (NZ) Ltd for three months on a part time basis and started full-time after he finished school and started his apprenticeship in Light Fabrication. Jared is now in his third year of his apprenticeship and should have that completed by early 2009.

Initially, Jared thought of being a builder, but the boss at Total Sheet Metals talked him out of that and into engineering. Jared is really enjoying engineering and wants to stay with it for a good while, but he thinks he may do a building qualification at some stage in the future.

Jared is a keen fisherman, spending time at his batch in Mahia and in the winter likes to snowboard. He is also doing up an old car – almost completely rebuilding and modifying it.



Expert—Jason Beals

Caitlin Thorburn – Floristry – Wellington Region



Caitlin attended Sacred Heart Girls' College in Hamilton and Cambridge High School for Yr 13. She undertook a Floristry course through Wintec, attaining a level 3 Certificate in Floristry. After finishing the course, Caitlin moved to Wellington where she started working full-time for Bunches Floriste.

Caitlin's job entails taking orders, selecting and processing flowers for creating floral arrangements, and then arranging for their delivery. In addition Caitlin is learning the names of plants, how to identify them, and how to care for them.

Caitlin enjoys snowboarding in her free time and is keen to travel. In the future she would like to own her own business but she has just begun her adventure with Floristry so the journey has just begun.

Expert—Joy Knight

Kirsty Lister – Restaurant Service – NZ Defence Force Region

Kirsty achieved NCEA Level 2 while at school and went on to join the NZ Defence Force. She has just begun her training to be a Steward and is working towards gaining a City & Guilds Diploma in Food and Beverage Service.

Kirsty has been in the Army for two years and at the moment is working at the Linton Military Camp in Palmerston North. She has been on exercises in many locations in New Zealand and looks forward to going overseas.

Recently Kirsty entered the Nestle Toque d'Or competition as part of a team from NZ Defence Force – and the team won. She also attended the WorldSkills Australia National Finals as a guest competitor and learnt a lot from that experience. Kirsty's goal now is to win the Restaurant Service competition in Calgary.



Expert—Rinus Pope

Peter Fuller – Plumbing – NZ Defence Force Region



Peter attended Avondale College in Auckland and attained NCEA Level 1. He started his plumbing apprenticeship in Auckland, where he worked for a year subcontracted to the Auckland DHB, maintaining the Auckland Hospital. He then joined the NZ Army and he has been continuing his apprenticeship. Peter is based at Linton Military Camp in Palmerston North.

Peter's job entails a variety of work including installing gas hobs, to commercial hot water cylinders, laying drains for new houses and plumbing a house to ensure they have a clean potable water supply.

Peter is sitting his registration exams for both Plumbing and Gasfitting in November so his short-term goal is to pass them both.

Expert—Ritchie Gorrie

Jesse Clinton – Autobody Repair – Canterbury Region**Expert—Gavin Love**

Jesse attended Cashmere High School in Christchurch where he attained NCEA levels one and two and only missed out on Level three by one credit. Jesse has always been interested in cars and attended a 6th month Pre-trade course at CPIT.

Before starting the pre-trade course, Jesse visited several panel-beaters to talk to them about possible jobs after the course. Elite Panel and Paint said for him to come back when he had completed the course, which he did and they took him on. Jesse started his apprenticeship this year so has another 18 months to go before he is a qualified Panelbeater.

At the moment Jesse does the smaller jobs that come into the workshop, but he will be starting the bigger jobs soon. Jesse attends night classes at CPIT once a week.

Jesse's main hobby is working on cars. He's not sure of what he wants to do in the future yet. He'd like to travel after he has completed his apprenticeship but definitely plans to come back to New Zealand.

**Daniel Hunt – Industrial Control – Canterbury Region**

Daniel has always been interested in electricity and decided when he was at school that the best way to kick-start his career would be to do an electrical apprenticeship. He was employed by ETCO for his apprenticeship and seconded to PROLEC (Professional Electrics Ltd). Daniel has now completed his apprenticeship and passed his Registration exams and is now employed by PROLEC.

Daniel's job involves a lot of automation – that is, getting computers to operate things to provide efficiency and accuracy. He also plans and installs cable systems of all type, operating small sensors, working with contractors to operate big motors, and building control cabinets with PLC relays. Fault finding and fixing problems under pressure, and understanding electrical diagrams are all part of the day's work.

Keeping keen and working hard to achieve as much as he can are Daniel's aims for the near future.

Royce Richards – Printing – Canterbury Region**Expert—Grant Letfus**

Royce attended Lynwood College in Christchurch. He took part in the Gateway programme and undertook work experience at Rainbow Print as part of this.

Royce impressed the boss at Rainbow Print and when he left school was offered an apprenticeship in offset printing, which he completed in July 2008.

As part of his job, Royce prints a variety of commercial work from business cards through to 5 colour brochures. He uses a 5 colour sheet fed offset machine to do this. Royce is responsible for putting the plates in the machine, positioning the image and making all adjustments to ink and water balance to ensure a high print quality. Cleaning the machine is also a major part of the work.

Outside of work Royce likes the outdoor pursuits of hunting, fishing and off-road biking.



Michael Lyon – Joinery – Otago/Southland Region**Expert—Peter Leith**

Michael attended Logan Park High School in Dunedin. He started working for Kaye Kitchens, a small joinery shop in Dunedin when he was 16 and was offered an apprenticeship at 17. Michael is now almost finished his apprenticeship – he has completed all the unit standards and now just has to complete the 8,000 hours of time on the job.

Michael mainly makes exterior joinery in his job – french doors, windows, bi-fold doors but he also does custom kitchens, vanities and self units. Because he is working for a small firm he gets to make the joinery from start to finish, not just components.

Once he has finished his apprenticeship, Michael would like to improve his skills by working overseas, in Germany if possible.

Michael was nominated for the Ernie Jelink Cup for the Most Promising Apprentice, and his winning the WorldSkills National Finals shows that this was a well merited award.

**Ben De Groot – Electrical Wiring – Southland Region****Expert—Barry Warner**

Ben attended Gore High School and attained NCEA Level one and two before leaving to take up his apprenticeship.

Ben has recently attained a National Certificate in Electrical Engineering – Level 4 and once he has passed his Registration exams in November, he will be a fully qualified electrician. While training Ben was employed by ETCO and hosted by Connor and Fitzpatrick Betta Electrical Ltd, the firm for which he now works.

In his job Ben does all aspects of commercial and domestic electrical installation and maintenance.

Ben has had a lot of competition experience in 2008 – firstly with entering and winning the ECANZ Regional competition, then coming 4th in the National ECANZ competition. He also went to Australia as a guest competitor at the WorldSkills Australia National Finals, and finally the WorldSkills NZ National Finals in September. So Ben is well on the way to preparing himself for the challenge of the WorldSkills International competition in September 2009.

Dan Malthus – Carpentry – Otago/Southland Region**Expert—David Finnie**

Dan attended Logan Park High School in Dunedin, attaining NCEA Levels one and two while he was there. Dan now works for Naylor Love Construction Ltd and is in the first year of his apprenticeship. He is working towards a National Certificate in Carpentry Level 4.

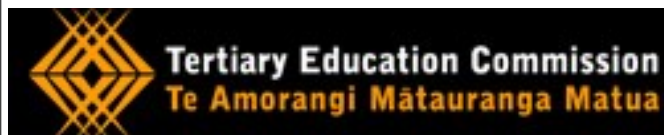
As an apprentice carpenter Dan performs many different forms of construction – involving concrete foundations, wall framing, lining and trimming walls and installing windows/doors.

When Dan completes his apprenticeship he intends to travel overseas to work as a qualified builder and when he has enough experience under his belt, he would like to work for himself.

Outside of work, Dan is a very keen surfer and works on keeping himself fit.



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National Office
PO Box 189
FEILDING 4740

Email: info@worldskills.org.nz
Phone:
CEO—021 747-506
Events Co-ordinator—027 453-1002

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Photos from the 2008 National Finals

