

**On embargo till 19 February 2016**

## **Bendigo TAFE Trade Awards Night Winners**

More than 40 trade students were honoured at the 2015 Bendigo TAFE Trade Awards Night on 18 February, an annual celebration that recognised the achievements of some of Bendigo's most outstanding trade students and future leaders.

Awards spanned automotive, carpentry, electrical, electrical machine repair, engineering, landscaping, painting and decorating, plumbing and refrigeration trades.

This includes prestigious awards such as the Jack Hodge Award and Geoff Austin Award denoting former teachers dating back as far as 1946, as well as the Jack McPhail Award presented to students now for over 40 years.

The major award of the night – the Trade Apprentice of the Year Award, went to dual winners – carpentry student Sean O'Connor and painting and decorating student Madeleine Hatchard.

Bendigo TAFE's Director of Construction and Industrial Justin Busse said the annual awards night provides an opportunity for high achieving students and their families, teachers and staff, and industry representatives to come together and celebrate the importance of quality training.

"The awards night is an evening of industry celebration where students, friends and families attend, along with trade industry representatives, sponsors and Bendigo TAFE teachers and staff. Bendigo TAFE is an integral part of the community and we are proud of our well-equipped trade facilities, as well as our passionate industry qualified staff who work hard to ensure our students are industry ready on completion of their chosen course," said Mr. Busse.

"Bendigo TAFE is extremely grateful for the ongoing support of the trade awards night from local industry and partners. This support includes award sponsors, event sponsors and this year's major sponsor, Energy Safe Victoria."

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### **For more information contact:**

For further details including photo and interview opportunities please contact Kim Wilson, external relations and communications, on 03 5434 1557 or [kwilson@bendigotafe.edu.au](mailto:kwilson@bendigotafe.edu.au).