

ATI

Allied Trades Institute Ltd
Quality provider of flooring training

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FLOORNZ NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2021

Dear FloorNZ Members

This newsletter is a tribute to the recipients of the 2020 Apprentice of the year.

APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR 2020

In years past and pre-Covid the fraternity of the New Zealand flooring industry and members of FloorNZ gathered each year on an August winter's night year about in Auckland and Christchurch for an evening of celebration and industry-wide recognition of Flooring Apprentice of the Year Awards.

Sponsors, manufacturers, wholesalers, commercial contractors, retailers, installers, Industry Training Organisation, FloorNZ, a guest speaker, an MC and family and friends all gathered together in one, large and dressed-for-the-occasion room.

It was a dress-up do!

Then along came Covid!

The excellence of skills and knowledge attained by apprentices and trainees in 2020 to award the Awards and the Best of the Best hadn't changed.

The playing field had changed.

So FloorNZ changed the game!

From idle retirement we extracted stalwart of the flooring industry Scott Cato from his favourite cafe and dispatched him about the country to the towns and businesses where the Award recipients live and work. Scott joined forces with the local BCITO Training Advisor and along with the business owner, work colleagues, the local Press, family and friends the speeches were given and responded to, sponsors were acknowledged, morning teas were enjoyed and the Award to each recipient was presented and celebrated.



STAGE ONE APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR 2020

Joshua Denman

Whanganui Flooring Ltd

Sponsor's Gift Voucher: Giltedge Ltd



Joshua and the team of installers from Whanganui Flooring, who provide installation services for Carpet Court Whanganui, gathered at the showroom for a morning of the Stage 1 trophy presentation, celebration and the telling of stories about our trade. When asked "how did you get into the flooring trade?", Joshua replied "I met Carey Knapp (owner of Whanganui Flooring) when we were performers on the stage at our local amateur theatre company, we just clicked, he's my boss, my trainer and a good mate. It's interesting how we get into the flooring trade isn't it! It's about working with people and I love being on the tools and the different work we do each day."

Joshua was also presented with a voucher for his personal use which was sponsored by Giltedge who are an active sponsor of FloorNZ events.

From the FloorNZ tutors:

- Marking Joshua's assessments was an absolute pleasure. His "Evaluate Substrate" sketch plan was one of the best Stage 1 apprentices we have seen at the school over all the years.
- Joshua's maturity was a stabilising influence on his Block Course and he regularly assisted other apprentices.
- Well prepared for Block Course and for each day.
- Attentive to theory and practical tasks with attention to detail.
- Joshua is an outstanding apprentice for Stage 1 of his full qualification: Carpet, Resilient & Substrate.



STAGE TWO APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR 2020

Joseph Murphy
Fully Floored Ltd
Feilding

Sponsor's Gift Voucher: Look Floors

Presented by Kari Pearcey Floor NZ CEO

Joseph is an apprentice for Fully Floored Ltd who provides installation services for the Feilding Flooring Xtra store.

Joseph was 'blown away' by his award and both his employer and work mates gathered to support him at the award ceremony.

Joseph was also presented with a voucher for his personal use which was sponsored by Look Floors who are an active sponsor of FloorNZ events.

From the FloorNZ tutors:

- Joseph was an exceptional stage 2 apprentice and for his time on his block course he at all times exhibited professionalism and a keenness to learn.
- He attended his course very well prepared. Made a great effort attending to his resource books and was able to complete all his theory assessments with ease and virtually no areas for him to re-attend to.
- Joseph's preparedness and application has made teaching him an absolute pleasure for both Phil and Kevin and we look forward to seeing him attend his stage 3 course.



**STAGE THREE HAYDEN MCKENZIE MEMORIAL TROPHY APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR AND
THE SUPREME AWARD OF THE SCOTT CATO TROPHY 2020**

Jai Beck

Alexandra Flooring Xtra Sponsor's Gift Voucher:

- Robert Malcolm Ltd (Stage 3)
- Dunlop Flooring (Supreme Award)



The Alexandra Flooring Xtra showroom had one customer selecting her carpet when Scott and Tony Te Au (CEO Flooring Xtra and FloorNZ Board Member) arrived for the morning-tea presentation. Behind the scenes in the warehouse and the offices it was abuzz with anticipation. Then they arrived en masse. All the installation team, Jai the family man with his mum, his wife and two young children, all the office staff and showroom team, the team from the Cromwell showroom, Paul Rillstone and family and friends poured through the doors and the showroom was full of people and lively chatter. So began the Stage 3, Supreme Award and The Wayne Young Award ceremony and celebration.

Jai was also presented with vouchers for his personal use which were sponsored by Robert Malcolm and Dunlop Flooring who are both active sponsors of FloorNZ events.

From the FloorNZ tutors:

Over all Stage 3 courses over all our years of teaching, Jai stood out as exceptional. It was an absolute pleasure to work alongside Jai over the years of Stage 1, 2 and 3.

In brief:

- Keen to learn.
- Positive and cooperative.
- Always well prepared for Block Course and Resource Books completed.
- Tools and equipment neat, clean, tidy and "ready for work".
- Looking over all Jai's assessments for Stages 1, 2 and 3 makes for "very good reading".





THE WAYNE YOUNG TROPHY FOR EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR 2020

Paul Rillstone Alexandra Flooring Xtra

This was the inaugural presentation of the Wayne Young Trophy and recognises the contribution that an individual employer and their staff has made to Industry Training and the betterment of the flooring industry in general.

It was befitting that the first name engraved on this trophy is Paul Rillstone, owner along with his wife Jude and daughter Kate of Alexandra Flooring Xtra.

Paul and his team have long held a commitment to the Flooring Industry Training programme with a company-wide culture of skilled, on-site training of apprentices while working closely with their BCITO Training Advisor and the FloorNZ flooring school in Christchurch for not only the growth of his own business but also the professionalism and resources of the New Zealand flooring trade in the future.



Congratulations Paul and your team; "You have made a difference"

FLOORING PLANNING & DESIGN TRAINEE OF THE YEAR 2020

Gary Walker Flooring First Taupo

Sponsor's Gift Voucher:

FloorNZ



It was a busy business scene when Scott and the two local-Taupo BCITO Training Advisors walked into Flooring First Taupo for the morning-tea presentation.

Phones were going, floor plans and site sketch-plans were being worked on both computer screens and desktops strewn with hardcopy plans, specification schedules, the tools being used included keyboards, scale-rulers, highlighters and quantifying sheets to record measurements and cuts, calculators were tapping and the hubbub of talk between the team about jobs and quotes, installation and timeframes for supply, talking with the customer.

It wasn't hard for us to see before we heard why this business and team including a cohort of Gary, Sandra and Sam who each completed their FPD qualification working through the course together as a team of 3 in this busy business with Gary the "chosen one" to receive FPD Trainee of the Year 2020.

From the FloorNZ tutor:

- Gary was committed to the course.
- He was keen to learn about a new industry while running a new business.
- Gary negotiated his way through the challenges of Covid in 2020 having recently taken over an established business.
- He explored ways to bring his experience and skills of his previous work (engineering and people-management) to the flooring industry.
- Professional; Focused; Customer- service oriented.

From Mark Lafferty (previous owner of Flooring First Taupo)

- No surprise that Gary was awarded "Apprentice" of the Year for FPD!
- As new owners of the business Gary and Sandra (wife and business partner) once committed to a task are totally focused.
- It's the same attitude that has grown their business and they are going "gangbusters", I believe.
- They are good, honest, hardworking people who along with their team thoroughly deserve this recognition; well done.



THE VILLARS TROPHY 2020

Anthony Ashby

Peter Mark Floorpride Blenheim

Sponsor's Gift Voucher: Handley Industries



A BBQ was planned, all staff at Peter Mark Floorpride Blenheim, family and friends were to attend and an evening of presentation and celebration was ahead . . .

Then the country went into Lock down Level 4. So, masked-up and socially-distanced Scott handed over the Villars Trophy and Sponsor's Gift Card to Floorpride owner Glen Morrison to arrange for the presentation on another day when we "return to normal" and gatherings can happen again.

The Villars Trophy recognises an Apprentice who displays a special attitude and commitment to their training often when challenged by other circumstances.

From the FloorNZ tutors:

- Anthony applied himself at all times throughout his course and was especially aware and attentive to other apprentices that were struggling with some aspects of the course.
- He has a keen awareness of Health and Safety on site and "must be the only apprentice in the history of the school to arrive at his Block Course with his own container in his toolbox for the safe disposal of used blades."
- "During my (tutor's) time installing over many years I would have been very happy to have had Anthony as my work colleague, we would have made a great team".

Congratulations Anthony, it is an accolade to be acknowledged by your work colleagues.

Unfortunately due to Covid-19 we are unable to supply photos of Anthony's award ceremony but when things get back to normal we will provide these in our next newsletter.

If you have any information, you would like us to share on any comments or questions on any of the content in this newsletter, please contact me on kari@floornz.org.nz

Regards

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