



## Introducing Tool Blacks Team Member

**Name:** Karen Hogh  
**Skill:** Carpentry  
**From** Southern Group Training, Invercargill

Karen has been selected to attend the WorldSkills International Competition in Calgary, Canada in September 2008 as a judge in the Carpentry skill category. She is currently working at Southern Group Training Trust in Invercargill as their Building Training Manager.

Karen has both Joinery and Carpentry qualifications. She gained her Joinery Advanced Trade Certificate in 1989 and her Trade Certificate in Carpentry in 1994. After working a short while in the joinery industry, Karen moved into teaching and became the Joinery tutor at the Southern Institute of Technology, where she worked for 11 years. In 2004 she moved to Southern Group Training Trust where she now manages the employment and training for the apprentices working in the building trades.

Karen brings a wealth of experience and passion to her role as Carpentry Expert. She has been involved in WorldSkills since 2000 where she was a judge at the Otago/Southland regional joinery competition. Since then she has co-ordinated regional competitions in both joinery and carpentry and written projects for the Southern Apprentice Challenge (a competition the region holds in the "off-year" to the WorldSkills regional competitions). Karen has also been a judge at the WorldSkills National Finals in both 2006 and 2008.

Karen is excited that the changes to the Carpentry competition at the International level mean that New Zealand can get back onto the world stage in this category. She is working hard with the Carpentry competitor, Daniel Malthus to ensure he is up to the challenge.

### You can help Karen get to WorldSkills in Calgary

Karen has funding towards her costs from Naylor Love Ltd, Carters Building Supplies Ltd, Southern Trust, Community Trust of Southland, Master Builders Association, Lion Foundation and Southern Group Training Trust. WorldSkills and Karen thank these organisations for their support. Further donations towards her total costs of \$11,500 would be appreciated. In doing so you are confirming your commitment to the development of Carpentry skill levels in New Zealand. You will also give Karen the opportunity to wear the Silver Fern and represent New Zealand among the top trainers and industry representatives from around the world.