



Introducing Tool Blacks Team Member

Name: Peter Leith
Skill: Joinery
From Dunedin

Peter has been selected to attend the World Skills International Competition in Calgary, Canada in September 2009 as a judge in the Joinery skill Category. This is Peters fourth time away as joinery judge at the World Skills his first being St Gallen, Switzerland in 1997.

Peter is a qualified joiner with having obtained Advanced Trade Certificate as his highest qualification. He went straight into a joinery apprenticeship on leaving school and in 1984 set up his own business under 'Leith Joinery' which has now been operating for 25 years. A total of ten staff, work under Peter including two apprentices. He is a strong believer in training apprentices and they are taught all aspects of the joinery industry, as they are our tradesmen of the future. The workload is varied and they have worked on many different types of fitouts, from the joinery in the Dunedin Casino, to train carriages, doors, windows, stairs and fishing boats to name a few. Peter also thrives on the prospect of having a chance to work on something out of the ordinary.

Being involved with WorldSkills gives Peter not only the opportunity to see young trades people achieve and compete at international levels but also to make sure our joiners coming through have the requirements to succeed at that level. For the past few months he has been busy training the joinery competitor Michael Lyon to prepare him for his competition in Calgary.

Meeting other joinery judges and competitors from around the world is one of his highlights of the international competition for Peter. "It's a chance to discuss with them training strategies, the different hand and machine techniques that can differ country to country and it's a great opportunity to pick up new ideas, bring them back home and pass them onto the joinery industry," says Peter.

Peter makes the most of any free time by either, mountain-biking, sea-kayaking, supporting the rest of his family with their sports or just taking time out at home. He is always looking for a new challenge.

You can help Peter get to WorldSkills in Calgary

Peter has funding from the Joinery Industry Training Organisation (JITO). WorldSkills and Peter would like to thank JITO for their on going support of the Joinery competition.

Further donations towards Peter's total costs of \$13,900 would be appreciated. In doing so you are confirming your commitment to the development of Joinery skill levels in New Zealand. You will also give Peter the opportunity to wear the Silver Fern and represent New Zealand among the top trainers and industry representatives from around the world.

