

UK • SKILLS

Mechatronics (team of two competitors)

Competitor
Andrew Marriott
Warrington

age: 22

Employer
Following course

Technical expert
Paul Turnbull
Oaklands College

TEC & college
North & Mid Cheshire TEC
Warrington Collegiate Institute

National competition
Mechatron '96

Competitor
David Roberts
Warrington

age: 21

Employer
Following course

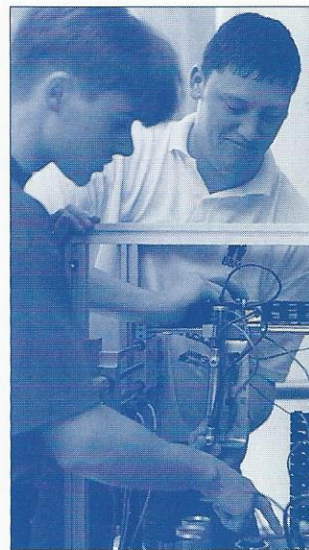
Technical expert
Paul Turnbull
Oaklands College

TEC & college
North & Mid Cheshire TEC
Warrington Collegiate Institute

National competition
Mechatron '96

David Roberts and Andrew Marriott, champions at Mechatron 96, are studying the new technology of mechatronics, which deals with linked computer systems and requires the multi-skilling of technicians. The mechatronics competition involves two person teams. They both recently enjoyed a visit to Australia when they took part in a 'friendly' competition against Australian teams working in their field.

Andrew is a warrant officer in the Air Training Corps and holds his initial gliding certificate. He also plays rugby union. His colleague, David Roberts, plays soccer - but despite the different codes, teamwork is not in question as far as the Skill Olympics is concerned. David is a former Engineering Student of the Year and Andrew holds a Duke of Edinburgh bronze award.



Information Technology

Competitor
Mark Scott
Spennymoor

age: 20

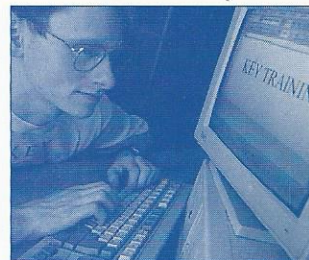
Employer
University of Durham

Technical expert
Mary Barker
Northern Colleges Network, Gateshead

TEC & college
County Durham TEC
University of Northumbria at Newcastle

National competition
SkillIT - Young IT Technician of the Year

Mark Scott, Young Information Technology Technician of the Year (1996) is studying for a BSc in Computing for Industry at the University of Northumbria, Newcastle upon Tyne while working at Durham University's Department of Geography. He holds the BTEC Higher National Certificate in Computing. His spare-time interests range from music (he plays the trombone) to motor racing. He also enjoys science fiction.



Pattern Making

Competitor
Mark Limbert
Derby

age: 22

Employer
Rolls-Royce plc, Derby

Technical expert
Mark Goodwin
Patterns Plus, Stoke on Trent

TEC & college
Southern Derbyshire TEC
Chesterfield College of Technology and Arts

National competition
National Pattern Making

Mark Limbert, National Pattern Making champion, works for Rolls-Royce plc at the Derby aerospace group. He completed a four-year apprenticeship in 1995 and holds City & Guilds qualifications in Patternmaking as well as the NVQ Level 3 in Engineering Material Processing. His spare time activities include motor sport and car maintenance.



Wall and Floor Tiling

Competitor
Richard Cox
Garforth, Leeds

age: 20

Employer
B Darnton & Co Ltd
Garforth, Leeds

Technical expert
Brian Musson
Leeds College of Building

TEC & college
Leeds TEC
Leeds College of Building

National competition
SkillBUILD

Richard Cox, a SkillBUILD winner, studied wall and floor tiling at Leeds College of Building, which has produced several Skill Olympics contestants over the years. His employers, B Darnton and Co also had a contestant in the 1995 competition. Richard holds the BTEC National Diploma at Levels 1 and 2. Physical fitness and sport (he has played Rugby League for Castleford) take up most of his spare time.



Autobody Repair

Competitor
James Happs
Aldershot

age: 20

Employer
Cowie Aldershot

Technical expert
Karl Vella
Karl Vella Auto Body Repairs Ltd
Skelmersdale

TEC & college
Hampshire TEC
Centrex, Livingstone

National competition
SkillAUTO - National Automotive Technician

James Happs has a string of successes in his skill of autobody repair, including double distinctions in all his City & Guilds qualifications up to and including Level 3. He was twice made Apprentice of the Year by his employers, Cowie Aldershot, and was awarded their Certificate of Excellence in 1996. He achieved his Skill Olympics nomination following his win at the National Automotive Technician Competitions.



Plumbing

Competitor
Daniel Burpitt
Whittlesey, Peterborough

age: 19

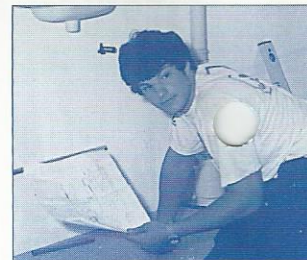
Employer
John Burpitt Plumbing and Heating
Whittlesey, Peterborough

Technical expert
Laurie Croft
JIB for Plumbing Mechanical
Engineering Services, St Neots

TEC & college
Greater Peterborough TEC
Peterborough Regional College

National competition
JIB National Plumbing

Daniel Burpitt studied at Peterborough Regional College, which helped to produce a bronze medallist in plumbing at the 1995 Skill Olympics. He is working towards NVQ level 3 and is also taking part in a Modern Apprenticeship. He was also a member of a party of 10 young Britons, all competitions winners in their various trades, who took part in a study tour of Australia this spring.



Industrial Electronics

Competitor
David Holden
Chorley

age: 20

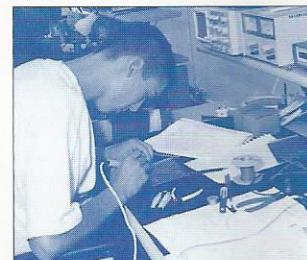
Employer
British Aerospace Defence Ltd
Warton Aerodrome, Preston

Technical expert
Gareth Humphreys
British Aerospace Defence, Bolton

TEC & college
LAWTEC
University of Central Lancashire

National competition
Top Technician in Industrial Electronics

David Holden, won Top Technician of the Year in Industrial Electronics and has been British Aerospace Defence's Technician Apprentice of the Year. He sees the military aerospace business as offering many opportunities for technicians who want to be at the forefront of new developments. He is studying for a Higher National Diploma and a spare-time activity is the restoration of motor cycles.



Electronic Applications

Competitor
Ian Hanna
Wigan

age: 21

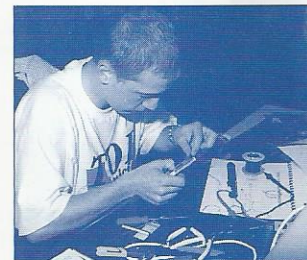
Employer
British Aerospace Defence Ltd
Warton Aerodrome, Preston

Technical expert
Mick Cartmell
British Aerospace Defence Ltd
Warton Aerodrome, Preston

TEC & college
METROTEC (WIGAN)
University of Central Lancashire

National competition
Top Technician in Industrial Electronics

Ian Hanna is studying for his Higher National Diploma while working for British Aerospace Defence at Warton Aerodrome, Preston. British Aerospace has produced other Skill Olympics competitors in the past and has two employees in this year's event. He is a former BAe Apprentice Electrician of the Year. He is also interested in football and golf.



Commercial Wiring

Competitor
Cyril McAlister
Newtonbutler, Co Fermanagh

age: 22

Employer
John G McElwaine,
Lisnaskea, Co Fermanagh

Technical expert
Ronnie Geary
Electrical Training Trust, Ballymena

Training centre
Enniskillen Government Training
Centre

National competition
SkillElectric

Cyril McAlister holds City & Guilds qualifications parts 1 and 2 in his skill and works on commercial wiring installations throughout Northern Ireland. He has two speedboats and in his spare time he water skis as well as enjoying clay pigeon and target shooting, badminton and flying model aircraft. His horticulturist brother has won an award at the Chelsea Flower Show which has spurred on Cyril to win something too.



Bricklaying

Competitor
Lee Blower
Shrewsbury

age: 22

Employer
Self-employed

Technical expert
Barrie Roe
Peterborough Regional College

TEC & college
Shropshire TEC
Shrewsbury College of Arts and
Technology

National competition
SkillBUILD

Lee Blower has honed his competitive spirit with his spare-time activity of cross-country running, circuit training and squash. He is a former Apprentice of the Year in his skill and took the silver medal in the SkillBUILD national competition in 1995 before winning it last year. He attended Shrewsbury College. He has City and Guilds and NVQ qualifications. He wants eventually to run his own business, providing high-quality brickwork in his area.



Stonemasonry

Competitor
Robin Goodman
Trowbridge

age: 21

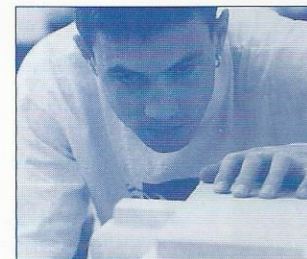
Employer
Capital Masonry Company Ltd
Corsham, Wilts

Technical expert
Richard Golland
Faulkland, Somerset

TEC & college
Wiltshire TEC
City of Bath College

National competition
SkillBUILD

Robin Goodman is another product of City of Bath College, which produced a bronze medallist in stonemasonry at the 1995 Skill Olympics. He has City & Guilds qualifications and NVQ Level 3 and has undertaken CITB training and a Modern Apprenticeship. His work has already involved him in projects for royal palaces and stately homes. He says that eventually he might like to develop his work into stone carving and statuary.



Painting & Decorating

Competitor
Ian Cockburn
Edinburgh

age: 21

Employer
T Sheerin & Son
Edinburgh

Technical expert
Mike Thomas
Hastings College of Arts & Technology

LEC & college
Lothian and Edinburgh Enterprise Ltd
Edinburgh's Telford College

National competition
SkillBUILD

Ian Cockburn, who lives and works in Edinburgh, studied at Telford College and holds Scottish Vocational Qualification level 3. In addition to other national and Scottish awards he was the Crown Berger Young Decorator of the Year. His spare time interests include golf, swimming and cycling. He would like eventually to run his own painting and decorating business.



Plastering

Competitor
Kevin Grainger
Normanton

age: 21

Employer
Wakefield Metropolitan District Council
Normanton

Technical expert
Simon Watkins
Leeds College of Building

TEC & college
Wakefield TEC
Leeds College of Building

National competition
SkillBUILD

Kevin Grainger works for Wakefield Metropolitan District Council and studied at Leeds College of Building, which has sent several competitors to the Skill Olympics in the past, including a gold medallist in plastering in 1995. He has won bronze, silver and gold medals at SkillBUILD competitions. He enjoys match fishing as a leisure occupation.



Cabinet Making

Competitor
Jonathan Harris
Cawdor, Nairnshire

age: 21

Employer
Self-employed

Technical expert
Peter Legg
Buckingham College of Higher Education

LEC & college
Inverness & Nairn Enterprise
Buckinghamshire College of HE

National competition
SkillBUILD

Jonathan Harris obtained a BA (Hons) degree in Furniture Design and Craftsmanship and among his other qualifications holds a City & Guilds in Furniture Craft. He is self-employed and lives in Nairnshire, where he has the opportunity to take part many outdoor activities, including canoeing, camping and abseiling. He also enjoys career-related activities like french polishing and upholstering. He eventually wants to start up his own furniture-making business.



Joinery

Competitor
James Shoulder
London

age: 21

Employer
Wisby Group Ltd, Croydon

Technical expert
Martin Burdfield
Hackney Community College

TEC & college
SOLOTEC
Croydon College

National competition
SkillBUILD

James Shoulder, a SkillBUILD champion in joinery, works and studied in Croydon and held a Construction Industry Training Board apprenticeship. In his spare time he enjoys several sports, including soccer, rugby, cricket and judo. He holds a bronze award for life saving. In his trade he has obtained NVQ Levels 2 and 3. He has worked on specialised building refurbishment and says SkillBUILD competitions have made him more confident in his work.



Carpentry

Competitor
David Brown
Dromore, Co. Down

age: 21

Employer
Self-employed

Technical expert
David Howson
Bradford & Ilkley Community College

College
East Down Institute of FHE

National competition
SkillBUILD

David Brown is self-employed and lives and works in Dromore, County Down. At previous SkillBUILD competitions he won silver and bronze medals before obtaining golds in 1995 and 1996. In his spare time he enjoys motor cycle road racing, badminton and snooker. He holds City & Guilds craft certificates 1 and 2. He is proud of having competed in the European Professional Competition of Carpenters in Germany in 1996.



Jewellery

Competitor
Chris Giddings
London

age: 21

Employer
Garrard & Co Ltd, London

Technical expert
Robin Kyte
London Guildhall University

TEC & college
Focus Central London
London Guildhall University

National competition
UK Fine Jewellery

Chris Giddings, national champion in UK Fine Jewellery, works for Garrard & Co, Crown Jewellers, and studied at the London Guildhall University. In addition to his finely skilled work as a jeweller he has another interest: motor cycles and obtained a City & Guilds qualification in motor cycle maintenance in 1995.



Automobile Technology

Competitor
Simon Haycock
Banbury

age: 22

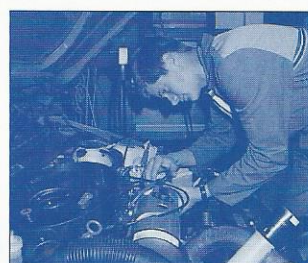
Employer
Grays Garage, Warwick

Technical expert
Alan Jones
Centrex, Telford

TEC & college
Coventry and Warwickshire TEC
Mid-Warwicks College

National competition
SkillAUTO - National Automotive Technician

Simon Haycock, was a City & Guilds best student in the maintenance and repair of road vehicles level 3. He beat 700 competitors nationwide to win his title in light vehicle maintenance. He also holds a BTEC certificate. He enjoys Land Rover trials and competitive safaris and is a former Young Farmers' Club chairman. Vehicles and engineering are in his blood; he says he is the third generation of his family to work in the field.



Cookery

Competitor
Paul Ribbands
Bromley

age: 19

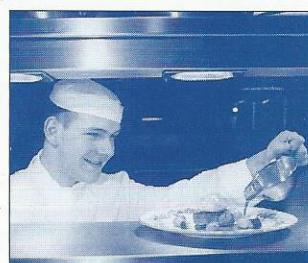
Employer
The Lanesborough Hotel
London

Technical expert
Peter Richards
Westminster College

TEC & college
SOLOTEC
Croydon College

National competition
Hospitality Skills

Paul Ribbands, champion under-23 chef at Hospitality Skills, works at the Lanesborough Hotel, and has been a finalist in a number of other competitions. He studied at Croydon College and holds City & Guilds and BTEC qualifications as well as NVQ up to level 3. Soccer, tennis and reading are among his spare-time activities.



Restaurant Service

Competitor
Giles Selves
Lindfield, W Sussex

age: 20

Employer
Sheraton Park Tower Hotel
London

Technical expert
Rob Smith
Birmingham College of Food, Tourism
and Creative Studies

TEC & college
Focus Central London

National competition
Hospitality Skills

Giles Selves became the national champion in Restaurant Service this year after a distinguished record in Young Waiter of the Year heats. He also holds a qualification in cellar management. He rejoiced earlier this year in discovering that he was the youngest head waiter in London but has now been promoted to Assistant Banqueting Manager. In his spare time he enjoys a variety of sports including cricket, hockey, windsurfing and skiing.



Car Painting

Competitor
Tim Jackson
Barnstaple

age: 21

Employer
Taw Garages Ltd, Barnstaple

Technical expert
Bill Jones
Tamworth College

TEC & college
Devon and Cornwall TEC
Exeter College

National competition
SkillAuto - National Automotive Technician

Tim Jackson, national champion in car painting, lives and works in Barnstaple and studied at Exeter College. His spare time is given up to physical fitness activities including swimming, mountain biking, weight lifting and fitness training. He has obtained City & Guilds certificates up to level 3 as well as Road Transport Industry Training Board and other industry-related qualifications.



Agricultural Mechanics

Competitor
Philip Skinner
Laughton, Leicester

age: 21

Employer
K F Kirby (Harboro) Ltd
Market Harborough

Technical expert
John Pedley
Evesham College

TEC & college
Leicestershire TEC
Brooksby College

National competition
SkillAUTO - National Automotive Technician

Philip Skinner, Agricultural Mechanics champion, attended Brooksby College in Leicestershire and works in Market Harborough. He has already achieved NVQ level 2 and is now working on level 3. He says his participation in the Skill Olympics should really help him in his career. In his spare time he takes part in Young Farmers' Club activities.



Refrigeration Techniques

Competitor
David Archer
Bournemouth

age: 19

Employer
Sarum Refrigeration Ltd
Salisbury

Technical expert
Ian Lochray
North Glasgow College

TEC & college
Dorset TEC
Eastleigh College

National competition
SkillFRIDGE

David Archer, National Young Refrigeration Engineer of the Year, is working towards his NVQ Level 3. His will to win to competitions stems from a teacher telling him to believe that he could do what he wanted to do. He would like to be a design engineer in refrigeration. He was south-west weight-lifting champion for his age group in 1992 and 1993.



TEAM LEADERS: Archie Sharkie MBE, formerly Industrial Liaison Officer, North Glasgow College. Martin Jones, Lecturer, Derby Tertiary College, Wilmorton

OFFICIAL DELEGATE: Sir John Cassels CB, Chairman, UK SKILLS

TECHNICAL DELEGATE: Jim Hammer CB, UK SKILLS Board Member

OFFICIAL OBSERVERS: Mike Nixon, Chief Executive, North London TEC Patricia Snell, Chief Executive, UK SKILLS



UK SKILLS is recognised by the government as the standard-setting body for skills competitions in the United Kingdom and is promoting the development of a national framework of skills competitions covering every industry sector. It is also the official UK body



affiliated to the International Vocational Training Organisation (IVTO), and organises the British entry to the International Youth Skills Competition (Skill Olympics).

The Skill Olympics are held every two years in one of the 30+ IVTO member countries. Competitions held over four days in 40 occupational skills

are open to contestants up to the age of 22. After St Gallen, future events will be in Montreal, Canada, in 1999, and Seoul, South Korea, in 2001.



34th Youth Skill Olympics
St.Gallen/Switzerland
July 4-7, 1997

UK·SKILLS

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