



## News Release

May 2017

### **DERBY STUDENT NAMED AS A WINNER IN JEWSON YOUNG TRADESPERSON OF THE YEAR AWARDS**

Jewson has named Matthew Woodhouse, a brickwork student from Derby, as a winner in its 2017 Young Tradesperson of the Year competition.

Matthew, who is currently studying at Derby College, was crowned the Best Young Tradesperson under 18 after impressing the judges with his skill and passion for the trade.

On being named a winner in the competition, Matthew commented: "I didn't think I'd be in with a chance on winning when I found out I had been shortlisted, so to be named as the winner is mind-blowing. All of the hard work has paid off and it's great to have the recognition that tradespeople don't often get – especially the young ones. I'm absolutely ecstatic!"

Jewson named six winners within the competition. Ollie Allen, a carpenter from Sheffield, scooped the top prize of International festival tickets, a holiday abroad, VIP gig tickets and up to £750 worth of building materials after taking the overall crown of Young Tradesperson of the Year.

As well as the overall Young Tradesperson of the Year, five category winners were announced in the competition:

**Overall Young Tradesperson of the Year:** Ollie Allen

**Best Apprentice:** Kieron Smith, Kent

**Best Young Tradesperson under 18:** Matthew Woodhouse, Derby

**Best Young Tradesperson 18-24:** Jack Allen, Glasgow

**Best Young Tradesperson 25-30:** Ross Conquest, Sussex

**Best Young Business Person/Entrepreneur:** Tobie O'Dell, Hertfordshire (winner)

**Best Young Business Person/Entrepreneur:** Ben Kuchta, Warwickshire (highly commended)

Each of the category winners have been awarded VIP gig tickets and £250 Jewson branch credit.

The judging panel of industry experts comprised: Gillian Cane, National Delivery Manager for CITB apprenticeships; Thomas Marples, Head of the National Construction Academy; Fiona Russell-Horne, Editor at Builders Merchants Journal and Adam Barrie of On The Tools.

Clare Harding, Marketing Services Director at Jewson, commented: "The calibre of entries we've received this year has been so high that picking the winners was by no means easy.

"Matthew is a fantastic example of the emerging talent in the construction industry, and the things he has achieved so early on in his career deserve to be celebrated. It goes to show that hard work and motivation can go a long way in succeeding in a construction career."

The winners were announced and awarded their prizes at an exclusive event at the Custard Factory, Birmingham, on 28<sup>th</sup> April.

For more information, visit: [www.jewson.com/youngtradesperson](http://www.jewson.com/youngtradesperson).

**-Ends-**

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**Notes to editors**

**Jewson**

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