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Local apprentice wins training title

AN Emerald diesel fitting apprentice has taken home the Torgas Apprentice and Trainee Encouragement Award.

Rhys O'Donoghue, a first year apprentice, was selected from a field of Torgas apprentices and trainees.

He travelled to Brisbane to be presented with the award recently, and attended a gala awards dinner.

Mr O'Donoghue is completing his apprenticeship through Central Queensland TAFE, employed by Komatsu, working out at Ensham.

He was nominated by his supervisor Phil Moore.

Mr Moore said he nominated Rhys for the award because of the amount of skill he accrued over a short period of time.

"When he first started he had very limited skills and knowledge in the area of trade," he said.

"The period he's been with us I've seen Rhys progress to a level which will make him a good tradesman, on the completion of his apprenticeship."

Rhys received tools for his trade as well as a glass plaque and a bottle of wine as his prize.

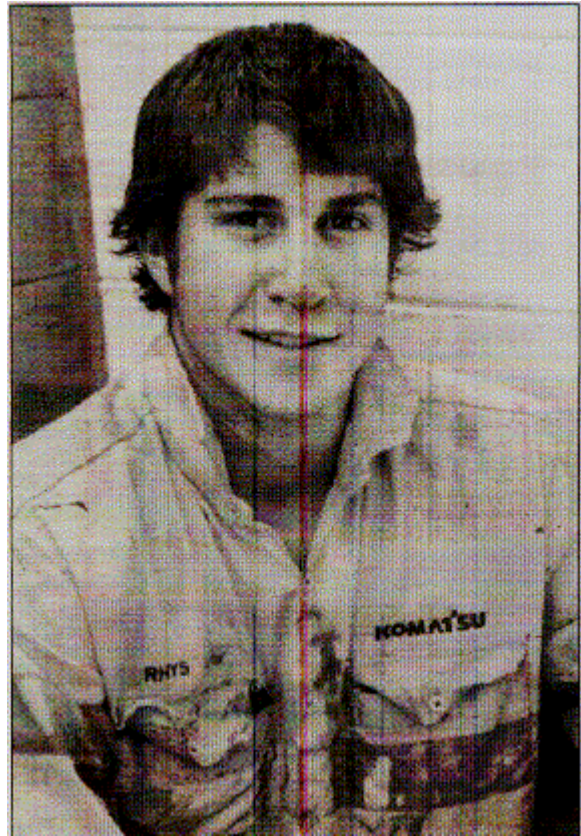
He said when it came to deciding what to do in establishing himself in a career, the decision was always clear.

"It was just something I always wanted to do," he said.

Rhys said the thing he enjoyed most about the apprenticeship so far was the amount of real learning he had been able to take on board.

"It's been good," he said.

Rhys said he would recommend an apprenticeship.



■ **ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD:** Rhys O'Donoghue was awarded with a Torgas Apprentice and Trainee Encouragement Award for his efforts as a first year diesel fitter.