

copper

matters 2013

Copper in the Built Environment

A Message from the Chairman

Phill Jackson
Chairman



We hope that you have had a successful, and profitable, year. The UK Copper Board has been very busy this year taking part in events such as the Ideal Home Show, 100% Design, PHEX and supporting the SkillPLUMB and HIP! skills competitions. This year we have been encouraging young plumbers through the provision of educational material as well as 15 and 22mm copper tube cutters. We hope that, if you had a chance to catch up with us somewhere across the country, you managed to pick up a cutter. If not, we are planning our 2014 appearances, so your opportunity to pick up a tube cutter is not lost.

We hope that you enjoy receiving your copy of Copper Matters and, if you have any comments or suggestions, please contact us at copperboard@copperdev.co.uk.

Sporting Copper!

In recent times we have seen copper and copper alloys (such as brass and bronze) being used on some fantastic sporting facilities:

- Sports centre in Aretxabaleta, Spain
- A gymnasium in Chelles, France
- Training facilities for Krasnodar Youth Academy, Russia
- Atalanta Football Club, Italy
- Chelsea Football Club
- The England National Football Centre at St George's Park
- Splashpoint in Worthing
- The Olympic Handball Arena (Copper Box)



The Copper Box on the Olympic Park is now open, as part of the Legacy of the Games, and being used to host sporting events like basketball with the London Lions, netball with Leyton Netball Club, professional boxing and rock concerts. There is also an opportunity for visitors to use the gym facilities.

The UK Copper Board have been to Manchester and Chelsea PHEX Shows and met a lot of new people. Thanks to everyone who came to see us and who picked up one of our polo shirts or tube cutters. It was good to hear the views of plumbers just starting out on their careers, as well as those who have years of experience behind them. The feedback we gained is that copper is still the material of choice for domestic pipework services for the professional installer.



Copper, the ideal material for the ideal home

As part of the Come Home to Copper campaign, copper pipework was on display at this year's Ideal Home Show, held over 18 days at Earls Court in London. The stand promoted copper pipework for all domestic services, including solar thermal systems and a shower. Alongside the pipework we used lots of copper, brass and bronze sheet to highlight their use in architectural applications.



Visitors to the stand were very impressed by the uses of copper around the home and many seemed surprised that anyone would think of having something other than copper pipework in their house. Leaflets on pipework, architecture and the antimicrobial properties of copper were given away along with copies of At Home magazine, edited by Sarah Beeney, which featured articles on copper pipework and architecture.

The Regionals: Wales, North of England, Midlands, South of England

A review of the events that took place earlier in the year.

SkillPLUMB crowns best in Wales

20 year-old Owain Powell from GVJ Plumbing & Heating in Ceredigion was named best young plumber in Wales, following the SkillPLUMB Wales national final at Deeside College on 14 May. Owain, studying at Coleg Sir Gar, went up against 10 other competitors in a task to install a small central heating system. Their work had to be completed within the time limit, safely and to recognised industry standards, with a very small tolerance for errors.

Second place was awarded to Lewis Coombs of Bridgend College, with the third place slot going to Richard Carlson of Gower College Swansea.

Speaking of his win, Owain said: "I wasn't expecting this at all; I thought there were others that may have done better, so it was great to hear my name called out! I hope I can now move onto the next stage and do well for Wales."

Michael is the North's best young plumber

The 2013 SkillPLUMB competition named 22-year old Michael Yuile as the North's best young plumber following a challenging one-day event at Burnley College on 30 April. Michael, an apprentice with Cheshire Building Contractors and studying at Warrington College, came out on top after six competitors went head-to-head on a plumbing task to install a small central heating system. Judges awarded Michael the most points against tough criteria including accuracy, quality of work and health and safety.

Second place was awarded to Benjamin Whitfield of TD Whitfields & Sons and Leeds College of Building, with the third place slot going to Craig George of Ayre Heating & Plumbing and New College Durham.

Speaking of his win, Michael said: "I couldn't quite believe it when I heard my name, you're never sure how well you've done so I'm over the moon to have won. And to know I'm the best in the North is an added bonus! Well done to all the other lads as well, and thank you to Warrington College and my employer Cheshire Building Contractors for their help."

Martyn for the Midlands

The Midlands' heat in the 2013 SkillPLUMB competition saw 23-year-old Martyn Lee named the Midlands' best young plumber after a demanding event at Burton & South Derbyshire College on 12 June.

Martyn, an apprentice with Adrian Kidman Plumbing & Heating and studying at Cambridge Regional College, beat seven other competitors in a head-to-head plumbing task to install a small central heating system.

Fabio Crusco of P Chester & Sons (Bedford) Ltd and Bedford College took second place, with the third place slot going to Burton & South Derbyshire College student Liam Ellison, who is employed by KRS Mechanical Services.

On winning, Martyn said: "I didn't think I'd be able to do it, but it's brilliant hearing your name being called out as the winner. It's now given me the confidence to go on to do better at work and hopefully progress to the next stage of the competition."

South of England

The final 2013 SkillPLUMB regional heat named 20-year-old George Caddick as the South's best young plumber, after a close-run event at Bridgwater College on 26 June.

George, an apprentice with Blue Bay Plumbing & Heating and studying at Cornwall College, scored most highly out of nine competitors who went head-to-head in a plumbing task to install a small central heating system.

Second place was awarded to Jon-Marc Sullivan of Sullivan Plumbing & Heating and K College, with the third place slot going to Lee Hopper of Mid Kent College.

"I was just happy to finish the task, never mind to have won!" said George. "It's been exciting and hard at times but I've learnt a lot and I'm glad to have done so well, for myself and also for my family, college and employer who have supported me."

And in Northern Ireland – Super skilled construction apprentices compete to be the best

Over 100 competitors from all over the Province tested their skills at Skillbuild 2013 which was held at Northern Regional College, Newtownabbey Campus on 20 and 21 March.

Skillbuild NI is held annually each spring, with the top local construction apprentices competing to win coveted titles in 12 different construction craft areas. The winners may then go on to represent Northern Ireland in the UK Skillbuild Finals and potentially the UK at WorldSkills.

In the Plumbing competition the top three students all study at SRC Newry. First place went to Gary Doyle, second place to Alan McCombe and third place to Shane Branagan.

Other competitors who reached the Final:

- Paul Devenney from BMC Millfield
- Ryan Callan from SWC Omagh
- Sam Taggart from NRC Newtownabbey
- Connor Quigely from NWRC Springtown

SkillPLUMB Final

The SkillPLUMB 2013 competition has named Shane Branagan from Martin Johnston as its UK champion after three days of intense practical competition during the Skills Show at the Birmingham NEC from 14 to 16 November.



Gold Shane Branagan

Closely watched by judges and over 80,000 visitors to the show, the finalists had to fit a simulated domestic central heating system, a wash basin, hot and cold shower pipework and plastic waste pipework to a simulated WC.

Shane, a student at Southern Regional College/CITB NI, beat nine other competitors to take the gold medal after judges scored him most highly against strict criteria including bend and joint quality, bend angles and clearances, plumb and level pipework and appliances, soundness testing, material usage and health and safety.

A silver medal was awarded to Gary Doyle of Kieran Trainor, also a student at Southern Regional College/CITB NI. Adrian Kidman Plumbing & Heating Ltd's Martyn Lee, studying at Cambridge Regional College, took the bronze medal. Also ranking highly was George Caddick, employed by Blue Bay and trained by Cornwall College.



Silver Gary Doyle

Bronze Martyn Lee

All finalists received a certificate, finalist medallion and tools donated from competition sponsors. The top three contestants also received their bronze, silver or gold medals along with a cash prize.

The finalists, listed with their employer and training provider details, were:

- Michael Yuile – Cheshire Building Contractors/ Warrington College
- George Caddick – Blue Ray/Cornwall College
- Jon-Marc Sullivan – Sullivan Plumbing & Heating/K College
- Lee Hopper – Mid Kent College
- Martyn Lee – Adrian Kidman Plumbing & Heating/ Cambridge Regional College
- Fabio Crusco – P Chester & Sons (Bedford) Ltd/ Bedford College
- Gary Doyle – Keiran Trainor/South Regional College/ CITB NI
- Alan McCombe – Pat O'Hagan/ South Regional College/CITB NI
- Shane Branagan – Martin Johnston/ South Regional College/CITB NI
- James Parry – Neil Hadden Plumbing & Heating/ Moray College/SNIPEF



Speaking after his win, Shane said: "All of us knew it was going to be a challenge but the competition was really tough. I couldn't have done it without the support of my employer Martin Johnston and the skills I have learnt with Southern Regional College/CITB NI. Knowing that visitors to the Skills Show were watching made me feel proud of my skills and knowledge. I hope maybe some of them have been inspired to think about a career in this industry."

SkillPLUMB has the UK Copper Board as its premier sponsor and is organised by SummitSkills, the Sector Skills Council for building services engineering.

"A big congratulations to Shane," said Neil Collishaw of SummitSkills. "Everyone was so impressed by the focus and dedication of all our competitors; they have been an inspiration to the Skills Show visitors to show them how highly skilled the plumbing industry is. The atmosphere of the show was amazing and I'd like to say a huge well done to everyone who took part."

For more information on SkillPLUMB contact SummitSkills on 01908 303972 or visit www.skillplumb.org.uk

HIP! National Apprentice of the Year 2014

The UK Copper Board is continuing their sponsorship for the HIP! skills competition, this time as the Gold Sponsor. The organisers are looking for talented plumbing students (not older than 24 years) who are not afraid to show off their copper pipework skills to take part in the 2014 competition. A number of regional events have been lined up during February with a Grand Final taking place in April.

- North West - Burnley College - 4 February
- Midlands - Burton & South Derbyshire College - 6 February
- South East - Barking & Dagenham College - 11 February
- North East - Middlesbrough College - 13 February
- Wales - Gower College Swansea - 18 February
- South West - Bridgwater College - 20 February



The two-day Final will take place at Adey Conference & Training Centre, Gloucester Road, Cheltenham GL51 8NR on 30 April and 1 May 2014.

More information on the competition can be found on the HIP! website: <http://www.hip-magazine.co.uk/events/national-competition>

'Copperinfo' YouTube channel

We have uploaded a series of 6 movies that show how to design and install a cloakroom. The six movie clips are taken from the educational material in the Make the Right Start section of our Copper Pipework Compendium CD. The clips show how to layout pipework, correct jointing techniques and how to bend copper tube with springs and bending machines.

Copper Development Association Subscribe 32

Copper in Plumbing

Videos exploring how and where copper is used in plumbing. 7 videos 68 views

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1 Plumbing - Copper Push Fit Fittings
by copperinfo 19,927 views
Dan Millichip, UK Copper Board champion of the copper push fit plumbing fittings challenge, demonstrates the ease and speed of use of these flame-free copper fittings in a re-enactment of his winning performance at HIPEX.

2 Cloak room installation - Part 1: UK Copper Board
by copperinfo 52 views
Our plumber installs a basin, W.C. and radiator, creating a cloak room "fit for a king". Part 1 shows the steps taken in planning the project.

3 Cloak room installation - Part 2: UK Copper Board
by copperinfo 8 views

Competition time

For your chance to win a digital camera, simply do a little 'Googling' and answer the questions relating to the 'Copper in a Box' article on the enclosed reply card and send it to us by 28 February 2014. All correct entries will be entered into the prize draw.



- Q1: Which designer mentioned in the article produces the Hex Bowls?
Q2: Give one of the two web addresses for Michael Chaikin's sculptures.

Copper boxes clever

Design objects made from copper and copper alloys were on display on the Copper in a Box stand at 100% Design show held at Earls Court in September. The show, which was part of London Design Week, highlighted the growing importance of copper in contemporary design. Objects created by renowned international designers including Tom Dixon, Voon Wong & Benson Saw, Ilse Crawford and Ingo Maurer shared space on the stand with copper rainwater goods, copper and brass tubes, a copper towel radiator and copper alloy architectural sheet.

A number of UK designers and artists contributed to the display, with objects including Michael Chaikin's Long Grouper fish, screens and bowls by London-based metalsmith Adaesi Ukairo and the Dance Series of bronze sculptures by Hazel Reeves.

Events on the stand included Dutch designer Bart van Heesch showcasing his copper bicycle, which he even rode around London.



Winner

The correct answers to the questions we posed in the Issue 2 2012 Copper Matters, which related to the 'Uffizi Gallery' article were:

Q1: The Uffizi is in the Italian city of Florence but what is the Italian name for this city?

A1: Firenze.

Q2: What is the name of the river that flows through the centre of Florence?

A2: Arno.

Thanks to everyone who sent in a competition entry.

Contact the UKCB: For further details on any information included in this newsletter please contact the Copper Board at copperboard@copperdev.co.uk or visit www.ukcopperboard.co.uk



There's always more to learn

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