



## Introducing Tool Blacks Team Member

**Name:** John Tuau  
**Skill:** Automotive Refinishing  
**From** Hamilton

John has had 26 years in the Automotive Refinishing industry where, he says after training at Wellington Polytechnic, he "did the hard graft through a number of top shops throughout the Waikato".

He became interested in teaching when he volunteered for an American based training company and acquired a taste for teaching others. This is now a passion and he feels strongly about the rewards for young people entering the industry, "Automotive Refinishing is one of the most challenging and rewarding careers to enter into. Matching a colour to perfection and then applying a mirror like finish consistently to different types of vehicles is a reward for your ability to learn".

John is the WorldSkills National Skills Expert and Chief WorldSkills International Judge for Automotive Refinishing. It started 14 years ago, when he ran his first ever WorldSkills event, and he has been hooked on the concept ever since "I enjoy how the competitions cater for all facets of the trade, and that the organisation is improving the standards of the new generation of skilled workers." John enjoys sharing his knowledge with judges throughout the regional and national WorldSkills events, and is proud to see the growth of the Automotive Refinishing event, as a result of industry support.

Travelling to Canada as an International Judge is a great opportunity for John and for the industry, "with the information I gain while I am away, I want to further enhance a training platform for future international competitors, and develop a national training schedule which incorporates the new trends and developments I will experience while working with the other international judges".

John Tuau has great plans for the future, which also includes publishing a book in his field, and continuing his education. He enjoys playing rugby and exercising his artistic talents through calligraphy and drawing for leisure.

### You can help John get to WorldSkills in Japan

John has funding from the Motor Industry Training Organisation Inc (MITO) and the MTA. WorldSkills NZ and John would like to thank these organisations for their support of the Automotive Refinishing competition.

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

