

# Champion plumber is flushed with success

A YOUNG plumber from Oyne is the best in the UK. Shaun Scott, 25, a former pupil of The Gordon Schools was named as the UK Plumber of the Year 2016 following an interview last Wednesday.

Votes cast by clients and Huntly Express readers put Shaun into the final five in the competition from hundreds of entries from all over the UK.

During the 50-minute interview in Tamworth, Shaun presented a portfolio, accompanied by a powerpoint presentation and a video of his day-to-day work. However, he was back on the job the next day before he learned of his success.

One of the challenges for Shaun was to demonstrate that as a rural plumber you have to do all aspects of the job. The presentation showed the quality of his work across a wide variety of skills from



Shaun Scott, UK Plumber of the Year, third right, with members of the judging panel.

maintenance, repairs and new installations.

The judges also required him to give his vision on the plumbing industry in the next five to 10 years and were impressed by his prediction that plumbing would become more technological.

During the presentation, Shaun, a plumber for nine years, spoke about a particularly challenging bathroom restoration project in Huntly which had been deemed not worth the effort but which he completed.

As UK Plumber of the Year, Shaun receives £10,000 worth of

prizes in the form of tools, materials and vouchers.

He said: "It's an absolute honour to be named the UK Plumber of the Year. It is great to win the prizes but for me the really important thing is the accolade. To be able to say that I was judged the best plumber in the UK is fantastic."

Shaun is employed in the family business and his father, Derek, said: "Shaun put a lot of work into his presentation for the judges so he deserved to do well. It is great to see that a plumber from up here in the north-east

can enter a national competition and be treated seriously."

Shaun was the sole Scot and the youngest of the five finalists who came from Devon, Bolton, North Shields and Cambridge.

Judge John Schofield said: "We thought the level of entries in 2015 was incredibly high, but we've been blown away by the standards this year. Our final interview stage was incredible and Shaun is a worthy winner. He demonstrated real skill and intuition, plus gave us an insight into where the future of plumbing is going."