



guildnews

THE RESULTS ARE IN

EDUCATION AWARDS

This year's results from the GAI's education programme show a record pass rate at Level One and an impressive 44 candidates passed their Level Three examinations becoming Diploma holders with the right to use the Dip GAI letters after their names. These newly qualified professionals can also become Registered Architectural Ironmongers (Reg AI) upon registration.

The outstanding results from this year's exams, which were taken by an unprecedented number of candidates, reflect the GAI's continued commitment to education excellence:

Level One: 83% pass rate: up 1% on last year's previously record breaking results

Level Two: 68% pass rate: down on last year

Level Three: Scheduling 40% and Business Studies 66% pass rate: both well up on last year

The newly qualified Diploma holders will receive their certificates at the GAI Education Awards Lunch on the 5th of November at the Royal Garden Hotel. Contact Veronica at the GAI office for booking details.

Mike Kelly, Chairman of the examination panel is impressed with the results. "Once more the results are very encouraging and reflect the hard work that the students have put in," he comments.

At all levels, the most successful students were those who attended residential courses. "The Gold, Silver and Bronze medallists at Level Three, as well as the fourth and fifth-placed students all attended either the residential course or an in-house course this year – testimony to how well these events are run," concludes Mike Kelly.

Congratulations to all the successful students – especially the prize winners.

HÄFELE

FINDING BETTER WAYS

SPONSORSHIP DEAL MARKS NEW ERA FOR AWARDS LUNCH

This year's GAI Education Awards Lunch is being sponsored for the first time by HÄFELE. It is fitting that a company which has a long tradition of investing in GAI education (with a long list of medal winners to prove it!) should be so firmly associated with the event where educational excellence is recognised and celebrated.

HÄFELE's excellent track record in producing successful and medal winning students is a testimony to the time, money and expertise which the company invests in training students from across all of its divisions, including entering candidates from as far afield as India. This new partnership with the GAI cements that commitment and offers the opportunity to lift this already popular event to new levels.

Director of HÄFELE's AI Business, Mike Kelly believes the new partnership offers a very exciting prospect "We are pleased to be associated with the GAI and the event and are looking forward to the opportunity to work together on this project, and to staging successful Education Awards Lunches over the next two years."

GAI Chief Executive, Gary Amer, also believes this arrangement offers both organisations a real opportunity to take the event forward. "I have been pleased and impressed with the commitment which HÄFELE has already shown to this event and I'm sure the day will be successful for them and the GAI. I'm really looking forward to working with their team to step this event up to new levels in the coming weeks."

page 2
gary's view



page 3
pinnacle
of
success



page 4
open
for
business





gary's view

The 2008/9 academic year saw a record number of students



across all three levels of the Education Programme. A clear statement of the industry's commitment to the importance of training and developing staff, and the need to keep on top of changes to regulations and standards.

Forty four students successfully completed the 3 year programme and will be awarded their GAI Diploma at this year's Education Awards Lunch on 5 November. We are looking forward to celebrating their success and that of the other prize winners. You can find out more about the lunch, and the booking form, on the GAI website.

You will also find on the website the Education Prospectus for 2009/10. This has been circulated to all member companies but in reading this you may yet to have seen a copy. You can download one from the website or, if you prefer, contact Jean Gibson at the GAI office and she will be pleased to send you one.

Enrolments for this academic year are steadily rolling in. The absolute deadline for registration is 31 December and some may be tempted to hold back until nearer that date. However, this disadvantages the student who only has until 12 March 2010 to complete the course work books. So enrol now and give the student time to enjoy the new look Personal Development Pack and, if on level 1, get to grips with the new online assessment facility.

Gary Amer Chief Executive

annual education awards lunch



Keith Maer, Education Committee Chairman

AND THE WINNER IS...

The GAI's annual Education Awards Lunch has long been one of the most eagerly anticipated events in the AI calendar. Not only does it give the industry a chance to celebrate the success of its students, it is one of the industry's best networking opportunities and a thoroughly enjoyable occasion.

This year's event is once again being held at the Royal Garden Hotel, Kensington on the 5th of November and will have an extra edge since the Prize winners and Pinnacle Award winner will not find out the results until the day itself.

Keith Maer, the Chairman of the GAI's Education Committee, believes this new angle will make the day even more enjoyable. "At this year's Specification Awards, the winners didn't know they had been successful until their name was called out and this proved to be a very successful format," he comments. "We decided to continue this idea on to this Lunch and keep the various winners secret until the actual day - it will certainly add to the excitement and pleasure of the day."

DON'T MISS OUT

It's not too late to book a seat or a table at the Education Awards Lunch. This year it is easier than ever, simply go online to www.gai.org.uk/news or email Veronica at the GAI's HQ on veronica.wrigley@gai.org.uk and she'll be happy to help. Tickets are priced at just £98 + VAT. Book now to avoid disappointment.



PINNACLE OF SUCCESS

The Pinnacle Award, sponsored by **ASSA ABLOY**, is part of the GAI's ongoing commitment to excellence in education and training in the architectural ironmongery trade. This year's winner has yet to be revealed as the announcement is being made at the GAI's Education Awards Lunch on 5th November.

It is awarded to the student who has achieved consistently over the three year education programme and is certainly a prize worth winning. For all their hard work the winner collects an impressive Pinnacle trophy and a valuable travel voucher.

Last year's winner, Neil Furness (pictured right) certainly put the prize to good use, jetting off to the Seychelles with his wife. But it is the prestige of winning that pleased Neil the most – that and the advantages that being a qualified AI bring to his career. "It's a brilliant basis for anyone to push forward in their AI career. Having a Diploma is a prerequisite in this industry and very worthwhile having on the CV," he says.



IN A SPIN

The guest speaker at this year's Education Awards Lunch is sure to get the audience in a spin – he's the former Prime Minister Tony Blair's director of communications and strategy and right hand man, Alastair Campbell.

In his time in Downing Street he was involved in all the major policy issues and international crises making him uniquely placed to give an insight into the workings of the inner circles of British politics. Often controversial, always opinionated and entertaining, Alastair Campbell also has fascinating experiences in a number of different fields including journalism, charity fund raising and mental health awareness.

He will certainly leave his audience on 5th of November with plenty to think about.





OPEN FOR BUSINESS

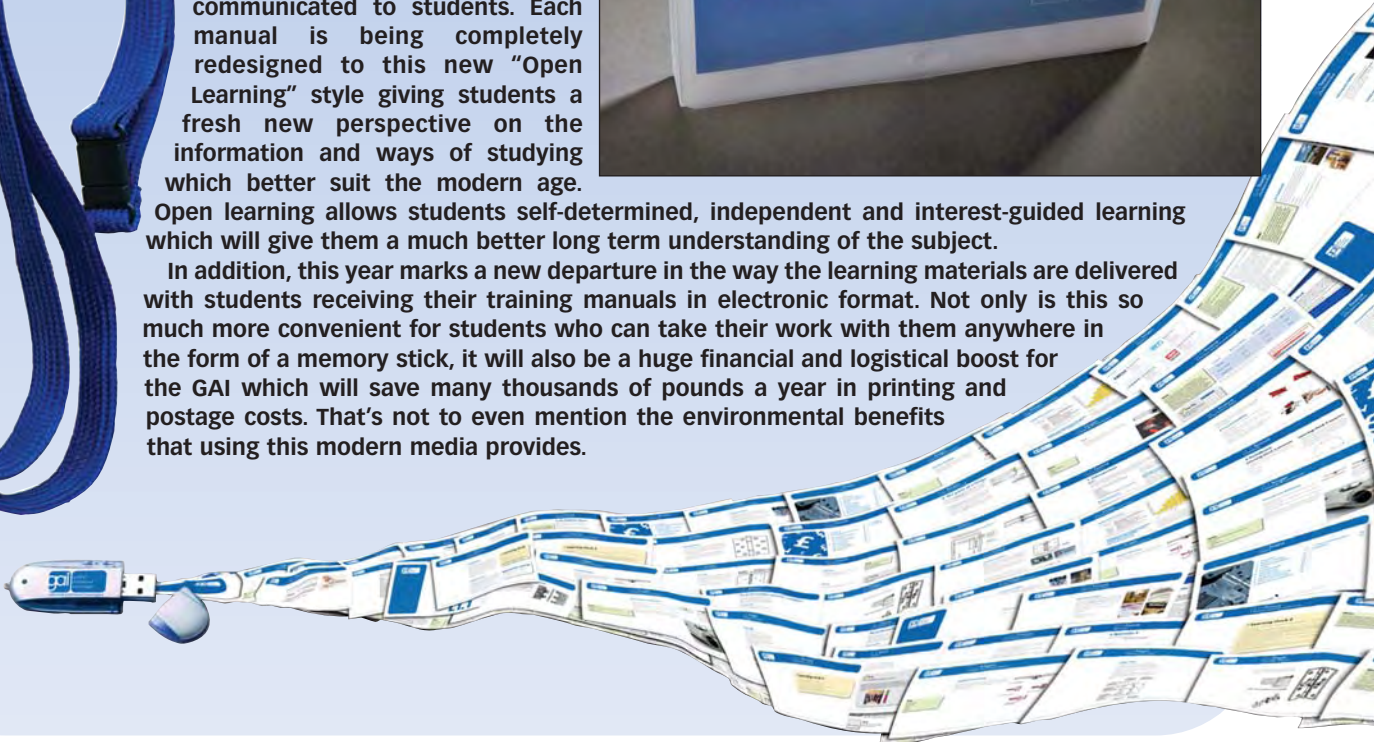
The way that we interact with the world, collect information, and communicate has changed irrevocably in the last ten years. It's hard to remember a time when emails didn't exist and where the answer to any question was just a google-click away.

The GAI's education programme has changed beyond recognition to reflect these new ways of working.

The first of these is a change in the style and way in which information is presented and communicated to students. Each manual is being completely redesigned to this new "Open Learning" style giving students a fresh new perspective on the information and ways of studying which better suit the modern age.

Open learning allows students self-determined, independent and interest-guided learning which will give them a much better long term understanding of the subject.

In addition, this year marks a new departure in the way the learning materials are delivered with students receiving their training manuals in electronic format. Not only is this so much more convenient for students who can take their work with them anywhere in the form of a memory stick, it will also be a huge financial and logistical boost for the GAI which will save many thousands of pounds a year in printing and postage costs. That's not to even mention the environmental benefits that using this modern media provides.



STOP PRESS

The preliminary results of the GAI's membership survey will be available at the Education Awards Lunch with the full analysis and action plan to follow by the close of the year.

KEEP US UP TO DATE

With a database of students, Diploma holders, Reg AIs and others running into thousands, it is only possible to keep it bang up to date if you let us know of any changes to your personal circumstances.

Should you move companies, change your address or any other of your details change, please inform us as soon as possible. To be sure of getting the changes made promptly and accurately, please email the office on info@gai.org.uk



institute of architectural ironmongers

diarydates

You can now access **Institute** diary dates on the website: www.iai.uk.com