

## TAILOR ROXANNE WINS GOLD

Roxanne Jones from Kentish Town has beaten off competition from around the country to win the prestigious Golden Shears tailoring contest for tailoring students and apprentices sponsored by the Merchant Taylors' Company. Her award-winning lady's outfit was shown at the finals, a glittering catwalk show in front of a 400 strong audience at the Merchant Taylors' Hall in the City of London on 12 March. Roxanne (22), who is an apprentice at Savile Row tailors Dege & Skinner, received a cheque for £2,000 and the coveted Golden Shears for being overall winner of the contest.

Before the deciding professional catwalk show Roxanne's work had been judged by some of London's top bespoke tailors. The focus at this stage, when 25 finalists were selected, was on technical skill – design, cutting and tailoring. At the catwalk show finalists were judged for style by experts, including Ozwald Boateng. Roxanne's outfit – a lady's jacket and trousers in grey wool and worsted with pink stripe - received the highest total of marks in both stages of the competition.

After leaving Camden School for Girls Roxanne (22) gained an HND in Handcraft Tailoring at the London College of Fashion, part of the University of the Arts London. She joined Savile Row tailors, Dege & Skinner in June 2005 to train on a coatmaking apprenticeship.

This year the Golden Shears Competition was jointly sponsored by the Merchant Taylors' Company, City & Guilds, Skillfast-UK and CAPITB Trust with valuable support from the London College of Fashion.

-ends-

### Further information:

Roxanne Jones: Day: 0207 287 2941. Mob: 07960 794251  
Christine Lea (for Merchant Taylors' Company): 01442.875267  
[christine@cleapr.co.uk](mailto:christine@cleapr.co.uk)

Merchant Taylors' Company: [www.merchanttailors.co.uk](http://www.merchanttailors.co.uk)

*Note to Editors:*

The Merchant Taylors' Company in the City of London is one of the Great Twelve City Livery Companies, founded in 1327 as a religious and social fraternity for tailors and linen armourers (makers of padded tunics worn under suits of armour). Today it devotes its energies to educational and charitable activities, including providing homes and care for the elderly and support for its trade. It is also a social organisation.

Skillfast-UK is the Sector Skills Council for the Apparel, Footwear and Textile Industry and is responsible for promoting the value of work based skills and training. Through a range of initiatives it works with businesses to determine their requirements in building a world class workforce. A key element of this challenge is promoting career opportunities and the importance of vocational skill training to young people and adults alike.

City & Guilds, the UK's leading awarding body for work-related qualifications, is proud to sponsor the Golden Shears as part of its commitment to encouraging excellence in vocational training. In fashion, City & Guilds offers qualifications ranging in everything from Millinery to Embroidery – for further information check out [www.cityandguilds.com/designandcraft](http://www.cityandguilds.com/designandcraft). There are currently 1.9 million people working towards a City & Guilds qualification.

CAPITB Trust is a charity responsible for the education of those employed, or about to be employed, in the British clothing industry. Formally the National Training Organisation for the industry, it now sponsors a number of charitable activities in support of the sector.