

## News..News..News..News.

## Greenkeepers Exhibition at Harrogate Next Year

Plans are well in hand to mount the European Turf Managers' Exhibition in the North Yorkshire spa town of Harrogate over three days, on the 18th-20th January, 1989.

This exhibition, sponsored by tion.

the recently formed British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association, will be the first major event under the auspices of the new Association.

As well as Executive Director Neil Thomas and two greenkeepers, David Golding and Arnold Phipps-Jones, Doug Partridge from the English Bowling Association has been invited to join the steering committee, together with five leading members of the turfgrass industry.

They are Keith Cleverley - ICI, David Palmer - Supaturf, John Hinton - BASF, Richard Bishop -Ransomes and Graham Dale -Lely (UK) Ltd.

In addition to the expected numerous stands in the spacious exhibition centre a series of seminars are planned in conjunction with the Sports Turf Research Institute, the National Turfgrass Council, the English Bowling Union and various Colleges specialising in turfgrass education.

Although the event is aimed primarily at greenkeepers, cricket and football clubs, bowling clubs and the amenity managers in local authorities in the UK, a trade mission from West Germany have already indicated they will attend. Their visit is sponsored by the British Lawnmower Manufacturers' FederaHarrogate is regarded as almost the centre of Britain, being almost equi-distant between London and Edinburgh. The local authority have set out to make the town one of the most prestigious conference centres in the country by providing not only expansive exhibition facilities, but backing this with a concert hall attracting international entertainers.

Accommodation covers the complete range from top hotels to ample bed and breakfast facilities for as little as £10.00 a night, all within easy walking distance of the exhibition centre.

And as for eating out, the gourmets will not find anything to surpass the standards of Yorkshire food, whether it is in the specialist sea-food restaurants, Cantonese, Chinese or down to earth meat and two veg in the friendly inns.

There is also a steak house serving 3lb T-Bones and if you can eat it in an hour, the proprietor will give you your money back!

Entry to the exhibition will be by a widely distributed ticket list, non ticket holders will pay a nominal charge at the door to include the cost of a catalogue.

Further details of this major event will be published in forthcoming issues.

### Japanese Tea House Bunkered by Villagers

Frustrated Japanese golfers in Britain who have found it difficult and in most cases impossible to find a club to accept them into membership in the golf starved areas of the Home Counties, now face further opposition to their plan to build their own course in Denham, Buckinghamshire.

Proposals to construct a course with a Japanese style club-house by converting a grade 2 listed building on 300 acres of farm and parkland near

the village has raised a storm of protests from local residents who include veteran film actor Sir John Mills.

Bucks County Council had all but accepted the scheme from the giant Kajima Corporation which would have given the growing Japanese community in the London area an outlet for their golfing activities, but now it looks as if the scheme will be further delayed for planning appeals.

#### Bingley Director invited to sit on USA Research Committee

Dr. Peter Hayes, Director of the Sports Turf Research Institute at Bingley has been invited by the United States Golf Association Green Section to sit on their Turfgrass Research Committee. Dr. Hayes will be attending their next meeting which will be held in Portland, Oregon from July 11th to 14th 1988. The Committee will be discussing the research programme of the USGA with particular reference to their currently financed turfgrass breeding programme. A considerable amount of time

will be spent in the Committee sessions reviewing proposals and planning research funding recommendations for 1989.

Dr. Hayes in a statement said "This is the first time a research worker from outside the USA has been invited to sit on the USGA's Research Committee and it is a great honour to the Institute that the Director has been chosen to sit on this prestigious Committee. The invitation reflects the increased golf research work being carried out at Bingley".

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### **EXPANSION FOR TORO DISTRIBUTOR**

The Cheshire based Toro distributor, Turf Irrigation Services, headed by genial Robin Hume, the well-known northern irrigation specialist, has amalgamated with Golf Landscapes to provide a centralised design and maintenance service for Toro Irrigation.

Golf Landscapes run by the Dunning brothers, Bob and Peter, will concentrate on the construction side of their business, plus the contracting of irrigation and TIS will handle the specialist equipment.

TIS, working through regional agents, cover East Anglia, the south East, the Midlands and north into Scotland.

Robin Hume told *Golf Greenkeeping* by centralising the spares and administration at Sandbach, they can offer a 24 hour service and in an emergency the time lag can be reduced to 12 hours.

Robin now has four or five designers, based in Cheshire, with Graham Francis covering the South and South East and Jim Clowes responsible for the Midlands, North and North West as area managers.

This move establishesTurf Irrigation Services as the largest Toro Area Distributor in the U.K. By absorbing the Golf Landscapes Sales territory, TIS now represents Toro Irrigation products in England from the South Midlands northwards. They are also responsible for Scotland and Wales.

Bob and Peter Dunning, founder directors of Golf Landscapes are very happy with this new arrangement. The growth in both landscape and golf course construction contracts has been so dramatic during the past five years they need to concentrate our experts and energies in those markets.

Golf landscapes will continue to provide irrigation system installation and maintenance services but will be working hand-inhand with TIS.

Robin Hume, has known and worked with both Bob and Peter for many years.



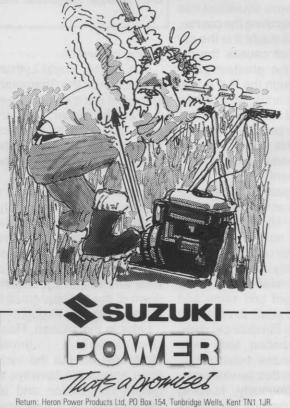
New partners! Robin Hume (centre), director Turf Irrigation Services (Sandbach) with Bob and Peter Dunning, founder directors, Golf Landscapes, Brentwood.

They were all involved in the recent Penina (Portugal) Golf Course contract and as a result discussed the advantages of pooling their resources by consolidating efforts in the U.K. turf irrigation market.

Peter Roberts, General Man-

ager, Toro Irrigation Limited is delighted with the arrangement. He said "Bob, Peter and Robin are dedicated professionals in the sports turf business. Between them, they will provide the 'tools' to take us into the nineties and maximise Toro service."

## SUZUKI · REPLACEMENT · ENGINES



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July G.G.1.

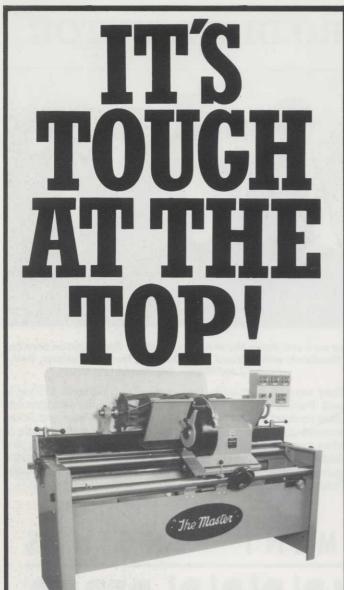
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#### THE MASTER

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# ROYAL LY

Royal Lytham, the 870 member club at the posher end of Blackpool has attracted considerable criticism as a venue for the Open Championship since its popularity has attracted increasing crowds for the event.

Over the nine days including the practice sessions 205,285 turned up to break the previous record attendance at St. Andrews in 1984 by 12,000. This figure is 70,000 up on the 1979 Championship.

As a test of golf Royal Lytham is superb for both the amateur and the professional, its main drawback is the lack of space for the now necessary tented village and hospitality accommodation.

> Better car parking needed if Royal Lytham is to stage the open again.

These were squeezed into the land adjoining the course, but without doubt it is the car parking that causes the organisers the greatest problem. Although the R & A say the thousands of visitors don't mind walking two miles to the course a great number believe this aspect of the event needs considerable improvement.

Having paid £2 to park the car a hike across a roped off walk way littered with cow pats, that no one had bothered to clear up is not the best start to a day out. Buses were said to be available, but only for the aged and infirm and few would admit to either.

At Royal Birkdale car parking is provided well away from the course, but an excellent shuttle bus service operates continuously, keeping traffic congestion well away from the entrances and ad-

# BRITISH ANNOW O

The golfing season has so far provided some of the most memorable golf ever (and in the UK, the wettest weather too!). Three of the world's four major tournaments have now taken place and each has produced classic golf and nail-biting finishes.

International Sport Showcase has already released a video of Sandy Lyle's unforgettable triumph in the US Masters and on August 19th delivers two more essential items for golf fans — The 1988 British Open and The 1988 US Open.

The US Open took place in glorious sunshine at The Country Club, Brookline, Massachusetts between 16th and 19th June. It was another example of European golf's ascendance with our own Nick Faldo battling neck-and-neck with America's Curtis Strange.

Still level after 72 holes, Faldo and Strange continued their

joining properties.

It is certain Royal Lytham will remain on the Championship list if the members have a say in the matter. They are quite prepared to sacrifice their golf for weeks for the honour of five days in the spotlight.

Royal Lytham also has a superb recovery capability. Within a week or so the course was back to its best with only some of the cross over points showing signs of wear and despite the beating down of the turf new grass is already showing through.

Later in the season, Head Greenkeeper, Jimmy McDonald will put the vertidrain across the fairways to relieve compaction and let the sites off the course area recuperate naturally.



# **THAM 'OPEN' REVIEW**

### D US OPEN VIDEO

titanic struggle into an 18 hole play-off, from which Strange finally emerged victorious.

In between the rainstorms at Royal Lytham and St. Anne's recently, The British Open produced some electrifying golf, highlighted by Seve Ballesteros's spectacular final round of 65 — equalling the course record — which won him the coveted title.

His tussle with Zimbabwe's Nick Price during that last round (on the Monday due to Saturday's play being abandoned) was an epic with Price matching Ballesteros's outrageous stroke-play right up until the last couple of holes. Vintage golf!

Both titles retail for just £9.99 and will give viewers a second chance to see an 'Open' duel to match the classic Watson v Nicklaus shoot-out at Turnberry in 1977.



Ballesteros nurses the Open Trophy for the second successive time at Royal Lytham.

### Accrington Greenkeeper qualifies for the Open

Trevor Foster, Accrington's 28 year old Head Greenkeeper, finally made the Open Championship on his fourth attempt to qualify, but it was his young caddy who grabbed the headlines.

Foster, the Lancashire amateur champion pre-qualified at Ormskirk with a round of 72, then made second place in the final qualifier at Blackpool North Shore.

Although he failed to make the cut he did have the unique distinction of heading the leader board for a fleeting moment on the opening day as one of the early starters and his first day score of 74 looked good enough to keep him in the hunt.

Unfortunately a second round of 79 scuppered his chances and he missed the cut by five shots, though so did Peter Baker, winner of this year's Benson & Hedges and other such famous names like Raymond Floyd, Hal Sutton, Tony Jacklin, Mark Calcavecchia and Australian David Graham.

Foster's caddy, 14 year old Ryan Done was so keen to carry the bag for Trevor he issued an ultimatum to his parents who wanted him to join them on a holiday in France. — "If you insist, I will run away from home", he told them.

## Made to Measure

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# News . . News . . News . . News . Golden Rollers Midnight Dash



Royal Lytham's Head Greenkeeper Jimmy McDonald controlled the team that saved the Open from a 'watery end'.

If Bernard Shaw had been at Lytham St. Annes in July he might have coined a different phrase for Liza Dolittle, he certainly would not have said "The rain in Spain falls mainly on the plain."

As the rain intensified on the fourth day, play was at first suspended then abandoned because greenstaff could not cope with the flooded greens with the equipment available.

There were two squeegees in the sheds, but these could not combat the standing water which in a couple of hours had turned the course into a gigantic duckpond.

Manfully the greenstaff wielded the timed honoured implement, the back of a rake, much to the disgust of a number of competitors, particularly the American contingent used to more sophisticated equipment, both mechanical and automatic.

Hubert Green had completed seven holes before play was suspended and was none too pleased when he was informed his efforts were to be struck from the record.

Not many of us would be, if we had started 3-3-3-3-4-4, carding five birdies and two pars. Our own "Woosie" was very vocal in his criticism when he was recalled at the eighth after shooting a birdie and an eagle to pull back three shots. He said if the right equipment had been available the Championship could have continued.

A letter published in the na-

tional press from the Chairman of Swindon Golf Club, near Dudley was in similar vein. He suggested the pictures of greenstaff removing water with rakes was totally degrading and not at all representative of golf clubs in England.

But to the rescue, came David Palmer, not quite the build of a knight in shining armour and without his trusty steed, but he was able to open up the Supaturf depots to provide 30 Goldline Roller Squeegees and rush them through the night to arm the waiting volunteers.

Mopping up continued all morning until play recommenced at 11.15am, but then, like most emergency equipment, it stayed in the sheds for the last two days as the sun broke through to dry out the links.

Supaturf picked up a £1,500 order from the R & A and a great deal of international publicity, though it is not true that David Palmer has invoked the Rain Gods to give us the wettest summer for a hundred years.

As much as we regret embarrassing Michael Bonallack, who has been extremely gratious in his praise of the Greenkeepers Association his quote on the eve of the championship is worth repeating — "Here there won't be the problem of play being interrupted by rain — like Wimbledon!"



Designed, developed and built at the company's manufacturing, service and spares centre in New Alresford, Hampshire, the three-wheel Huxley 358 Greens Mower includes a number of features which are a direct result of comments and suggestions received by Huxleys from golf greenkeepers during the initial planning of their new machine.

For maximum economy and quiet operation, a water-cooled Khbotan diesel engine is used.

Developing 12.5hp at 3,200rpm, the two cylinder engine powers a full hydrostatic transmission giving infinitely variable forward and reverse travel. There is also a separate hydraulic system supplying the cutting reel drive motors, the cutting unit lift cylinders and the rear wheel power steering pump.

The hydrostatic drive to the mower's front wheels is provided by an engine-powered pump with individual motors in each wheel. Separate foot pedals on the operator's platform are used to select forward and reverse travel up to 7.5mph and 5mph respectively.

An additional feature of the hydrostatic system is a servoassisted neutral return which gives full transmission braking for enhanced operator control over the mower, particularly useful when approaching or leaving a green on a downslope.

For convenient servicing, an isolator valve is fitted to the hydrostatic circuit enabling it to be by-passed when required.

The risk of turf bruising, often associated with ride-on greens mowers making tight turns, has been significantly reduced on the Huxley mower due to the careful selection of hydraulic drive components and the wellbalanced layout of the machine.

For ease of operation and manoeuvrability, the Greens mower is equipped with full power steering at its rear wheel.

A choice of cutting units is also available. The standard greens machine has three, eight-bladed reels measuring 21in (533mm) wide and 5in (127mm) in diameter. Height of cut is fully adjustable from 1/8in up to 1/2in (3mm to 13mm).

As an alternative, four-bladed, utility-type reels with a height range from 3/16in to 3/4in (5mm to 19mm) are available.

Each cutting unit is fully interchangeable with the others on the machine to maintain even wear in operation.

Drive to the reels is fully hydraulic by orbital-type motors fitted direct to the end of each

## HUXLEY'S NEW TRIPLEX INTO PRODUCTION — AND SELLING

cutting unit. The motors are retained by two bolts for rapid removal when needing to reset or interchange the mowing assemblies.

The lightweight moulded grass boxes are easily removed for emptying and are fully interchangeable.

Operation of the cutting units, including raising, lowering and reel drive, is selected by a single lever control adjacent to the operator. A reel back-lapping facility is included as standard.

Backed by a first-class service and spares operations, the new Huxley greens mower will be available in limited numbers during 1988 at a price in the region of £10,000.

The first new triple greens mower manufactured in Britain since Ransomes dominated the grass cutting industry is likely to attract considerable interest when it goes on public display for the first time at the IOG Exhibition at Windsor.

The Huxley 358, has been so named because of its three cutting cylinders and 58 inch cutting width. It was unveiled at the prestigious RAC Club and put through its paces on a number of greens, where greenstaff under the direction of the Head Greenkeeper, Bob Wiles, queued up to "have a go" after the golf industry press had demonstrated effectively they were quite unable to steer a straight line.

Huxley have already sold three of their new machines, one to Barton on Sea Golf Club, another to The New Forest Golf Club near Lyndhurst and the third to the recently opened private golf course, West Chiltington at Pulborough in Sussex.

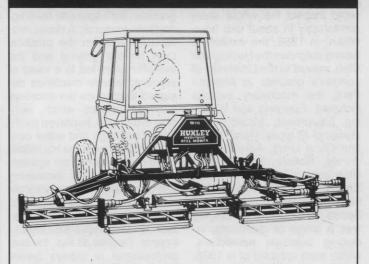
West Chiltington emerged after the land owner engaged in conversation with six times Ryder Cup golfer Brian Barnes, married to Max Faulker's daughter. Max, a golfer said never to take a divot, runs a golf course design business and so a partnership was formed.

Brian was not only involved in the design at the now 650 member club, but acts as the club professional.



The new Huxley 358 Greens Mower with, from the left, Eddie Waterer; Barry Huxley; Edward Huxley; Alan Jeffery; Eddie Fox and Paul Huxley — all part of the team at Huxleys Grass Machinery.

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# 50 years of Exhibitions

#### Richard Frost looks at the early days of the IOG shows

When, in 1938, the then National Association of Groundsmen organised the first of their annual exhibitions in the grounds of the prestigious Hurlingham Club, life, for the average Groundsman/Greenkeeper was pretty hard . Although some turf maintenance machinery was available, much of the work was manual and it was a case of well developed muscles being directed by a well developed and active brain. The English golf course, in general, was the domain of the wealthy and of the few top professionals although, in Scotland, the game enjoyed much wider public support. After all, the R & A was a public course.

The machinery and materials available in 1938 were on display and, despite the fact that all the big names were present, including the two leading seed houses and the main mower and roller manufacturers, the visitor could inspect the whole show comfortably in about one hour. When, in 1966, the exhibition, having outgrown the Hurlingham Club, moved to the University of London's grounds at Motspur Park, the machinery exhibits included: Spraying and Watering Equipment; Mowing Machines of all types; Hand, Motor and Gang Units; Aerating Machines; Rollers, Tractors and Distributors; Model Tennis Courts; Tools; Educational Exhibits; Playing Equipment and Sports Gear. Also on display was a range of chemicals, including selective weedkillers, which were unheard of in 1938; the latest varieties of grass seeds and cultivars; a range of fertilisers specially formulated for recreational and amenity turf areas, plus; the latest and best products and machines for the rapidly expanding industry. One big step forward was, at Motspur Park limited demonstrations of machinery could be staged.

There is no doubt that in the years immediately after World War II, great changes occured in

the UK and, as much as anywhere, in the sporting arena. Where, after the first World War, sportsgrounds and bowling greens were constructed to occupy the time of the countless demobilised and unemployed servicemen, on this occasion full employment and increased leisure opportunities created a demand for good class facilities. Golf clubs were the first to realise that, in order to provide these facilities and the professionals to maintain them, subscriptions would have to be considerably increasd and even, in some cases, doubled. The prophets of doom were sure that this action would lead to so many resignations that the clubs concerned would be bankrupted. In the event, most found that their membership waiting lists doubled.

These years saw the introduction of selective weedkillers and improved cultivars of sportsturf grasses, both spin-offs from agricultural research. A closer relationship between the practical man on the ground and the manufacturers led to a varity of efficient, reliable machines designed to produce the excellent playing surfaces which were now in demand. Improved methods of drainage and water control to supplement the traditional herringbone pipe drain system, combined with the increasing use of sands of the correct grain size and type also helped to make life easier for the professional Groundsman/Greenkeeper. Despite all this, the real professional is always aware that it is still the hard work and attention to detail by the man on the spot that produces the excellent playing surfaces for which we are world renowned. A good drainage system remains a good drainage system only so long as aeration is carried out as and when required. A surface remains a good bowling or putting surface only so long as the thatch is kept under control. The right machines are available but. in the final count, it is the skilful and experienced operator who produces the results.

To return to the Sports & Leisure World Trade Exhibition. By 1981, due to the increase in exhibitors from both home and overseas, the show had once more outgrown its venue and so, in that year, it was moved from Motspur Park to the racecourse at Royal Windsor, and this year, the 43rd annual exhibition has attracted a record 385 exhibitors. The visitor will find that the regular and traditional machines and materials are still on display alongside the new introductions which the manufacturers enjoy unveiling at these loG exhibitions. It is safe to say that everything that is relevant to the turfculture and landscape industries is on show, with none of the gimmicks and fripperies which clutter so many other exhibitions. Here, on the one site, the Greenkeeper can purchase any item from tee markers & discs, flag pins & flags, switches, bunker rakes and hole scissors through to complete turfcare systems, multimowers and gangs, tractor mounted sprayers, aeration equipment and distributors as well as a range of tractors from 14hp compacts up to 65+hp highway & agricultural models. Add to this the complete range of pesticides, slow & normal release inorganic fertilisers and natural soil conditioners, and one is sure that their every need has been catered for.

But there is more.

Trees, shrubs and bedding plants are displayed by the leading nurseries and forestry equipment suitable for the maintenance of small copses or larger woodland areas can be seen working. Working?

Sorry, almost forgot. In the six acre demonstration area within the showground, machinery, including trenchers, backhoes, multimowers, graders, wood chippers and chain saws, as well as mobile saw benches and pipelaying machines can be seen operating throughout the three days of the exhibition. With all the listed items, plus an educational section where the leading horticultural colleges and institutions have taken space, the visitor who can spare the time would be advised to make an overnight stop.

#### PARKERS' ANNUAL GREEN-KEEPERS TOURNAMENT

A field of 58 Greenkeepers' turned out for the Parkers' Golf Greenkeepers Tournament staged at Cuddington Golf Club on the 16th June, and as usual the prayer mats worked well and a splendid day's Golf was had by all.

The competition was fierce and the winner was Derek Gould who is featured here receiving the Parker Rose Bowl presented by Maggie Parker, wife of Parkers' Managing Director. Derek said "why do Parkers give umbrellas as prizes, it never rains on their Golf days!!"





## News..News..News..News.

### NEW TURF NURSERIES OPEN AT CHURTON BY FARNDON



The Turfland team is always on hand to offer advice and assistance when needed.

To improve their service to customers in the Chester, Wirral and North Wales areas Turfland, the internationally known Warrington-based turf producers, have announced that from Saturday, 18th June, 1988 they will open their nurseries in Churton by Farndon to the general public.

Turfland have an excellent reputation for the quality of their purpose-grown turf, turf which has been sown from specially selected seeds, cultivated and matured under constant care and maintenance by the turfland team through all stages of its growth until it is ready to be offered for sale.

Chris and Janet Watmore, respectively Managing Director and Sales Director of Turfland, have been cultivating turf for over 25 years, and were the first in this country to introduce the concept of growing good quality turf from seed to suit specific needs, from the domestic lawn to heavy-duty sports applications such as football and rugby pitches and to fine bowling and golf greens. To meet such varied demands they have developed three different turf varieties, Sportsman, Lady Ruby and Crown Green, each with its own individual character and appearance.

At Churton, Turfland are now growing turf on 118 acres of some of the best land in the area, set in attractive, undulating countryside against the backdrop of the North Wales hills. Over £50,000 has been spent on irrigation equipment, using the River Dee as the water source, so that the turf can be tended and cared for whatever the elements.

The nurseries are easy to find, being situated on the B5130 south of Chester (turn right at the White Horse Pub) and north of Wrexham (turn left at the White Horse), and are ideally located for customers in the Chester, Wirral, Wrexham, Crewe, Nantwich and North Wales areas.

Initially the nurseries will be open on Mondays between 8 am and 6 pm and on Saturdays between 8 am and 1 pm, with plans to extend these opening hours as the summer wears on.

## "TOP GREENKEEPER"

Simon Lawson of 76 Sudbrooke Lane, Nettleham, Lincoln was awarded the Sparsholt Women's Institute Cup for the best performance on the Certificate course in Horticulture (Greenkeeping & Sportsground Management) at the Sparsholt College, Hampshire on Presentation Day (8th July).

Simon, who was awarded his Certificate with Distinction, also received a Prize for his Outstanding Project.

Simon, a former pupil of William Farr School, Welton, Lincoln was a student at the Riseholme College of Agriculture & Horticulture before coming to Sparsholt.

Prior to the course Simon worked at the Fourseason's Hotel Golf Course at Dunholme near Lincoln.

Following his success at Sparsholt, his course tutor, Bob



Simon Lawson with WI Cup

Young, said "Simon has progressed extraordinarily well and I am delighted that he has now been accepted on the National Diploma Course at the Lancashire College.

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