

NVQ Stonemason

makes his mark



SUPER stonemason Simon Keeley is hoping his achievements will encourage others to make their mark.

The 35-year-old, from Lindum Road, Lincoln, has just won a trophy from York University in recognition of his dedication to his NVQ course.

Now he is hoping other potential craftsmen will be inspired by what he has done.

"I had been unemployed for six months and I needed a vocation so I decided to go on the stonemason course," he said.

"It certainly gave me direction and a purpose and I have got a job because of it.

"I am hoping what I have done might inspire other people."

Mr Keeley is now working for Stamford-based building firm E. Bowman and Sons.

The university awards The

by **Rachel Kerr**

Marazian Trophy every year to the person on the course who has shown the most dedication.

While he was studying, Mr Keeley used to travel more than 150 miles a day between Lincoln and York to attend lectures and practical lessons.

It was this and his hard work while in classes that impressed course organisers into giving him the award.

He said: "When I was studying I had a motorbike

and I used to travel between Lincoln and York three times a week.

"It was a long way to go but I enjoyed it and I got some help with my travelling from the County Council.

● Cathedral Fabric Fund chiefs are currently looking into using specialist hi-tech laser treatment on stone and masonry at the 900-year-old Minster.

The innovative scheme, which is being run in conjunction with academics at Loughborough University, is due to being trials next week.

● **Simon Keeley: Delighted to have won the trophy.**
(C450-5A).