



'SILVER' ON DISPLAY

FOUR days of tough competition work paid off for Brighouse hairdresser Gary Taylor when he won a silver medal in the 29th International Youth Skill Olympics in Australia.

Gary (18), the fourth generation of the family hairdressing business, Ed Taylor's, of Park Street, Brighouse, returned home on Sunday delighted at his success.

He qualified for the Olympic team by beating other top hairdressers from all over the country in a series of elimination competitions last year.

And he is now one of ten young Britains to meet with success in Australia.

Gary, of Slead Avenue, Brighouse, took part in the competition in Sydney in temperatures of 104 degrees.

He has taken part in many competitions before but described this one as "very strict".

"We didn't know what to expect until we got there and we had to do

By Jean Trotter

theory as well as practical work", said Gary.

As well as working on human models some work had to be carried out on dummies and Gary described it as one of the most difficult events he has taken part in.

"I realised I was making some mistakes and knew I wouldn't win the gold", said Gary. "But I was delighted when I heard I'd won the silver".

The gold metal went to Austria.

When the competition was over the competitors had to wait three days until they heard the news. And Gary said his parents heard he had won the medal before he heard.

"The organisers rang through to tell them before I knew", said Gary.

Before and after the competition he managed to fit in some sightseeing trips and was able to enjoy the bi-centenary fireworks display.

"The whole trip was a really good experience and to return with a medal is even better", he said.

He's now working as normal at the Brighouse family business and preparing for future competitions. He's taking part in the Hairdressing and Beauty Guild heat at Bridlington and hopes to qualify for the final and is taking part in the Hairdressing Federation competition in Blackpool.

Picture shows Gary wearing his Olympic blazer and holding his silver medal.