

## **National Senior Learner of the Year Award Winner**

### **Barrie Hughes, West Sussex**

Barrie Hughes – I am the Team Leader of the Verge Gang in Hove, we do all of Hove's verges, and, as you can see, we use these machines.

Michael Harbinson (Hollingdean Learning Centre) – Barrie is 58 and he has been on the council for 18 years.

Barrie Hughes – When I was in infants school, a bloke came down from London and he found out that I was dyslexic and they basically left you alone and let you do what you want and so I never had any teaching at all. Everybody up until about 3 years ago didn't know that I couldn't read or write.

Michael Harbinson (Hollingdean Learning Centre) – Barrie comes here to do the course at the moment. He's doing literacy and he's going to start IT shortly.

Barrie Hughes – I can do a lot more things that I've never, ever done before and I can't stop reading now. I've worked out a plan to bring tourists into Hove and poetry is one of my biggest loves. I knew how to do it so I started to write it. As a poem to my dad.

Michael Harbinson (Hollingdean Learning Centre) – Now he's become a Union Learning Rep so he's trying to get other people into learning.

Barrie Hughes – I love my father very much, he means the world to me, especially when we go fishing down by the river Dee. It doesn't matter how old you are you can still learn to read, it's as simple as that and I tell that to everybody.