



CITY OF STEEL... AND



WHAT does a young newcomer to Sheffield know about the city that's going to be their home for the next three years?

You'll probably know that it is found throughout the world for its reputation as the steel city, born at the height of the Industrial Revolution, the words 'Made in Sheffield' still the benchmark for quality in the cutlery trade.

On the other hand, you might know Sheffield simply as the setting of 1997 Oscar-winning movie *The Full Monty*, a story of the steel industry in decline.

What you might not know is that Sheffield, at the heart of South Yorkshire, is also one of the greenest cities in Britain, as famous for its parks as for its heavy industry.

The story of Sheffield can be traced back to the founding of a settlement in a clearing beside the River Sheaf in the second half of the First Millennium AD.

Sheffield is one of the greenest cities in Britain

Following the Norman conquest, a castle was built to control the Saxon natives and Sheffield developed into a small town, no larger than the modern city centre, edominated by its castle.

By the 14th century Sheffield was noted for the production of knives - one is famously men-

tioned in *The Canterbury Tales* - and by 1600 it had become the main centre of cutlery production in England, overseen by The Company of Cutlers in Hallamshire.

In the late 1500s, Sheffield Castle - and the nearby Manor Lodge - became home to the captive Mary Queen of Scots, who actually spent longer in South Yorkshire than anywhere else in her short, complex and tragic life.

In the 1740s the crucible steel process was improved by Sheffield resident Benjamin Huntsman, allowing a much better production quality.

At about the same time, the silver plating process which produced Sheffield Plate was discovered.