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YOUR letters

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Knee surgeon Tony Smith (left) with patient Brian Matthews.

Surgeon's skills had me in stitches

I AM delighted to see your article in the *Leader* about Brian Matthews getting back on his feet (June 22).

I wish him a very speedy return to full mobility.

I, too, have cause to be eternally grateful for the consummate skill and kindness of Mr Tony Smith.

He fixed me up with a total knee replacement at the Maelor Hospital on March 23.

Some weeks prior to my operation I along with a number of other patients in waiting received a kind invitation to attend a "joint and bone care school", at the Maelor.

Mr Smith had taken time out to be present as had the

He is brilliant with a great sense of humour

anaesthetist, members of the physio and occupational therapy departments, and pharmacy staff were also present.

The final member of the team was a very sprightly Ron Evans (two new knees), the Maelor patients' representative.

The whole project was a brilliant success! During the school Mr Smith promised we

would be walking within hours of our operation.

I found Mr Smith to be not only a brilliant surgeon, but a great guy, a true gentleman with a keen sense of humour as I was being wheeled into the operating theatre he was exchanging banter with me.

I was returned from the theatre to the TLC of the marvellous staff of the Prince of Wales ward about noon as true to promise they were helping me to do my "lap of honour" around the ward, before my visitors arrived.

Ray Roscoe, 82, Sealand, Deeside.