



# NEWS RELEASE

*FAO: BRIAN HARGREAVES,  
WINE AND FOOD EDITOR*

## High Sheriff makes an educated choice

A small outside catering business has seen off some excellent competition to become the favourite supplier to one of the County's busiest dignitaries.

Scholars Outside Catering, part of the University of Central Lancashire, is delighted to be the first choice of Gloria Oates, OBE, the High Sheriff of Lancashire, whether she is entertaining at home in Ramsbottom or in one of the county's many impressive venues.

The University team, which began to accept outside commissions only five years ago, was delighted to be contacted by Gloria Oates for one of the first events she hosted as High Sheriff in May 2001 - a lunch with champagne reception for 120 people at Lancaster Town Hall following a Shield Hanging Ceremony at Lancaster Castle.

However, the real seal of approval came a few months later when Gloria asked Scholars to provide the catering for her daughter's wedding, which was celebrated in a marquee in the grounds of her home. A wedding breakfast was provided followed later by an evening buffet and bar. The same marquee was used two days later for a dinner hosted by the High Sheriff and again provided by Scholars.

Regular bookings have followed, ranging from small dinner parties at home to lavish events at Lancaster Castle, all overseen by Jackie Cunningham, Assistant Hospitality Manager at the University, who looks after the outside catering business. "As a former Chair of the University Board, Gloria Oates was already familiar with the quality of our service and we are delighted that she wants to continue her association with us.

-more follows-

“We work extremely hard to provide a very personal service using a small but dedicated team of professionals, with a mouth-watering selection of imaginative menus from our executive Head Chef, Sean Whewell.”

Scholars’ other clients include Lady Grenfell Baines and the RLPO, Lancashire County Council, the National Probation Service, the Rotary Club, HSBC and the North West Society of Architects. And no request is too large, too small or too calorie conscious – Jackie and her team have even provided dinner for Slimming World!

**27<sup>th</sup> March 2002**

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**Notes to editors:**

Please see sample menus below. For further details, please contact Jackie Cunningham at Scholars on (01772) 892089 or Kate Ford on (01772) 892481, mobile 07968 861580.

**Sample menu**

*Croustade of smoked salmon & prawns with wild lettuce & herb salad on a basil oil*

*Lancaster Lamb - Rack of lamb with braised spring cabbage & bacon circled with a redcurrant & Chablis reduction*

*Summer berries crème brule with shortbread wafers & chocolate leaves*

**Sample menu**

*Smoked salmon with herb salad on basil oil*

*Rosemary roast and poached fillet of lamb served on minted fondant potatoes with onion jam baskets circled with a red wine reduction*

*Warm bread and butter pudding with sauce Anglaise and apricot coulis*