

# NEWS RELEASE

UNIVERSITY  
— OF CENTRAL —  
LANCASHIRE



## Blackpool nurses are in a class of their own

Two local nurses scooped top prizes for academic achievement at the University of Central Lancashire (UCLan).

Stephen Norbury, 45, from Peter Street, who works for Northern Life Care, has just graduated from UCLan with a Diploma in Mental Health Nursing. He was also awarded the Lancashire Priory Nursing Award for the best Care Study undertaken as part of his course. The prize of £500 is sponsored by Priory Hospital - Lancashire, an independent hospital based in Preston, which specialises in the management of acute psychiatric illness.

Staff nurse Rebecca Banks, 28, from Helens Close, who works in the A and E Department at Blackpool Victoria Hospital, received the Mary Hodgkinson Prize for Nurses, in addition to her Nursing Diploma. The prize, for gaining top marks on the course, is presented in honour of pioneering nurse Mary Hodgkinson, whose life was chronicled by local author and publisher Anne Bradley. It is awarded from funds generated by the sale of her book, 'Mary, Mary, Nurse Contrary'.

Both Stephen and Rebecca enjoy the challenge of juggling studying with their work in the caring profession. "I like the variety involved in nursing", says Stephen. "And it's great to see my work making a difference to peoples' lives. I'm keen to get my degree, though, so I can specialise in the study of eating disorders and anxiety."

Rebecca, a psychology graduate, tried her hand at a career in sales work, but found greater satisfaction in nursing. "I like the caring aspect of nursing", she says. "And I am currently enjoying the variety of nursing working in the A&E department involves."

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