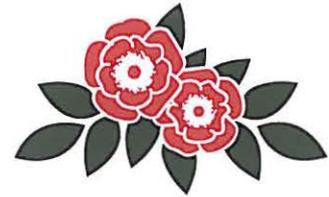


NEWS RELEASE

UNIVERSITY
— OF CENTRAL —
LANCASHIRE



Chamber of Horrors? No, this is a Houseful

When Mark Hendrick MP has a tour of the Department of Forensic and Investigative Science at the University of Central Lancashire on Friday 14 March, he is in for a shock.

After a guided tour of the labs and state-of-the-art-facilities, he will be taken to a house on Maudland Street which the University uses for simulations of crime scenes. What he meets there will be enough to keep Crimewatch in programmes for months.

UCLAN was the first university to develop a crime scene house so that their Forensic students get first hand experience and a real feel for the work they are training for. The first house quickly outgrew its premises as students needed more and more practical space in which to work, so now two houses have been converted into different scenes, ranging from routine domestic breaking and entering, to more dramatic crime scenes, such as murder.

The settings include living rooms, kitchens, a public bar, a post office and a special room which is only unlocked for students nearing the end of their degree studies! Even the bathroom is a crime scene, where bloody evidence of a murder can be recorded and interpreted to train students in blood splatter pattern techniques.

The house is a vital learning space for students on the BSc(Hons) Degree in Forensic Science and the BSc(Hons) Police and Criminal Investigation degree; the Foundation Degree in Forensic Science and Masters Degrees in DNA Profiling and Human Remains Identification.

Mark Hendrick MP will get the chance to look around the various scenes as part of his visit to the University on Friday 14 March. He will arrive at the crime scene house at 2.30pm to perform a brief official opening before examining the evidence inside.

-ends-

12th March, 2003
NR021MD

Note to editors: Mark Hendrick will be at the crime scene house between 2.30 and 3pm on Friday 14th March 2003. Photographs and interviews can be arranged by contacting Maureen Dearden in the Media and PR Office on 01772 894424 or Lee Chatfield in the Department of Forensic and Investigative Science 01772 894381.