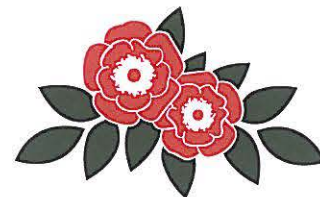


NEWS RELEASE

UNIVERSITY
— OF CENTRAL —
LANCASHIRE



Local man gets top class award

A Colchester man who upped sticks and moved up north is now celebrating achieving a first class honours degree from the University of Central Lancashire in Preston.

David McGrath Wilkinson, 33, grew up in Essex, leaving the area to pursue a career as a writer in the Lake District. He moved to Lancashire four years ago, making his home in Preston, where he decided to study for a BA (Hons) in English Language and Literature.

A former pupil of Colchester Royal Grammar School, David says that he had always planned to return to studying and he is now looking forward to furthering his academic career when he enrolls on a masters course at the University.

“I was impressed by the University and by the support I received from the tutors,” he said. “Although I started as a ‘mature’ student, I didn’t feel like one!”

David also enjoyed the support of his wife Clair, a civil servant, and his two proud daughters Heather, 6 and Sashia 4, both of whom were at the Preston Guildhall to see their Dad receive his award.

-ends-

16 July 2002
nr077pc

Note: A digital image of David McGrath Wilkinson and his family is available on request. Please contact Pamela Culley, University Media Office, tel: 01772 892486