





## Dad, Mark, wins award for academic excellence

Single parent Mark Holding has every reason to be pleased with himself. As well as bringing up his two children, he has returned to study at the University of Central Lancashire and won an award for his efforts.

Mark, 38, from Cleveleys, who is taking a degree in Accounting and Law, has won an Ede and Ravenscroft Award for Academic Excellence. The awards are presented to students on the University's Combined Honours Programme who achieve the highest average mark for their work.

Having given up his job as a self-employed greengrocer, Mark was unable to find a suitable job which would enable him to work around his 11 year old son and 12 year old daughter. He hopes to be able to complete his degree, studying on a part time basis, by the time his children finish high school.

"Studying isn't a chore", says Mark. "I enjoy the work and eventually hope to train as an accountant."

-ends-

**6 February 2003** nr008pc

Note: Digital image of Mark Houlding available. Please contact Pam Culley, Media and Public Relations, tel: 01772 894425 for further information.