

Letters and e-mails of Recommendation 2016-2018

To Gayle & the team at Chives

Thank you so much for producing & serving such delicious food at our wedding. The canapes were a success and the individual carvery was much enjoyed by all the guests. The bacon rolls & fish & chips were also very well received!

Your support was invaluable throughout. We are very grateful to you

Love

Ben & Sophie xxx

Mr & Mrs Hedley-Smith Winters Barns April 1st 2016

Hi Deb,

A million Thank you's !!

You and your fabulous team were absolutely wonderful. You went above and beyond. The food was superb, my guests were full of compliments from start to finish. The service was incredible and I really can't thank you enough. You are a wonderful, kind woman who has a heart of gold and a genuine care for your clients.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Hannah xx

Mr & Mrs Hilder Swarling Manor June 11th 2016

Dear Debbie & Graham

We cannot begin to tell you how grateful we are for your amazing work for our wedding at Crown Lodge.

Everything was more perfect than we could have ever imagined thanks to you. From helping with the cake catastrophe to the delicious food it was fantastic. So many of our guests commented that it was the best wedding food they had ever had.

Thank you, Thank you, thank you

Love Stevie & Lee

Mr & Mrs Piper Crown Lodge June 20th 2016

Hi, Debbie,

Have only just said Goodbye to the French family, so it has been a very busy week feeding and entertaining them all.

At last I can reflect on our wedding, and I can thank you for all that you did to make our day so smooth and perfect. Your waiting staff were commented on for their efficiency and discretion. The food was fantastic. The tables looked beautiful.

I know how hard you worked to achieve all this, so I wanted to thank you. It really was wonderful. I shall recommend you wherever possible.

Very best wishes,
Alison (Grooms mum)

Mr & Mrs Pouget Littlebourne Barn July 16th 2016

You were completely amazing yesterday. Thank you so much for all you did. The food was wonderful & you were just so helpful all day.

What a wonderful wonderful day – treasured memories & such special time. Thank you for making it that was for us- very very grateful.

Until the next time!

Much love

Janet xxxx (Bride's mum)

Mr & Mrs Pouget Littlebourne Barn July 16th 2016

Debbie

Thank you do much for all your hard work, time answering all our questions & being so warm & friendly. You've been so great & we feel so lucky that we had you to plan our special day

We've been truly spoilt to have you and we're eternally grateful

THANK YOU !!

Much love

Susanna & David

Mr & Mrs Jessup Crown Lodge August 17th 2016

Hi Debbie & Graham

We wanted to just say thank you for making our wedding so perfect! It couldn't have gone any better. Our family and friends keep telling us what a lovely day they had & how delicious the food was.

Thank you so much for all your help

Lots of love

Sabine & Simon

Mr & Mrs Hall Crown Lodge August 27th 2016

Debbie

Sorry I am only getting around to emailing you but thank you so much for organising an amazing day for us last week. You were beyond amazing!

Lots of love

Mr & Mrs Wells xx Hi

Crown Lodge September 2nd 2016

Dear Debbie and your team,

I just wanted to take the time to say a massive thank you for all the hard work that you put in to our wedding. It was a fantastic day with fantastic food.

Everyone commented on the great service and excellent food. You and your team really made the day special and we did not have to worry about a thing, you thought of everything for us.

I can't believe how long ago it was now! We had a great honeymoon and we are now moved!! To add to the chaos we also now have a cocker spaniel pup! We must be mad! Anyway thanks again, we really are grateful.

Lots of love

Hannah and Jim

Xx

Mr & Mrs Harmer Knowlton Court September 10th 2016

Dear Debbie, Graham & team

What can we say other than Thank You Thank You Thank You! As I have said before you are so much more than just caterers & we are so glad we chose you to do our wedding. All the food was simply amazing from start to finish & our guests keep talking about it.

Thank you also for saving the day cake wise, nobody could have known what it looked like before you worked your magic! Your win at the Kent Wedding awards was so deserved & a massive thanks again

Best wishes Verity & James

Mr & Mrs Garrett September 17th 2016

Dear Debbie,

The day was all we could have wished for.....except it was over all too quickly!

Terry our friend recommended Perfect Day Marquees who in turn recommended you who then recommended Karina who recommended the musician.....all of whom did a really great job.

I can't thank you enough for suggesting the canapé reception. It was perfect and just what we wanted, though I don't think we knew that until you suggested it. Making a party work is such hard work but you absolutely nailed it. Your kindly and approachable manner, the suggestions you made and the extra mile you went to with regards to the bunting, putting up with phone calls while I was in the cash and carry made everything so much easier. I didn't communicate terribly well but you never made it an issue for which I thank you.

I will recommend you until the kangaroos come home!

With best wishes

Sue

Mr & Mrs Peters September 18th 2016

To Debbie & Graham

Just wanted to say a huge thank you for all the fantastic food you made for our special day. Everyone couldn't stop complimenting everything especially the kangaroo! Thank you also for all the time you have spent helping us to plan everything, we had a perfect day at Crown Lodge

Love from

Sarah & Jason xxxx

Mr & Mrs Wright Crown Lodge September 21st 2016

Hi Debs

Just a quick email to thank you very much for all your & Graham's help yesterday (and the rest of the team)

You and the food were amazing as usual! And definitely more than help to make the day run smoothly! We had over 330 guests throughout the day in the marquee this year which I think was our busiest one yet.

It was also great to see you both & the whole Kreston Reeves team really enjoy working with you

I hope you both enjoyed the day

Tasha

Kreston Reeves Corporate clients East Kent Ploughing Match September 28th 2016

Chives provided the catering for our wedding on 30th September .. We found them professional, friendly, the food was absolutely fantastic and the staff were second to none - they met our every request. (Tried to upload a photo of the Instagram -able food but to no avail.) Thank you all once again for such fabulous fare. Lucy and Will 😊:)

Lucy & Will September 30th 2016 Westgate Hall

To Gayle, the chefs, the waiting staff and bar staff - and all at Chives who contributed to such a wonderful day last Saturday.

Gayle, you are a star! I can't begin to tell you how grateful we are to you and your team for all your incredibly hard work on Saturday in making the day run so smoothly, for the wonderful food (I'm in love with black pudding mash and sherry sauce) and making an already special day so awesome. We really couldn't have asked for better. It was just magic how you transformed the halls for reception and evening and left everything looking stunning. Thank you so much to everyone involved, with a special mention for the evening bar staff.

We will not hesitate in recommending you to everyone for your 5* service.

Thank you so much for all your help in making Laura & Paul's wedding such a success.

Shirley & Ray Wigzell
Mr & Mrs McGarity Chilham Village Hall October 22nd 2016

Chives provided the catering for our wedding on 30th September .. We found them professional, friendly, the food was absolutely fantastic and the staff were second to none - they met our every request. (Tried to upload a photo of the Instagram -able food but to no avail.) Thank you all once again for such fabulous fare. Lucy and Will 😊:)

Lucy & Will September 30th 2016 Westgate Hall

-Review from Hitched- Yesterday Debbie & Graham hosted our beautiful wedding at Crown Lodge, We wanted an outdoor wedding and there was nothing that Debbie would not do to make our day as special & personal as possible. From start to finish, she was incredible & made everything so easy. Graham;s food was just gorgeous & our guests constantly raved about the wedding breakfast & attention to detail. The venue is in the most beautiful setting & is perfect for an intimate, scenic wedding. The day was simply amazing & we will always cherish everything about it. Thank you Crown lodge, Debbie & Graham- you were remarkable,

All our love Nicky & Chris

Mr & Mrs Cann Crown Lodge October 25th 2016

Hi Debbie

We have just got back from our mini moon in Italy and just wanted to drop you and the team an email to say a MASSIVE thank you!

You helped make our wedding day so unforgettable. We cannot thank you enough for the amazing food (thanks again for the extra pies and mash, we enjoyed reliving the wedding breakfast!). We had so many compliments, and the fajitas went down a treat in the evening. Please do pass on our thanks to Graham.

Above all though we are so grateful for that extra level of service you provided throughout the day. You were so attentive and helped us to truly relax and enjoy ourselves . You worked seamlessly with Dawn, and I can't thank you both enough. It's certainly true that you are much more than caterers who provide excellent food, you're an extra helping hand and a God send for the Bride!

Thank you so much again. We hope you enjoyed the day - and that we didn't work you and the team too hard! We certainly had the best day of our lives.

Thanks

Charlotte and Sam

Mr & Mrs Hunter Knowlton Court October 29th 2016

Hi Debbie

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR THE WONDERFUL FOOD AND SERVICE ON SATURDAY!!!! It was amazing to be able to enjoy the company of well established friends and not to have to worry about the food, knowing that it was all in very good hands. Thank you too for clearing up so efficiently and stocking the fridge with enough food to keep us going over Christmas!

Your team of helpers were well trained, friendly and polite as well as working their socks off. It was a great treat for me.

Again many many thanks.

Have a great Christmas and a happy new year.

See you at Mike's 80th!

Take care

Viv Leeming Private catering December 2016 (a couple whose wedding we looked after in 2004)

Dear Debbie

The party dust has settled (albeit a bit slowly!), the bopping shoes have been hung up, the photos edited (!), and it's high time I contacted you with very sincere thanks for such a wonderful day. I can't imagine a lovelier celebration and am thrilled to have met you after the wobbly start to my plans. You couldn't have been more attentive from the beginning to the bop-weary end, and I am very grateful. Surrounded by friends and family, wined and dined with such efficiency and care, blessed with amazing weather (you did predict!) what more could a girl want?!

Thanks to you and your lovely gang. I shall certainly not lose your contact details.

With love

Di

PS Yvonne of the G&T and gluten free requirements was more than impressed!!

Di Owen Birthday lunch March 10th 2017 Crown Lodge

Hi Debbie

Sorry for the delay getting back to you after our honeymoon. Just wanted to say a huge, huge thank you to you, Graham and the whole team. We have had so many compliments from guests on the amazing food and service – you looked after everyone so well all evening.

And thank you from me for just having every little thing looked after (including my last minute panic about high chairs!!) and making sure it all ran so smoothly.

We had such a wonderful day, as did all our family and friends. Thank you again for everything.

Rachel and Roger

xx

Rachel & Roger Acton May 6th 2017 Knowlton Court

Debbie made my parents vow renewal day the best, she made organising the food easy and fun! Would recommend the chocolate cheesecake! 10/10!!! Such a lovely lady and made things personal to us ! If anyone's looking for an excellent wedding caterer DEBBIE IS YOUR LADY! Chives catering is amazing. She contributed 100% to making their day a memorable one, outstanding service !!!

For Kevin & Teresa Smith May 13th 2017 Crown Lodge

Chives did the catering for our wedding in June 2017. They were brilliant!!

Debbie and Graham were a voice of calm and reasoned experience from our first meeting 8 months before to the big day itself; always happy to take a call or give a second opinion. The food was *REALLY* lovely!; table-carved pork with amazing crackling, and fajitas and bacon rolls later on.

We just need to find an excuse to use them again now.

Sam & Catherine Strachan June 10th 2017 Swarling Manor

A massive than you to Debbie and Graham, owners of Chives. They went way beyond just their catering duties to bring together the most amazing wedding for our daughter and son in law. They brought together and organised all the elements from the marquee company, entertainment, bar services and of course their own fantastic catering service including scrumptious food. It was an amazing day organised and run by an amazing company.

Thank you so much chives from a very relieved and happy father of the bride

Catriona & Toby Hodges 010717 Wittersham

Dear Debbie, Graham & all the team

A big thank you for the amazing food for our wedding & all of your hard work

Everything was perfect!

Love from Rob & Ali

Rob & Ali Sabin July 7th 2017 Knowlton Court

Dear Gayle

Thank you so much for the amazing catering at our wedding. The food was wonderful & we had the most fantastic day. It was a pleasure working with you and your team

Best wishes

Miranda & Tim

Miranda & Tim Fowler July 15th 2017 Lenham Barn

Dear Debbie & Graham

We are now on day 3 of recovery! And wanted to say an enormous 'Thank you' for you and all the Chives team including Gayle for the amazing service and professionalism you all displayed at Charlotte & Luke's wedding on Saturday. So many of our guests were very complimentary about Graham's fabulous, delicious food, the staff & all you did. I was always going to choose Chives for our very special day, but you did not in any way disappoint and went beyond all our already high expectations

John was sorry he did not see Graham to thank him personally in the engine room

Life is beginning to get back to normal but we shall always cherish all the happy memories of that very special day

Thank you

Jacqui & John Arnold (Brides parents)

Charlotte & Luke Marsden 29th July 2017 Godmersham Hall

Debbie & Graham

Thank you so much for our beautiful wedding food! Thank you for all your support you have given us over the planning of our special day, we are so grateful- especially for saving us when our band let us down as well as helping us put together our special day with all our crazy ideas

Love from Holly & Tom xx

Holly & Tom Stanley August 5th 2017 Swarling Manor

Lovely Debbie,

I hope you are well, and basking in the glory of so many more jobs well done!

Words don't seem enough to thank you for all you did, both in the lead up and on the day of the wedding (thank you for feeding me that scone - it was the only one I got but it was LOVELY!).

You, Graham and the rest of your team were outstanding, and apart from my horrendously late arrival, everything went wonderfully. There were so many compliments on the food (especially the fish and the lamb!) and I am tempted to email you at the beginning of next year to ask if we can come back for a tasting again!

If at any point, Graham has one of his pop-up nights, is there any way of finding out when/where these are? I would hate to never have any of your food again! Although rest assured that anyone I know in Kent who plans to get married, will be getting a recommendation for you from me!

We have our honeymoon in 2 weeks (again, something we should thank you for as you recommended Atlas Travel!), which we are counting down the days until!

You have all been amazing, and we will always remember you and everything you did to get us to where we are now - very happily married!

Lots of love from us both,
Luke and Laura xxxxx

Laura & Luke August 12th 2017 Red Barn Capel

Well guys, you've done it again! You have provided the Cole family with another fantastic wedding feast anyone could wish for! Graham, I know it was a tough ask to get you out of Kent and down to the wilds of Essex but you did a most fantastic job in probably difficult kitchen conditions. All of our guests commented on how wonderful the food was (and plenty of it)

Debbie, you are just wonderful! You exude calm and well being so when the big day gets close, you arrive on scene & everyone involved in the preparation breathes a sigh of relief as you step in and take command! You managed the day perfectly-and made it the most perfect wedding reception, just as you did 2 years ago for Ellie's wedding.

Thank you to all of your team for making it such a special day, with love, Teresa & Robin

(Abbie's parents)

Debbie and Graham are absolutely the most wonderful people, hard-working, dedicated and absolutely fantastic at their jobs.... they work together along with the rest of their team to produce outstanding food... the most delicious with incredible, locally sourced ingredients. Not only this but they also provide such an incredibly personal service, from the moment you first discuss the menu to the wedding day itself they make you feel at ease, help everything run smoothly and bring such enthusiasm!!!! THANK YOU CHIVES. You're a brilliant team and we can't recommend you highly enough!!!! Xxxxx

Abbie & James Lovejoy August 25th 2017 Wrabness Essex

Dear Debbie

Thank you for everything you've done to make our wedding special, you've been amazing and we really appreciate the lengths you've gone to, to make everything perfect for us

Best wishes & lots of love

Beth & Martin Hill

Beth & Martin August 30th 2017 Crown Lodge

As beautiful as Crown Lodge is it is the hard work of Debbie and Graham that made our day so special. Their attention to detail and their warm friendly approach are outstanding. The food was absolutely amazing and we could fully enjoy our day confident that everything was taken care of. Thank you so much Debbie and Graham. You are the perfect team and lovely couple xxx

Lin Hook

Debbie and Graham are amazing!.. The whole day went flawlessly, Thanks to them. A wonderful venue, wonderful hosts, magnificent food... Will remember it always.

Stevie Hook

Stevie & Lin Hook September 16th 2017 Crown Lodge

There are no words that can express how amazing you and your team are. From day one, more than 18 months ago, I knew that we would have absolutely no stress or worries on our day, due to your amazing wedding organisational skills. Everyone has raved about the food, especially the beef and those who were brave enough to try the kangaroo parcels said they were amazing! The gypsy tart was defiantly a crowd pleaser too! "Julie was not disappointed!" We had the best day, which the photos proved as were smiling manically in every picture – and that is partly down to you! Thank you so so so much, I wish we could do it all again! Love Julie and Naz.

Julie and Naz, 7th October 2017, Knowlton Court

Thank you all so much for everything you did for our wedding. The day would not have been so perfect without all your hard work. We are so grateful for everything, you've been amazing. We'll never forget our special day. Thank you for making it perfect. Happy memories forever, Love Claire and Steve.

Claire and Steve, 23rd October 2017 Crown Lodge

Gayle and the Chives team were great at our wedding at Crown Lodge in March 2018. Gayle organised the day and the food was amazing. Our guests loved the afternoon tea and option of fajitas in the evening! Thank you Chives from the new Mr and Mrs Harvey x

James and Sarah, 9th March 2018

I can't actually believe it's been four weeks tomorrow that we tied the knot at crown lodge. We just wanted to say a massive thank you to you and the team of chefs and staff on the day of our wedding, we really had the most perfect day and it couldn't have been any better! We loved every second. Thank you! Samantha Sozveren xxx

Samantha and Hakan Sozveren 29th March 2018 Crown Lodge

We just want to say a massive thank you to you all for making our wedding day so special! The food was amazing and you made everything run so smoothly. We really appreciate the help you gave us in the lead up to the wedding, wish we could do the whole thing again! Lots of love, Erin and Greg.

Erin and Greg, 31st March 2018, Swarling Manor

Just to say a big thank you for Saturday. It was a lovely day and the food and the service were fabulous. Everyone commented on how lovely your girls were, attentive, polite and professional. I am now thinking how I can plan another! I must say, I was very calm about the whole thing knowing you were going to handle it all, and even the rain didn't bother me. Maybe being 70 has some good points after all! Thank you again, Sue.

Sue & Bruce, May 12th 2018 St Margarets.

Where to start with the Chives Team. We booked them early - 2 and a half years before our wedding, for our venue of Knowlton Court. I can honestly say that Debbie and Graham have become our friends and their team on the day were just incredible (putting up with all of our rowdy guests). Our menu was very US and they made every effort to make everything US. The food was incredible - from the canapés to the pork to the cheeseboard.

I cannot fault them in any way - Debbie became our wedding planner friend and overall support network for the entire day. We will not hesitate to use them for events in the future and would recommend them to anyone. If you would like to ask for any further information about our experience please do.

We cannot thank you enough for the help and support you have given us throughout the planning and culmination of our wedding. You are a super team and will forever be a part of the fond memories we have of this time in our lives.

Holly and Mark, 25th May, Knowlton

Thank you so much for all your help in the run up to and at our wedding last Sunday. We had the best day and can't thank you enough for everything!

Andrew and Katy, 27th May 2018, Crown Lodge

AMAZING!! Debbie, Graham and the Chives team catered our wedding at Kennington Hall back in June. Debbie was our fairy godmother....all the way through she was professional And friendly. The food was absolutely to die for and the service was by far the best service we have ever had anywhere. Every guest commented on how much food there was, the standard was impeccable. You really can't beat them, we won't use anyone else. The biggest thanks from us to them. The Kangaroo pie was amazing! (My baked bean And sausage bespoke pie was awesome!)Thank you thank you. Roby and Jamie x

Robeira and James, 9th June

Dan and I would just like to thank you and your team for helping make our day perfect! Food was superb and the day ran perfectly! We wouldn't change a thing! At the Dower House on the Sunday everybody complimented your food and your team.

Emily and Dan Best, Knowlton Court, 9th June 2018

Chives was our chosen caterer for our wedding reception and dinner in June 2018. Food is very important to both of us and we wanted to provide our wedding guests with the very best. We did have quite a few requirements, it had to be mainly gluten free, good options for children, a different location for the reception which was in meadow land and then dinner in a barn. We also had a handful of other allergies that needed to be accommodated.

As soon as we signed up we knew we were in very capable hands and all the stress disappeared for us. Chives run by Debbie and Graham were so professional and efficient with planning out the full catering plan. They supplied a well written document with all the time of the day including all our requirements that included canapés at the reception and

timings between speeches during the wedding breakfast. They also took the time to visit the location of the reception and wedding breakfast to meet with the owners and agree with them final responsibilities, delivery times and the hire of the items.

On the day, Debbie managed it all very well and it went perfectly; she worked very closely with Martin and Maryann from Green Farm, ensuring that the catering was a well-run operation, that we received the best customer service, that the guests needs were addressed and that we as a bridal pair were looked after without any worries what so ever. Their whole team was such a well-oiled machine and nothing was left to chance, which we are very thankful for. The quality of the food on the day was just outstanding.

The foodie journey with Graham started at the first initial welcome meeting with a taster board. We had taken the Grooms three children and Debbie and Graham warmly welcomed them in their kitchen. They ended up designing the kids menu with thjem which turned out a top hit with all the 40 kids we had at our wedding. During the actual tasting afternoon in their kitchen we chose the Lamb duo for the adults, but as meat wasn't particularly a preference for the bride, Graham suggested to cook a fish dish separately – which was brilliant!

Because the bride is gluten free we wanted as many gluten free canapés as possible, which worked really well and we ended up with a delicious selection. On the day all the food was cooked to perfection and was a culinary party on itself, our great thanks to Graham!

As it was a Kentish Dutch wedding we asked Chives to help out serving out the Dutch bitterballen later during the party which they were happy to do and cook them as well.

With full delight we want to thank Debbie and Graham Green to help create the best day in our lives and highly recommend them to anybody who is looking for a sublime caterer.

Rob and Marlise, 16th June 2018, Green Farm

Thank you so much for the excellent arrangements, food, staff etc. which made our celebration so enjoyable for everyone.

Thank you once again - I am sure we shall use your company in the future and other friends have already asked for your address! Our guests were most impressed and David has passed your details on to one of them. Our best wishes to you all for what will probably be a very busy season. Edwina and David STEED

David and Edwina Steed, 23rd June 2018, Manston

David and I would just like to say a massive thank you for all your help towards our wedding day. From all our annoying emails with millions of questions before the wedding, to helping us set up and help the day run as smoothly as possible! It is so so appreciated. All our guests

absolutely loved your food and I couldn't have imagined anyone else cooking our food for the day. Couldn't recommend you highly enough! Hopefully we will see you or talk to you soon. Lots of love, David and Leanne.

David and Leanne, 23rd June 2018, Swarling Manor

An official thank you card will be in the post but we wanted to say a massive thank you for all your help. Everyone raved about the food and Wanda (the only vegan!) told me she has never been so well fed at a wedding before. The girls who watched the bar for us were so professional and great. I always had a drink in my hand! If we could do it all again, we would, including those amazing tastings! Love Georgie and Derry.

Georgie and Derry, 14th July 2018, Sissinghurst

Thank you so so much for everything to you and Graham! The food was amazing and everyone else thought so to – they loved it! Also thank you for just making sure everything went smoothly along with Dawn. Thanks again, Katie and Tom.

Katie and Tom, 20th July 2018, Knowlton

The wedding was a great success! All of our guests were very complimentary about the food and service throughout the day. Even the picky eaters on our guest list were well catered for. The food was tasty and perfectly presented. Everyone loved the canapés which kept people going through our long drinks reception! The service was impeccable and your help on the run up to the wedding and the day before especially with organising the marquee etc was invaluable. I'd thoroughly recommend Chives!

Emma and Neil, 21st July 2018, Goodnestone