

## **Letters and e-mails of Recommendation 2018-2019**

### **James and Sarah, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

Dear Gayle

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 29<sup>th</sup> 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, 31<sup>st</sup> 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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, 25<sup>th</sup> May, Knowlton**

Hi Gayle

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, 27<sup>th</sup> 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, 9<sup>th</sup> June**

Hi Gayle

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, 9<sup>th</sup> 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 them 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, 16<sup>th</sup> June 2018, Green Farm**

Dear Gayle

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, 23<sup>rd</sup> 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, 23<sup>rd</sup> 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, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2018, Sissinghurst**

I couldn't recommend these guys enough! Debbie and Graham are brilliant. They are such lovely people and most importantly the food is amazing!!

We used Chives as our caterers for our wedding at Knowlton Court back in July. We had the selection of canapés, duo of lamb, lemon posset and butterscotch pie as a duo dessert and a selection of hot evening food! The fish'n'chip was awesome!! They also did our wedding cake which was a selection of cheeses decorated perfectly!

All our guests have said how great the food was, so thank you chives for everything and making our day that bit more extra special!!

Mr & Mrs Stead xx

**Katie and Tom, 20<sup>th</sup> 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, 21<sup>st</sup> July 2018, Goodnestone**

I don't know where to start. Thank you for everything you did on Saturday. You did so much for us-even putting on my shoes! The food was amazing. Everyone has commented on how good it was. You were so attentive to everyone. It was so professional. Hope to see you again soon.

**Flo & George, 4<sup>th</sup> August 2018 , Iwade**

Hey lovely Gayle, Thank you so so so so much for everything. The food was amazing and the service impeccable. We couldn't have wanted for more! Everyone has not stopped raving about the food, it's literally the first thing that people have commented on when they've seen us. You all smashed it right out of the park as I knew you would! I also cannot apologise and thank you enough for the situation with the extra (uninvited) guests brought by a family member. We've got a token of our appreciation for you guys which I'll drop into the farm when I may down seeing my mum in a couple of weeks. Much love xx Gayle & Dave

**Gayle & Dave Busbridge 11<sup>th</sup> August 2018, The Oak Grove**

Debbie and Graham along with the rest of their team are in one word, amazing. From the initial meetings Debbie put us both at ease that nothing would be too much, discussing what would work best for us and our guests and they delivered.

On the day of our wedding, Debbie was ever present to ensure the smooth running, from producing bottles of apple juice because she knew we'd forget on the day, helping the bride out of the car and to the church door, glasses of bubbly for us as we prepared for the confetti run, food put to one side so we actually had canapes, placing the cake and decorating it with the flowers provided, added an extra dessert to our trio as 3 just didn't seem right on the day, rearranging the church to become our reception venue and then the disco. We even found ourselves in the catering tent just to get a breather and having a laugh with Graham and Debbie. All our guests have mentioned how wonderful the food was, being a remote and 13th Century Church I am not sure what our guests expect but Chives delivered above and beyond. If you are thinking of hiring Chives, stop thinking about it and book them now, you will not be disappointed.

### **Elsbeth & James Dunn August 18<sup>th</sup> 2018 Boughton Aluph Church**

Gayle and her team catered for our wedding in September 2018. We were delighted with the food, from the canapes to the dessert. Our guests particularly raved about the sticky toffee and date pudding, and the crackling on the pulled pork buns in the evening! The quality of the food was definitely above and beyond your average wedding food, and we found Gayle a pleasure to work with. Thank you!

### **Abbie & Nick Allison 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2018 , Swarling Manor**

The nicest caterers in Kent! Very professional, friendly and their food is fantastic! As a wedding supplier (videographer) I come across many caterers and Chives just particularly stood out. Highly recommended.

**from Anneka Ireland Videography :-)**

Morning Debbie

Just a quick message to say thank you so much for making our party such a wonderful and memorable event.

It was truly amazing and will always be a lovely memory of our time at the Centre. Everyone had a great time.

Kindest regards

Mick

**Mick and Fran Retirement Party, Revelation, Ashford 20<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

Dear Gayle and Debbie

Thank you so much for doing such a wonderful job for my High Sheriff's Declaration yesterday at The Quaives in Wickhambreaux. Everything was perfect and we had many compliments about the catering. We have some lovely pictures that Jason took of the food and your waiting staff if you would like them.

Many thanks one again.

Paul & Patsy

**High Sheriff of Canterbury Declaration, The Quaives, Wickhambreaux 8<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

Good Evening Stephenie and Debbie .

I just wanted to send a very quick email to say a very big thank you to you both and your teams for all your hard work in helping to make our day so special.

Abby and I had such a lovely day and it was perfect setup for what we wanted from our wedding .We have had lots of feedback from our guests and they were also all taken back by the beautiful venue and were all impressed with the catering they received. 10/10 all round.

Many Thanks

Andy and Abby.

**Abby & Andy, Crown Lodge, 14<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

Gayle and her team were absolutely wonderful at our event last week. They plan meticulously to ensure that every detail is perfect, and that service is swift and professional. The team were all friendly and dealt with issues with ease and utter professionalism. The food was delicious, and they took extra measures to ensure that our guests with dietary requirements were served food that was carefully thought out and not the 'same old menu' they are usually faced with. I would not hesitate to recommend Chives to anyone planning a corporate event or wedding. They were fantastic from start to finish.

**Walker Contruction, Port Lympe, Aspinall Suite 14<sup>th</sup> June 2019**

Well where do we even start! Our wedding day was the 25th May and people are still talking about the food! From the consultation, to the taster session, to the final day I cannot find a single fault. They were so so considerate of us, our guests with additional dietary requirements and most importantly for us our son! Their children's menu is perfect (even if he did cover it with ketchup!) They even checked on our most allergy-stricken guests to ensure that all their dietary requirements were completely met. The food was absolutely beyond amazing with a chef and a dedicated team who are completely passionate about what they are making, providing and serving. I can not recommend them enough! Thank you!!!

**Cat & Louis Rudd May 25<sup>th</sup> 2019 Swarling Manor**

From the moment we met Debbie and Graham from Chives we knew we wanted to go with them, they're so kind, friendly as well as professional. Debbie and her team were absolute fabulous on our wedding day, nothing was too much trouble, we had several vegans and vegetarians attend. The staff were very attentive to any requests from our guests and the food was absolutely amazing - we had so many guests compliment the food. We would recommend Chives to everyone. Thank you for making our day special with one of our favourite things - yummy food !

**Jess & Nigel Blundell May 25<sup>th</sup> 2019 Chart Sutton**

From the word go, Debbie and Graham were so welcoming and helpful. They were a joy to work with as we made preparations for our wedding. In addition to their DELICIOUS food, they go above and beyond, offering support and guidance when needed. Their staff are amazing, keeping things running smoothly and professionally. A fab experience had with Chives.

**Helen & Kieran Cook June 8<sup>th</sup> 2019 Knowlton Court**

Hi Debbie

A really big thank you for all your help last week with the Mayor's Civic Service – it was such a great success! The Mayor received many compliments about the event and the food – so much so that the Mayor has asked if you could do the Christmas event for her!

With kindest regards and thanks!

Donna

**Ashford Mayor's Civic Service 23/06/19**

Dear Graham, Debbie & all the team

Thank you so much for making our wedding breakfast one to remember. The lamb went down so well! I'm still dreaming of that salted caramel cheesecake.

Thank you for all the preparation that made the day so smooth & reassuring me with all the last minute changes.

It was a pleasure for you to be such a part of our day

Love Sheena & Nick

### **Sheena & Nick Chesney Knowlton Court 6<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

We went to a friend's wedding where Chives were running the catering. Debbie and Graham had gone out of their way before the event to tailor the menu to accommodate some pretty difficult dietary requirements and on the day itself nothing was too much bother even to the point that a special plate of canapes had been put together to meet those dietary requirements. The food was amazing; good to look at, creative and most importantly delicious - I want to go again ! Had I not pushed the button too soon I would have also added - a special shout out to the waiting staff - very professional yet also approachable with the confidence to engage with guests in a friendly manner - excellent!

### **Kylie & Graham's wedding 12<sup>th</sup> July 2019 Havenfield Hall**

On behalf of Janet and myself, I want to thank Gayle and her team for the truly excellent food and service at our wedding yesterday at Knowlton Court. Cliff Rance

### **Janet & Cliff Lally-Rance Knowlton Court 13<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

Debbie, Graham and their team are just incredible. The food is just out of this world. We had them to do our wedding and it was just perfect, right from the moment I first spoke to Debbie I was at ease and guided. They make you feel special and nothing is too much trouble. They go above and beyond to help you. The food well that was just stunning, all of our guests said how yummy the food was and how nice and full they were and we just loved the food. Honestly if you want a fantastic service and good tasty food then you must go to Chives and have them because with Chives you get a superb service and just incredible food. You're silly if you don't have CHIVES!!!

### **Hannah & James Roberts Knowlton Court 27<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

We hired Chives for our wedding. They were a delight to work with from the beginning and so many of our guests commented on how good the food was. Gayle and her team were absolute STARS on the day - thanks so much

### **Caitlin & Marius Rubin Marquee in Warehorne 27<sup>th</sup> July 2019**



Hi Debbie,

Sorry it's taken me so long to get back to you- it's been a bit manic since we got back!

What can I say? You are incredible, your team is wonderful and Graham and his food are just insane.

I knew our day was in safe hands with you at the helm, but the work that you did on the day to make everything perfect for us was so appreciated and noticed by everyone. From stacking that doughnut tower (I tried and failed in the practice runs) to shifting timings and decor to suit the crazy weather and last minute table plan arrangements, everything went without a hitch and I cannot thank you enough for giving us the perfect, worry free day that we had.

And the food. was. amazing. Wedding food is traditionally a bit meh, but not ours- Graham and the team knocked it out of the park. I remember looking round at everyone when they were eating the lemon Eton mess and mud balls and there were a lot of blissful faces! Adam and I had hyped up the food to everyone after our tasting session and they were not disappointed!

Thank you for everything on the day and to you in particular for being so wonderful organisationally and personally.

Loads of love and I hope we see you very soon

Rachel and Adam x

**Rachel & Adam Shortall Crown Lodge 10<sup>th</sup> August 2019**

Dear Gayle

I write on behalf of us all as we wanted to thank you immensely for helping in making Chloe & Luke's wedding day so memorable!

After a shocking start, with the photographer cancelling in the morning, and the rain and winds we had no idea what to expect of the day. The team were amazing from the beginning to the end and Gayle, you were exceptional & I personally could not have got through the day without you. Please pass on our thanks to all the team and I know Chloe and Luke were gutted not to have seen Graham and thank him personally. The food was amazing and we shall certainly highly recommend you in the future to friends and family.

A huge thank you once again to you all and hope to see you again soon.

Kindest regards from us all

Jon, Mell, Chloe & Luke

**Chloe & Luke Reeves Marquee in Bethersden 10<sup>th</sup> August 2019**

Thank you so much for feeding everyone at our wedding on Saturday and producing such amazing food!

Thank you for answering all our questions along the way and ensuring that we had the very best food on Saturday

Special thanks to Gayle for being so organised and for being so easy & open when discussing ideas.

Thank you Chives! Xx

### **Sarah & Tom Glinn Swarling Manor 17<sup>th</sup> August 2019**

Debbie, Graham and the team are simply wonderful! With Chives you get so much more than a catering service - you get support, guidance and friends for life! Not only did the team serve the most delicious food, Deb saved my wedding dress from a red wine disaster midway through the evening and even helped get my baby boy off for his nap! Not once did I feel I needed to worry about anything throughout the day as I knew everything would be under control! Thank you, Deb, Graham and the Chives team for being incredible and helping make our wedding day so very special.

### **Danni & Nick Barns Crown Lodge 17<sup>th</sup> August 2019**

Hello Debbie

We can't thank you, Graham and your team enough for everything you did leading up to our wedding and even more so on the day. We couldn't of had a better day and that's down to everyone's hard work especially you guys!

Our day definitely wouldn't have been what it was without all of your efforts and we appreciate it so much! At one point we had lost faith in the wedding even going ahead and you restored that and made it ten times better than we could ever have imagined.

We have had lots of compliments about how lovely the food was, and we second that, it was perfect!

You went above and beyond for us doing lots of bits that weren't down to you but they didn't go unnoticed so thank you thank you thank you!!

Thank you again, Lucy and James x

### **Lucy & James Cox, 25/08/19 Port Lympne Marquee**

Morning all at the wonderful Chives,

Sorry for the delay in sending thanks. Chris and I disappeared for a few days to catch up on things and maintain our little bubble, haha

Wow, where do I even begin. Thank you so much to you all for everything! Without you the day would not have gone as smoothly and wonderful as it did. I can't believe how quick it went! Everyone cannot stop commenting on how amazing the food was!! And from the bottom of our hearts, we want to Thank you for all the help in the lead up! At no point did you make us feel like anything was too much trouble or not possible.

As soon as I have any pictures or video back and they hopefully/ possibly captured the food, I will forward on.

Chris and I both said not only did we find amazing suppliers in this process, but felt like we made friends that we will continue to stay in contact we, we certainly feel that way with you and Graham.

Please stay in touch with us and let us know if doing anything taster evenings, hahah, we will 100% be there.

Much love always,

Xxx

**Lauren & Christopher Rose-Wells Marquee in Smeeth 7<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

More than just a caterer!

Deb has been a wonderful help in planning and running our wedding day. Grahams food is amazing and nothing is ever any trouble for them.

Couldn't recommend them any more highly!

**Val Hampton, Wedding Circle Meeting Kennington Hall 10<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

