

# Pamela is a wine world beater

By Kurt Bayer

THE fact she is not only Scottish, but female, stacked the odds against Pamela Geddes when she entered the male-dominated world of wine making.

Pamela, however, has won international acclaim with her Spanish red, el Gordito, which took the silver medal at the blind-tasting International Wine Challenge.

El Gordito, made at her own boutique winery near Girona, Catalonia, is named after her brother Gordon and roughly translates as "the little fat one."

Now her range of wines is being used by wine suppliers for various Homecoming events across Scotland.

The 55-year-old, born in Aberdeen, first made an impact on the winemaking world when she created La Pamelita, Spain's first sparkling red, which was launched at the London Trade Fair in 1999.

Pamela graduated in microbiology from Strathclyde University and worked for two years at Edinburgh Western Infirmary before moving to the Pentlands Scotch Whisky

## Scot takes silver medal at top contest with her Spanish red

research division, where she spent 10 years.

She then set off to make wine in Australia before moving to South America. After years working in other people's vineyards, she established her own in Catalonia.

"It was important for me to take silver at the world's most important wine tasting event" she said.

"It's a male dominated industry, especially in Spain, but things

have worked out well for me." Since launching La Pamelita, the name given to her by colleagues when she worked at vineyards in Chile, Pamela has extended the family imprint.

Her company, Lobban Wines, is named after her father and grandfather's middle name, deriving from the north east, and her rose is named after niece Rosie.

Pamela makes a maximum of 8,000 bottles of La Pamelita every year, as well as 5,000 of Rosita and 13,000 of el Gordito.

She said: "I deal in tiny volumes compared with most Spanish wine producers, but I love what I do."

"I am involved in every stage of the process, from mopping the floors, to tasting, bottling, to making all the executive decisions. I wouldn't want it any other way."

"I'm especially passionate about the sparkling red, and it's slowly catching on. People nowadays are more likely to try something fun and new."



**Pamela with el Gordito, which won silver, and left, the range of wines from her Catalonia winery**