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FEB/MAR 2020

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Clem Stevens based in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire is our fabulous cover photographer this issue. He captured this image of Charlotte and Rhys on their special day, revealed on page 36. To see a gallery of Clem's work, visit his website clemstevensphotography.co.uk and Instagram clemstevensphotography

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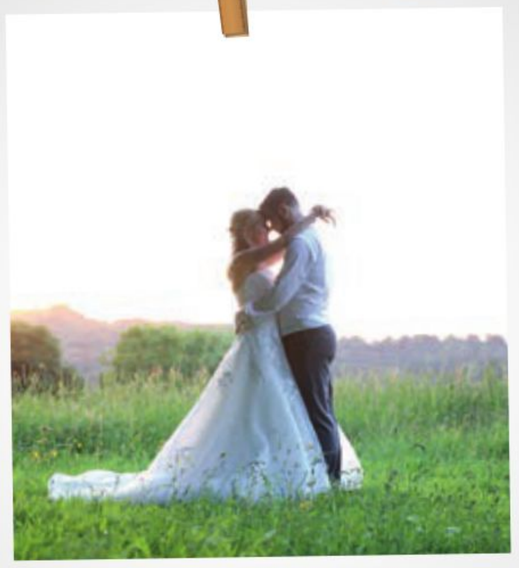
HATTON COURT

THE COTSWOLDS



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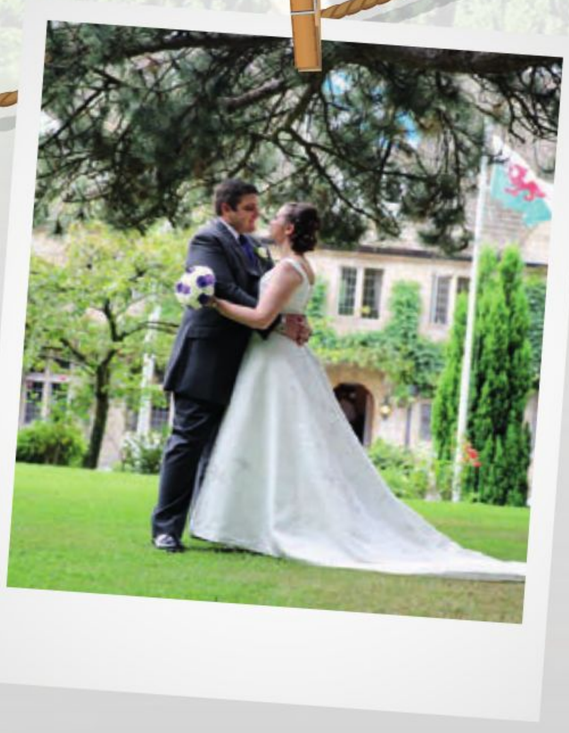

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cwe COUNTY WEDDING EVENTS

Time for romance

This early part of the new year always makes me smile. The excitement of Christmas and has paved the way for Valentine's Day, with all the cute cards and gifts appearing in store. Whether you're putting the finishing touches to a February wedding or are simply shopping for a celebration later in the year, it's a great time to collect some love-themed trinkets.

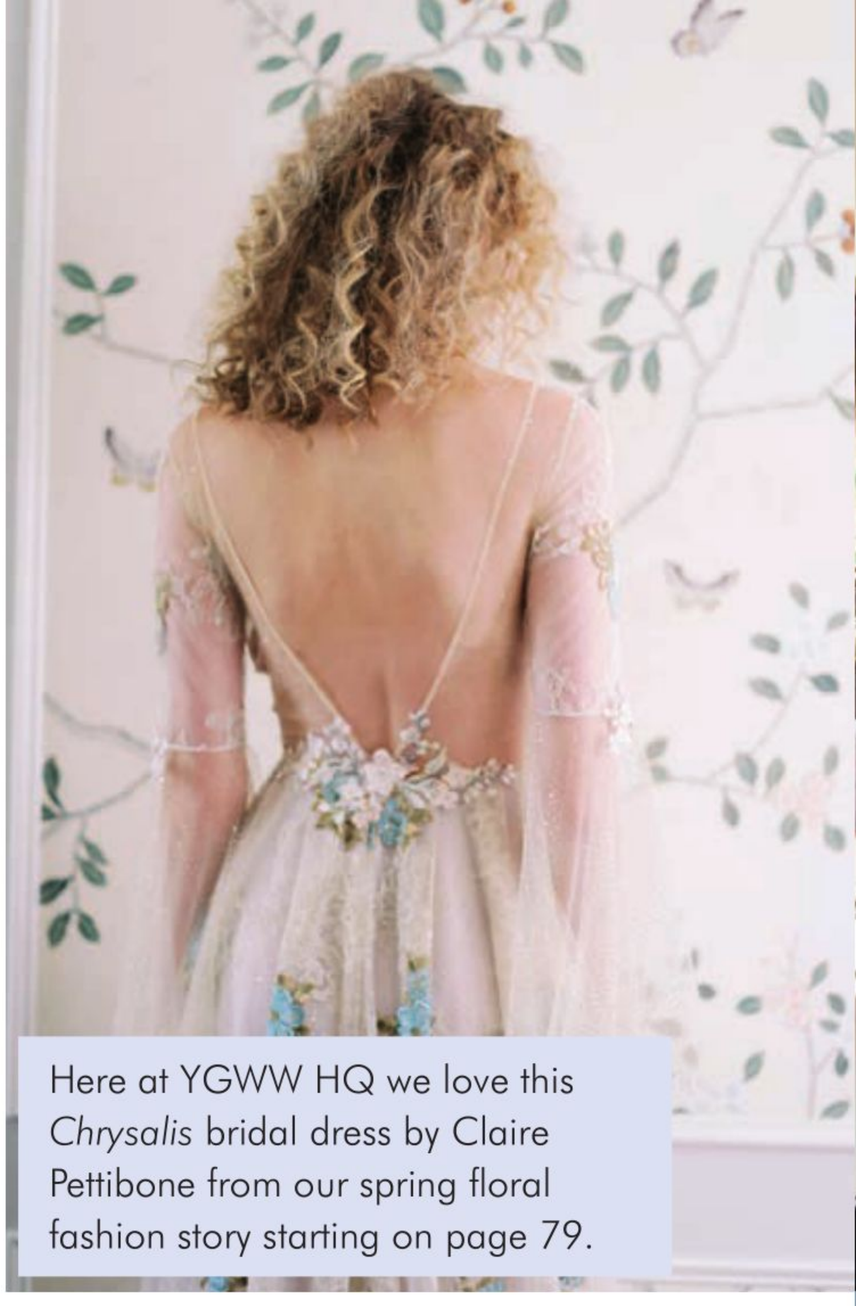
Love is in the air in our real wedding section (page 36) and there's also an action-packed fashion section (page 78) and Insta-worthy honeymoon destinations (page 104).

So I wish you a very happy Valentine's Day and for those of you not getting married just yet, we will be back with another issue soon.

Until then…

Claire x

Claire Ridley, Editor



Here at YGWW HQ we love this *Chrysalis* bridal dress by Claire Pettibone from our spring floral fashion story starting on page 79.

WIN!
A HONEYMOON IN ITALY, WORTH £1,500. TURN TO PAGE 112 TO FIND OUT MORE.

I will be attending a wedding this year so these pastel rainbow court shoes and matching clutch bag from the guest fashion feature on page 89 are at the top of my wish list!

Looking to take a cruise for your honeymoon? Turn to page 108 to read more about it.

EDITOR'S LETTER

How inviting does the Mulberry Suite at Hatherley Manor look? Turn to page 25 to read more.

How cute is this wedding image by Cave Studios Photography? Check out snaps from other photographers in the region on page 63.

The Zoots wedding band reveal all about entertaining guests on page 59.

Sally Pickles from Vanilla Catering & Events unveils mouth-watering vegan ideas for the wedding breakfast on page 71.

Our glamorous beauty section starts on page 91.

How atmospheric is this shot of Charlotte and Rhys? Their real wedding is featured on page 36 and was photographed by the talented Clem Stevens Photography.

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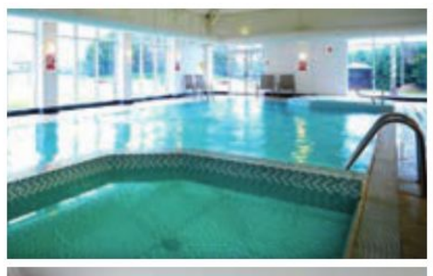
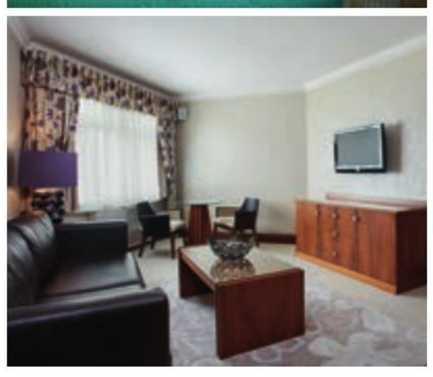
All of the suites have easy access to our landscaped grounds with a deck terrace and water feature, offering a picturesque backdrop for your wedding. Our rooms are also licensed to hold civil ceremonies, allowing you to host your entire wedding in one location.

Our hotel wedding service is flexible and our experienced teams ensure that every aspect of your special day, from the room arrangement to the choice of wine, is planned and executed perfectly, down to the last detail. This allows our bride and groom peace of mind that they're in good hands from start to finish.





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DE VERE AND JUSTBE BOTANICALS PARTNER UP

De Vere, a collection of historic and contemporary hotels and event venues with properties in Gloucestershire, has announced its partnership with JustBe Botanicals. A new treatment and product line is now on offer at De Vere Cotswold Water Park's Spa6 and De Vere Tortworth Court's Leaf Spa - the first two hotels in England to stock the brand and offer its treatments.

JustBe Botanicals products and treatments are handmade and designed to restore emotional balance and enhance a sense of wellbeing.

Upon booking, therapists will give guests five 'state of mind' choices for how they wish to feel upon departure. These include happy, pure, active, tranquil and detoxed. Each treatment will use oils infused with a blend of botanicals targeted to achieve their desired state of mind.

All spa experiences include a complimentary gin and tonic and chocolates infused with the same botanicals.

Louise Tunsich, director of Spa6 at De Vere Cotswold Water Park, says, "Our aim is to create a calm oasis away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life, which is why we're thrilled to announce this partnership with JustBe Botanicals. The range of treatments and products will leave guests feeling refreshed and revitalised, and we're delighted to be the first hotels in England to offer the brand's treatments and products."

The partnership sees six new packages on offer at the hotels, including the Drift Away Together package designed for couples to enjoy a relaxing back massage and Rasul ritual treatment, and Life's a Breeze, offering an ultimate body massage or signature facial and a dry floatation experience.

JustBe products including exfoliators, facial creams, scented candles and massage oils are available to purchase in the spa.

For further information, visit devere.co.uk and Facebook @DeVereHotels

HJ'S BRITISH HAIRDRESSING AWARDS 2019 ANNOUNCE REGIONAL WINNERS

HJ's British Hairdressing Awards 2019 sponsored by Schwarzkopf Professional has announced a winner located in Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire. Celebrating talent from all over the UK and in its 34th year, the British Hairdressing Awards showcase those who display incredible skill, vision, and talent.

Martin Crean of MODE, located in this Cotswold market town, won the Wales & South West Hairdresser of the Year award. HJ's executive director, Jayne Lewis Orr, says, "Each year, British hairdressing goes from strength to strength. These awards serve to celebrate not just the sheer technical skill involved in hairdressing, but also the creativity and vision behind the extremely accomplished execution. Each winner has demonstrated an ability to dream big, and then bring that concept to life in imagery that's beautiful, inspiring and directional. We're very proud of all the winners."

To book an appointment with Martin at MODE, call 01386 841 123 or visit modehair.co.uk

Nearlywed NEWS

The latest news from around both counties

THE EDEN HOTEL COLLECTION ANNOUNCE AWARD WIN

The Eden Hotel Collection, a group of nine UK-based luxury boutique properties including The Kings Hotel, Cotswolds in Chipping Campden and The Greenway Hotel and Spa in Cheltenham, has won the Best Emerging Talent Initiative at the Caterer.com People Awards 2019.

The hotel group was recognised for its innovative Elan Spa Academy launched last year to provide a chance for beauty therapists to earn as they learn as part of a new apprenticeship scheme.

For further information and to book a hotel stay or spa experience, visit edenhotelcollection.com and edenhotelcollection on Instagram.

RAYMOND BLANC'S THE WHITE BRASSERIE COMPANY OPENS NEW PUB, THE KINGS ARMS, IN PRESTBURY, CHELTENHAM

The White Brasserie Company – a collection of British pubs with a French twist owned by chef Raymond Blanc – has announced the recent opening of its 20th property, The Kings Arms in Prestbury, Gloucestershire. This Grade 11 listed building has undergone extensive refurbishment. It now offers a combination of cosy spaces and open plan dining furnished with sumptuous textures and bright, bold colours. The interiors feature a traditional bar area and a light, bright brasserie. Quirky dining sheds surrounded by atmospheric lighting provide private outdoor dining spaces for up to six people.

Fresh, seasonal, French dishes and Great British pub classics are on the menu all using sustainable ingredients. They include smoked pork belly served with apple and crackling, paella valenciana with red mullet, and British roast pheasant with girolle mushrooms and muscat pumpkin.

The cellar offers locally brewed ales and beers, some of the finest wines from around the world, artisan gins, spirits and cocktails.

To book, call 01242 520 012 or visit kingsarmsprestbury.com Facebook @whitebrasserie

TOP SWINDON PR CONFIRMED AS JUDGE OF THE WHITEWED DIRECTORY AWARDS

Top Swindon PR consultant and award-winning entrepreneur, Sara Tye, is to judge The Whitewed Directory Awards 2019 for the third year in a row. The awards are to be held at, and sponsored by, DoubleTree by Hilton Swindon.

Sara says, "I'm honoured and excited to be asked back to judge these awards. The standard of entries increases each year and I'm looking forward to the winners being announced. I'm always delighted to help celebrate great entrepreneurship!"

Sara has joined some of the most influential people over the last three years as part of the judging panel. The awards were launched to highlight, and support, the region's best wedding industry operators.

This year, Sara is joined by director of sales of DoubleTree by Hilton Swindon, Emma Richards. A key voice for businesses in the South West, Ian Larrard, who is director of the Initiative in Swindon and Wiltshire, completes the judging panel.

The Whitewed Directory founder and managing director, Natalie Lovett, says, "A big thank you to Sara for joining our professional judging panel again this year. Her business acumen and experience means that she is rightly positioned to judge the entries and choose the very best applications to be put forward to the final."

The shortlist has been revealed and includes Kimmi's Cakes in Swindon, Willoughby & Wolf in Marlborough, Fluffy Puffin in Calne and Holly Robinson Jewellery in Swindon.

Visit whitewed.directory to find out more and to book a stay at DoubleTree by Hilton Swindon, visit doubletree3.hilton.com

THE CROWN IN MINCHINHAMPTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE REOPENS

The Crown pub located in Minchinhampton near Stroud in Gloucestershire has reopened after five years. Now part of The Lucky Onion collection, a group of boutique hotels and country pubs located in the heart of the Cotswolds, this 18th-century building retains many of its distinctive features.

The menu offers traditional British dishes created by executive chef Ronnie Bonetti using locally sourced produce accompanied by a wide selection of real ales and an extensive wine list. There's also a secluded terrace garden for al fresco dining and regular live music from local artists.

For bookings, call 01453 731 067 and for further information, visit thecrown-minchinhampton.com

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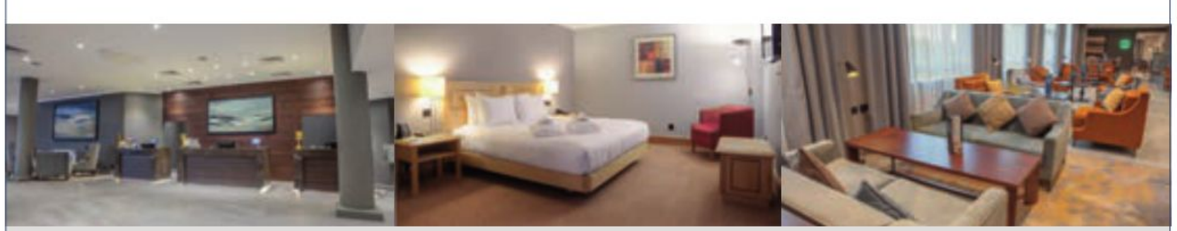

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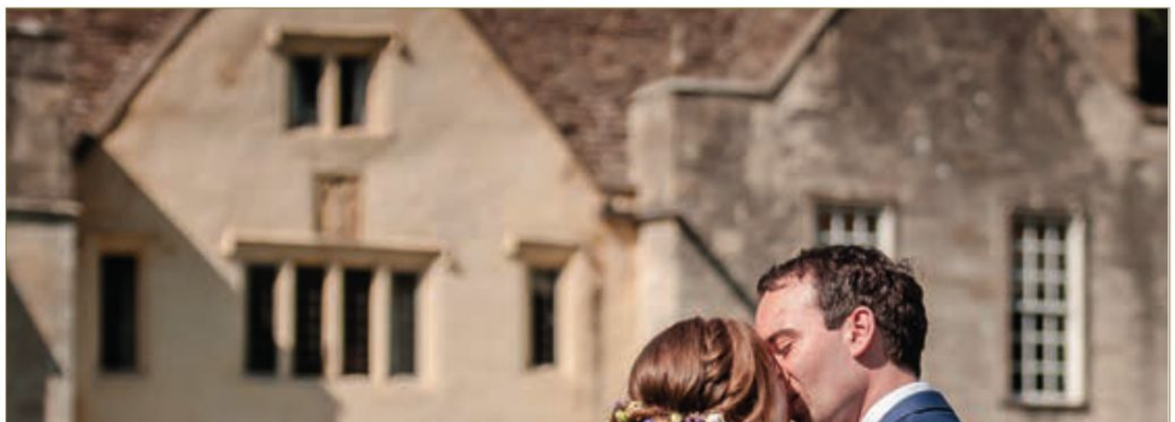

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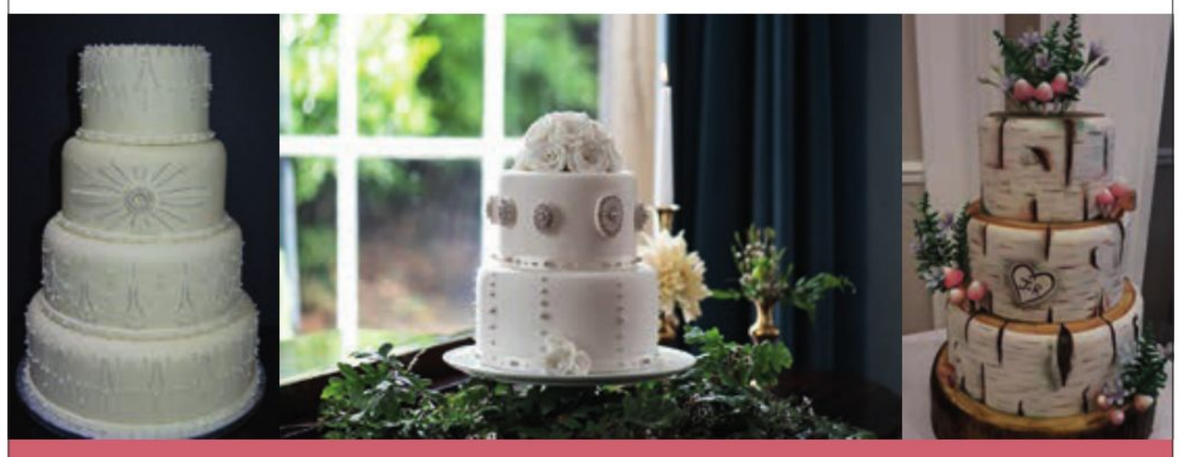
The Shrewton Cake Company is a family run business based in the village of Shrewton on the edge of Salisbury Plain in Wiltshire.

The owner, Sarah Cunningham, works directly with the client to correctly interpret their requirements and then designs and makes a celebration cake that is unique for them. Catering for all events - birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, and even business events – Sarah will create a delicious and visually striking cake using top quality, fresh ingredients, while always accounting for any special dietary needs.



Sarah Cunningham 07450408386 sarahcunningham491@hotmail.com

Fun and games

JDR Karting and Activity Centre is the best indoor go karting experience in Gloucester that also offers lasertag, segways and their latest addition for 2020, axe throwing. Ideal for stag and hen parties, groups can tailor-make a multi-activity day with hot food, refreshments and free parking also available.

Stag and hen groups mainly participate in the karting sprint events that are the Grand Prix (£38) and the Super Prix (£43). Safety equipment, a race suit, balaclava, gloves and a helmet are all included, and drivers are briefed beforehand. A few laps are sampled first to get used to it before groups compete in two qualifying heats each, and then the top 12 enter into the grand final. This is exclusive to the group meaning no one else will be driving with them. Trophies are awarded to the best three drivers and presented on the podium.

Your Glos & Wilts Wedding has teamed up with JDR Karting and Activity Centre to offer readers a complimentary stag or hen place when they book and pay for nine people (not in conjunction with any other offers). To take advantage of this deal, call 01452 311 211 to book, and visit jdrkarting.co.uk to find out more.

Turn to page 59 to read more about what they offer for hen and stag celebrations.

Freebies & OFFERS

Take advantage of these gorgeous giveaways

In the modern world, it's hard to buy someone a gift no-one else will be able to. So why not try an experience that can't be replicated – a night at the theatre. But how does someone give that gift while making sure it's the right show and right time for the recipient? That's where Theatre Tokens come in.

Theatre Tokens are unique gift vouchers that can be used at over 260 theatres across the country. This means the giftee can see plays, musicals, opera and dance at home or on a trip away. Best of all, Theatre Tokens have no expiry date so there's no pressure to choose right away, meaning the recipient can wait for their dream show. Theatre Tokens Gift Cards and eGifts can be bought and topped up on theatretokens.com

County Wedding Magazines has teamed up with Theatre Tokens to offer readers the chance to win a £50 gift card. For your chance to win enter via our website.

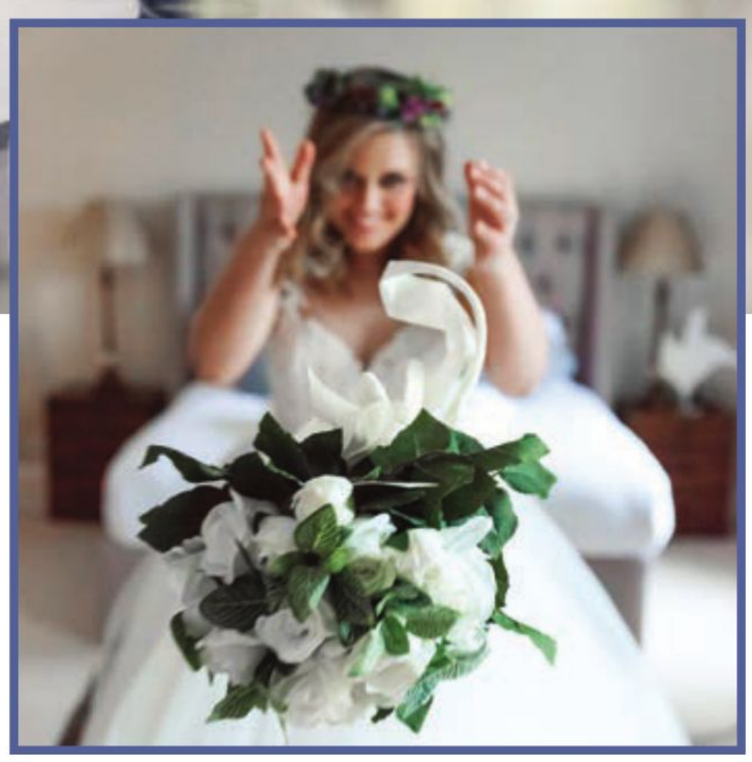
What's more, we also have a wonderful discount for readers: 10% off Theatre Tokens. To get 10% off, order a Gift Card, an eGift or a Top Up before midnight on 31st March 2020 and quote COUNTYWEDDING online at theatretokens.com

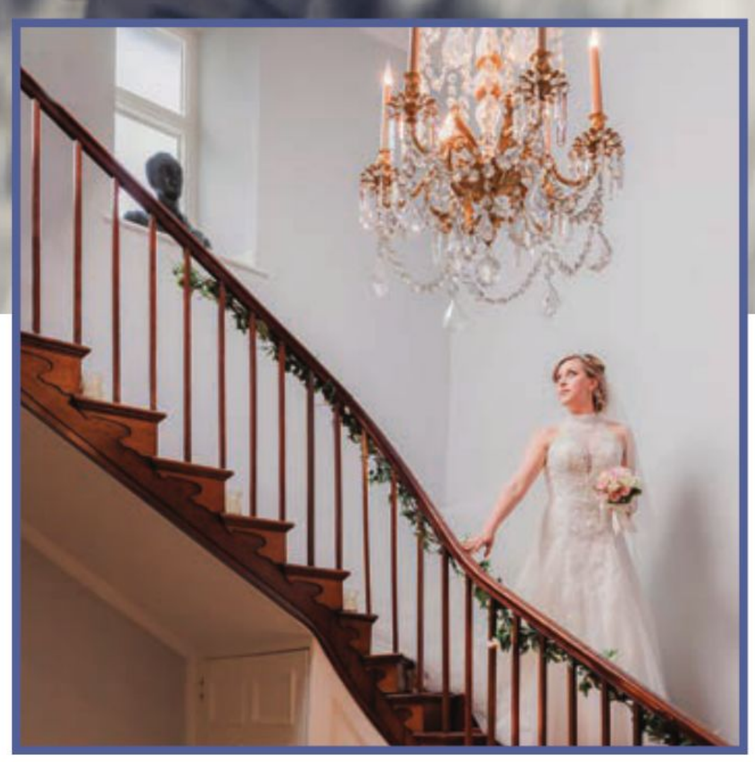
ENTER ONLINE AT YOURGLOSWILTS.WEDDING

Closing date 3rd April, 2020, unless otherwise stated.

Weddings at Sudbury House

Quote YGWW





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Contact: 01793 849 999, the-wiltshire.co.uk
@TheWiltshire

This contemporary hotel is located in the heart of Wiltshire overlooking the rolling countryside. It's the ideal size to accommodate wedding guests in its 58 bedrooms, and the property features an 18-metre swimming pool, sauna, steam room, Jacuzzi and gym. Guests are entitled to preferential golf fees, and room rates include breakfast.

Ceremonies take place in The Marlborough Suite overlooking the golf course. The wedding breakfast and reception are held in The King Suite for up to 150 loved ones, and the Wedding Garden, with its patio area and breathtaking views, are the perfect spot for post-ceremony drinks.

ANOTHER OPTION

THE LYDIARD HOUSE & ANNEXE, SWINDON

This wedding venue offers a variety of areas to host a ceremony and reception and is located in the Grade I listed Palladian house in Lydiard Park. It's a tranquil setting offering a picturesque backdrop for big-day photographs and the in-house catering team can prepare dishes using locally sourced produce.

Ceremony licence? Yes
Contact: 01793 464 644, lydiardpark.org.uk
@lydiardpark

❤ *We love...* the flexibility of moving an outdoor ceremony indoors in the event of adverse weather conditions.

Ceremony licence? Yes
Contact: 01367 241 272, sudburyhouse.co.uk
@sudburyhotel

SUDBURY HOUSE HOTEL & RESTAURANT, NR. SWINDON, WILTSHIRE

Nestled on the edge of the Cotswolds sits this recently refurbished four-star hotel. The main part benefits from a contemporary design while the neighbouring Old House, formerly a Georgian family home, has been restored to its former glory complete with antique furnishings. It's home to 50 luxurious bedrooms including two suites. The spacious Junior Suite showcases a roll-top bath and double shower, while the Deluxe Suite boasts garden views and a separate lounge.

Ceremonies take place in a choice of modern and traditional rooms within the Old House and the main hotel including the Magnolia rooms and Regency room. There's also the option of an outdoor ceremony on the garden terrace in front of the Georgian house. The wedding breakfast and reception also take place in a variety of areas including the Magnolia Restaurant and Restaurant 56.

ANOTHER OPTION

VILLAGE HOTEL SWINDON

This property is located between the North Wessex Downs and the Cotswolds, just 2.7 miles from Swindon train station. It's home to a Starbucks, an Italian restaurant and bar, a spa and a fully equipped gym.

Ceremonies can be held in the stunning grounds or in the large banqueting room that can accommodate up to 250 guests.

Ceremony licence? Yes
Contact: village-hotels.co.uk
villagehotels

01722 782020 sales@thestoneshotel.co.uk www.thestoneshotel.co.uk

The Stones Hotel, High Post, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP4 6AT

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Email: kingsarms@wardworth.co.uk

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T&Cs: Selected dates until the end of September 2021. Minimum 50 adult guests.

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★★★★

Ceremony licence? Yes
Contact: 01793 861 779, stantonhouse.co.uk

❤ *We love...* the two bridal suites on offer including the Swan and Cotswold rooms. Both feature a four-poster bed, dining area, and a chaise lounge.

STANTON HOUSE HOTEL, SWINDON

This classic country manor house and its manicured gardens overlooking Stanton Lakes is located in the picturesque village of Stanton Fitzwarren. Every detail is arranged to suit the requirements of each couple and their guests.

Ceremonies take place in a variety of areas including The Cedar Room which seats up to 80 guests. Blessings can take place in the outdoor gazebo, and the grounds make a stunning photographic backdrop.

The Rosemary Restaurant seats up to 80 loved ones for the wedding breakfast and The Lilac room, with ample space for a dancefloor, DJ or a band hosts the evening reception. A hog roast, barbecue or buffet can be arranged for up to 120 guests.

❤ *We love...* the three shepherd huts located in the grounds providing accommodation for the newlyweds and their guests.

Ceremony licence? Yes
Contact: 01249 400 014, wellingtonbarn.co.uk
wellington_barn

WELLINGTON BARN, CALNE

This award-winning, family-run venue located in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in the heart of Wiltshire has won Wedding Venue of the Year three years consecutively at The English Wedding Awards.

There are two main rooms that form the barn – the historic Old Barn that was built in the 18th century featuring a high vaulted beamed ceiling, and the New Barn (also known as the Old Skilling) which is the larger, modern extension showcasing a half-glazed frontage and extensive views. They can be used individually or together and ceremonies can take place here, or in the picturesque gardens, or in the pagoda.

Up to 150 guests can be seated at the venue, and larger evening receptions can be catered for, with a capacity of 300 for a standing buffet. There's also the option for a marquee in the grounds.

❤ *We love...* the popular Doubletree breakfast in the 14Twelve Brasserie.

Ceremony licence? Yes
Contact: 01793 881 777, doubletree3.hilton.com
doubletree

DOUBLETREE BY HILTON HOTEL SWINDON

This stylish hotel, a Hilton property and the second-largest hotel in Swindon, is set in the stunning Wiltshire countryside just off the M4, enjoying easy access to Swindon and its many attractions including the Swindon Designer Outlet.

It boasts deluxe bedrooms suitable for accommodating many wedding guests, and spacious suites with separate lounge areas ideal for the bridal party to enjoy the night before and the morning of the wedding. There's also a Starbucks coffee bar, fitness centre and 24-hour room service available at the property.

Ceremonies, receptions and the wedding breakfast take place in the Lydiard Suite. This elegant ballroom offers plenty of natural daylight and is decorated in soft, neutral colours to suit most themes. There's a bar in the suite reserved exclusively for guests, and outside in the hotel lobby there's a fireplace that makes a cosy backdrop for big-day photographs.

Stanton House Hotel

WILTSHIRE

Stanton House Hotel and its grounds provide the most stunning setting for such an important occasion. Everything is arranged to suit the requirements of the couple and their guests. Stanton House Hotel enjoys an excellent reputation as a superb venue at which to hold a wedding reception, civil marriage ceremony or civil partnership ceremony.

The Rosemary Restaurant seats up to 80 guests. A wide choice of food and drinks are available for you to choose from and we are happy to discuss any special dietary requirements that you may wish to add.

The Lilac room is perfect for the evening entertainment with ample room for a dance floor, DJ or band. A Hog Roast, BBQ or Buffet options are available for your evening function for up to 120 guests.

The swan room is one of our bridal suites.

We have a choice of rooms which are licensed to hold civil ceremonies. The Cedar room is our main ceremony room which holds 80 guests.

www.stantonhouse.co.uk | weddings@stantonhouse.co.uk | 01793 861779

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HATHERLEY MANOR
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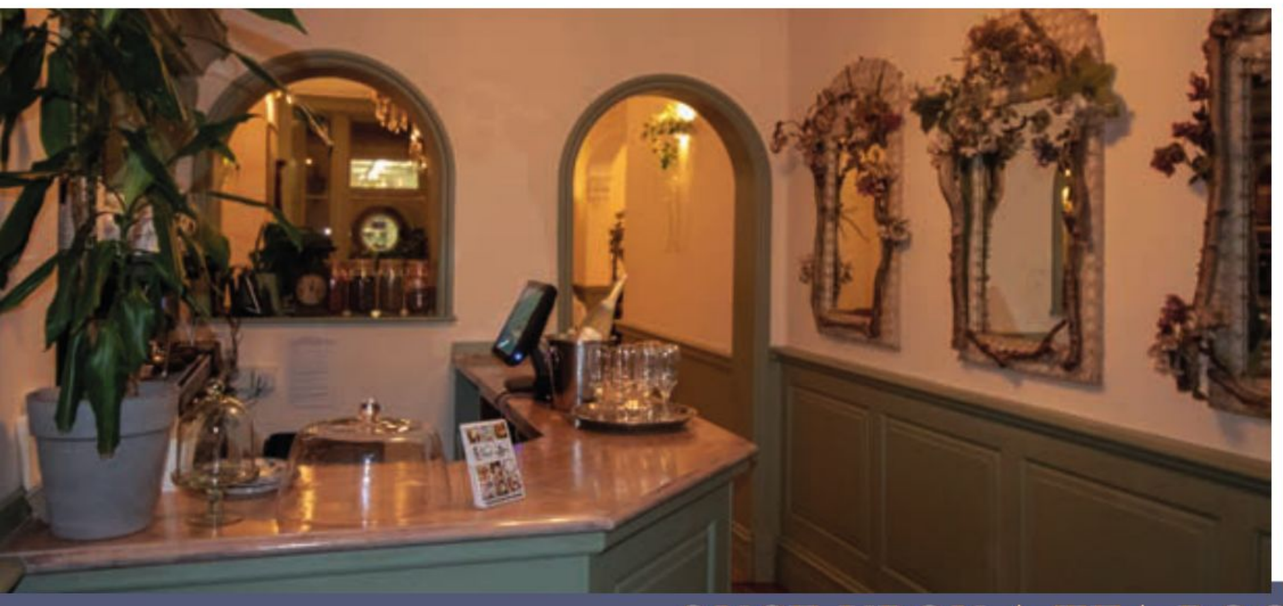
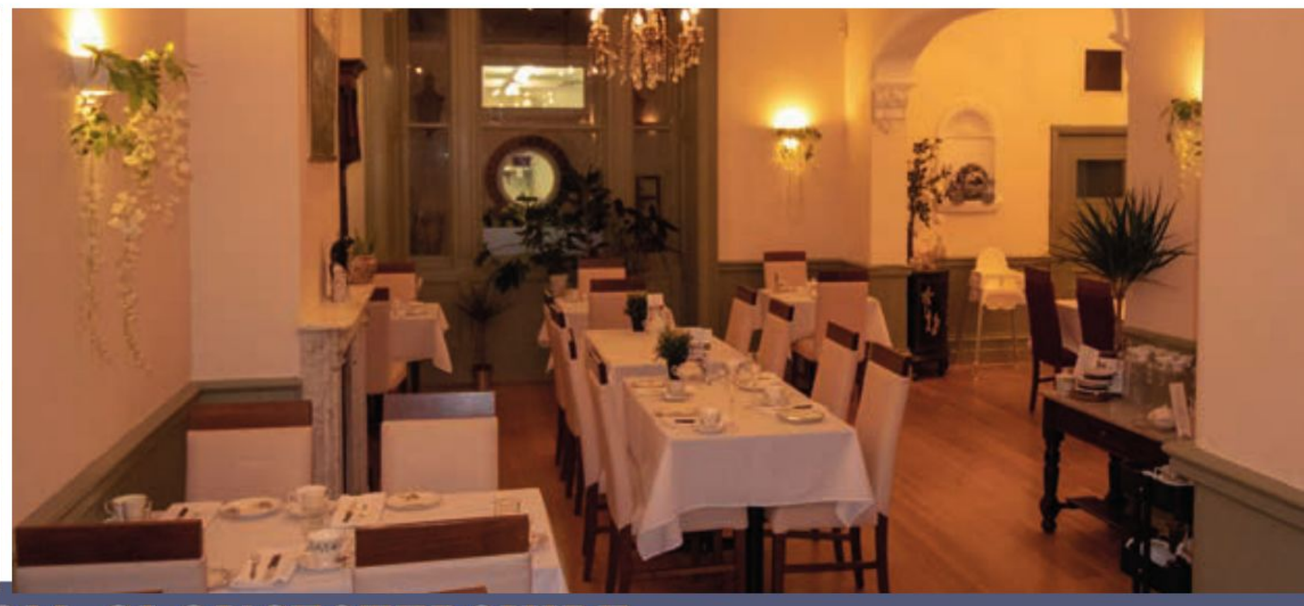
STEP BACK IN TIME

These historical wedding venues boast period features and manicured grounds





ONCE UPON A TEA ROOM, GLOUCESTERSHIRE

This Regency-style tea room, nestled between Cheltenham town centre and Pittville Park, can be privately hired for an intimate afternoon tea to celebrate a wedding.

A selection of artisan cakes is on the extensive menu, plus finger sandwiches, scones, macarons and even pancakes. They also offer a Gentleman's Tea, ideal for stag groups, consisting of pork pies, cheese, pickles, chutney and crackers. The team will also visit couples externally to cater for a special occasion.

❤ *We love...* the Crafternoon Tea that's available for hen parties – it adds a creative twist to the traditional afternoon tea by hosting groups to make their own tasty souvenir.

Ceremony licence? No
Contact: 01242 577 929, onceuponatearoom.co.uk
onceuponatearoom

❤ *We love...* that the Walled Garden features numerous specimen trees, including one of the finest copper beach varieties, and pretty flower borders.

Ceremony licence? No
Contact: 01489 589 275, vanillacatering.co.uk
vanillacateringevents

WALLED GARDEN WEDDINGS AT THE WARDROBE, WILTSHIRE

Award-winning company Vanilla Catering & Events has teamed up with The Rifles Berkshire and Wiltshire Museum located in Salisbury to launch Walled Garden Weddings at The Wardrobe, a new venue in the heart of this historic Cathedral city.

The Walled Garden is a secret hideaway set in more than half an acre of tranquil grounds located to the rear of the museum in the serene setting of Cathedral Close. It's a private spot leading down to the banks of the River Avon that can guarantee exclusive use and boasts an idyllic photographic backdrop.

Wedding receptions take place in a large marquee accommodating up to 150 guests. Smaller numbers are welcome and the space lends itself to different entertaining options, from rustic sharing platters to drinks served on the lawn. Due to the partnership with Vanilla Catering & Events, the marquee and furniture hire, and catering services, must all be arranged through them.

Smaller receptions can be held in the Regimental Room, with its stunning views of the Cathedral spire, that can accommodate up to 50 guests for a buffet lunch, or 36 loved ones for a seated dinner. Room hire, including the provision of tables and chairs, is included in the quotation available from Vanilla Catering & Events.

❤ *We love...* that outdoor ceremonies can take place for up to 130 guests in the pavilion located in the walled garden.

Ceremony licence? Yes
Contact: 01452 730 217, hatherleymanor.com
@hatherleymanor

HATHERLEY MANOR HOTEL & SPA, GLOUCESTERSHIRE

This 17th-century manor house hotel located on the edge of the Cotswolds in Gloucester blends luxury accommodation across a wide choice of chic bedrooms and suites, with the guest areas showcasing many original features. The Double Deluxe Four Poster bedroom is the hotel's best offering for newlyweds, furnished with a double-ended Jacuzzi bath and statement bed, and the cosy lounge bar displays the original beams of the house.

The Spa at Hatherley Manor boasts six luxury treatment rooms and a wide selection of face and body treatments. It's home to a large vitality pool set against views of the pretty walled gardens, a thermal suite complete with experience showers, sauna and steam room, plus a fully-equipped gym.

Civil ceremonies take place in a choice of elegant suites, with each wedding having exclusive use (only one is booked on a particular date.) The Hatherley Suite is a self-contained area with its own private entrance foyer, bar, cloakrooms and a reception lounge that opens on to the manicured walled garden. It showcases high ceilings and ornate chandeliers, and can accommodate a large party of 400 guests for the ceremony, up to 300 loved ones for the wedding breakfast, and up to 350 party goers for the evening reception.

The Moat Suite seats a smaller group of up to 130 guests for the ceremony and has French doors leading to the walled garden. The interior offers contemporary exposed brickwork and lots of natural daylight and atmospheric lighting. The wedding breakfast can be served here for up to 100 people, and the evening reception accommodates up to 150.

The Mulberry Suite located at the front of the hotel overlooks the lawn and has doors leading directly into a pretty side garden. Inside, there's neutral décor to suit many different colour themes and it seats up to 130 guests for the ceremony, 100 for the wedding breakfast, and up to 150 for the evening reception.

❤ *We love...* the various wedding packages available.

Ceremony licence? Yes
Contact: 01452 617 412, hatton-court.co.uk
@hattoncourthotelgloucester

HATTON COURT HOTEL, GLOUCESTERSHIRE

This historic country house hotel is situated in the heart of the Cotswolds, between the Cathedral city of Gloucester and Regency Cheltenham.

It's home to 45 stylish bedrooms and suites, featuring four-poster beds and spa baths. The award-winning Tara Restaurant & Bar serves freshly prepared local food and guests can enjoy traditional hotel service with all the benefits of a contemporary property.

Ceremonies take place in a choice of three stunning locations, including the newly refurbished Cotswold Room, located within the main house, for up to 70 guests. This suite offers direct access to the bar and decking area, and boasts some of the best views of the stunning grounds.

The heated and self-contained Garden Marquee seats up to 200 guests for the wedding breakfast and is home to its own kitchen, toilets, dancefloor and bar. It offers exclusivity, a private garden and decked area, plus disabled facilities.

THE WARDROBE

WALLED GARDEN WEDDINGS

A newly launched wedding and events venue in the heart of historic Salisbury.

The Wardrobe is a secret hideaway located to the rear of the Rifleman's Museum. It is situated in the tranquil setting of the cathedral close and the wonderful garden leads down to the banks of the river Avon. With the rolling countryside beyond, it is difficult to imagine a better location within the Salisbury city limits for any outdoor event, be it a wedding reception, celebration or garden party.

The walled garden is totally enclosed and private covering over half an acre. It also has numerous specimen trees including one of the finest copper beach trees in Wiltshire.

The walled garden can be privately hired for your wedding, party or event.

A marquee will be positioned in the beautiful garden (your choice of style) and we can accommodate up to 150 guests. For smaller numbers a reduced sized marquee is available.

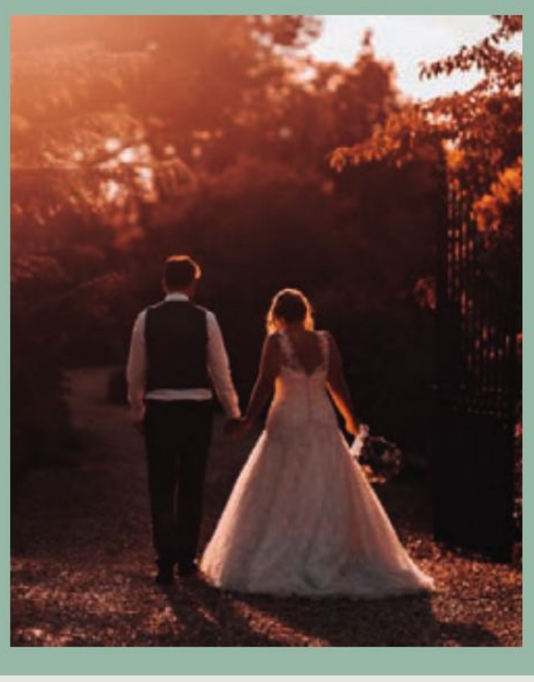
The on-site caterer is the award-winning Vanilla Catering & Events. Vanilla's key ethics are attention to customer service and the use of top quality local ingredients. These result in bright, modern food styles presented with attention to detail in an unfussy yet friendly manner. A bespoke menu is created for each client and a complimentary wedding planner is provided to run your special day.

An interesting fact: did you know why we are we called The Wardrobe? The original building on the site was constructed in 1254. It was rebuilt in the 15th century and was used to store the robes of the Bishop of Salisbury; hence it was known as the "Bishop's Wardrobe" or "The Wardrobe"!

www.wardrobeweddings.co.uk | @wardrobeweddings
www.vanillacatering.co.uk | 01489 589 275 | sally@vanillacatering.co.uk

THE WARDROBE
58 The Close, Salisbury,
Wiltshire, SP1 2EX

Priors Court Barn



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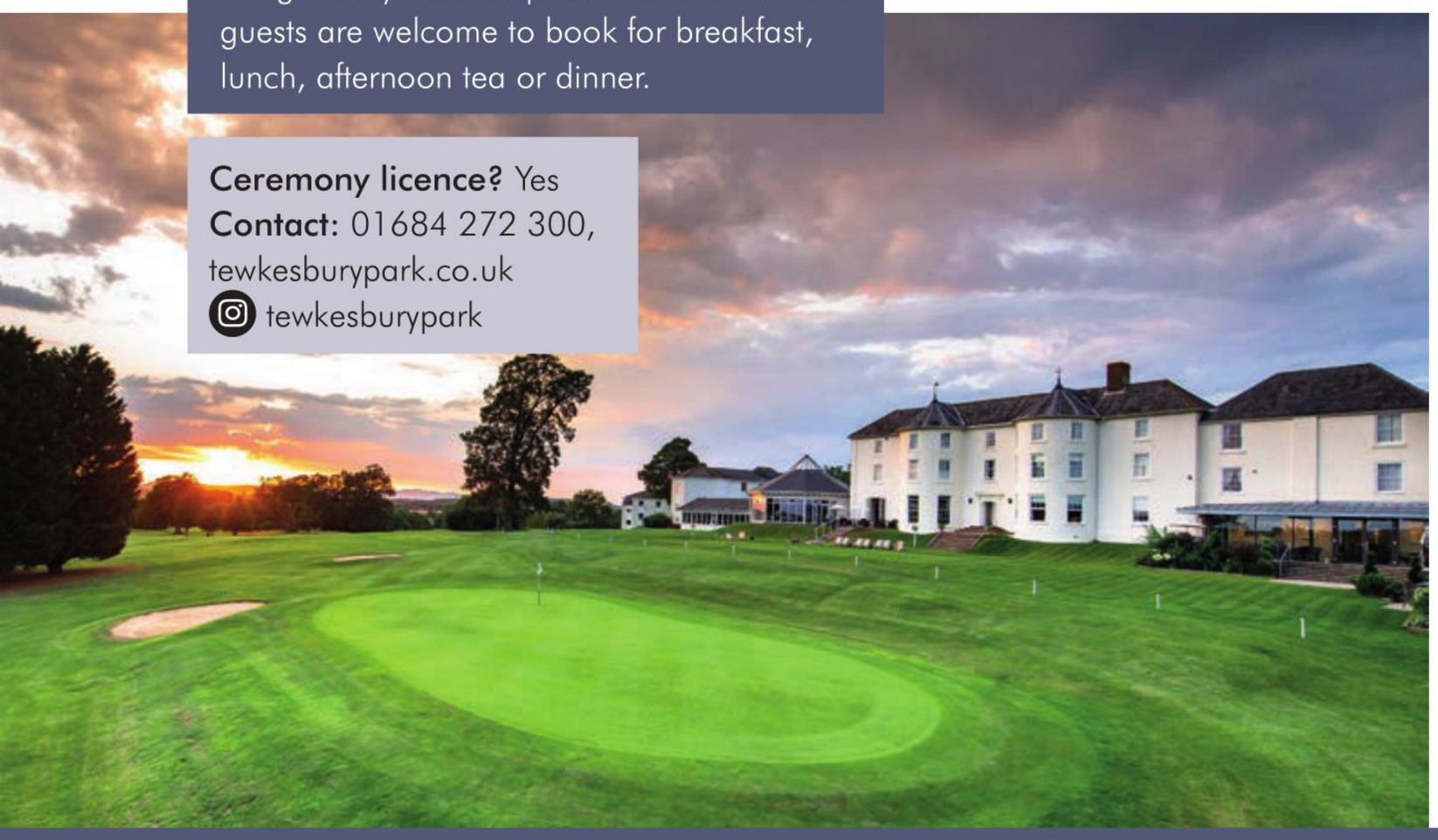
❤ *We love...* the home-cooked dishes using locally sourced produce. Non-resident guests are welcome to book for breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea or dinner.

Ceremony licence? Yes
Contact: 01684 272 300,
tewkesburypark.co.uk
tewkesburypark



TEWKESBURY PARK, GLOUCESTERSHIRE

This luxury, family-owned hotel and 18-hole golf course is set in 163 acres of parkland with panoramic views of the surrounding countryside and the historic Tewkesbury Abbey.

The plush bedrooms and suites feature copper baths positioned against floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking the grounds, and include three individually designed Indulgence Suites in the old 18th-century manor house. Guests can use the spa that's home to a steam room and indoor pool, plus an outdoor hot tub and a new al fresco sauna. The spa rooms offer a varied treatment menu using products by the Natural Spa Factory of Bath, and the new in-room Spa Bar concept is ideal for a pre-wedding pamper.

The hotel recently won the Condé Nast Johansens Best UK & Ireland Wedding Venue 2019 and it's easy to see why. The elegant Cotswolds Suite is the beautiful ceremony backdrop for up to 150 guests, while the Duke of Gloucester room gathers together an intimate 20 loved ones seated to witness the ceremony. The evening reception is hosted in the Cotswold Suite for up to 300 people and this area can be split into three different sections. Just outside, there's a wood-fired pizza bar ideal for summer celebrations, while the cosy Berkeley Bar is a chic and stylish area for a winter drinks reception.

❤ *We love...* the 3 AA Rosette Garden Room Restaurant offering fine dining.

Ceremony licence? Yes
Contact: 01242 862 352,
thegreenwayhotelandspa.com
thegreenwayhotel

THE GREENWAY HOTEL AND SPA, GLOUCESTERSHIRE

This luxurious country house hotel located in Cheltenham is part of the Eden Hotel Collection. It's a historic 16th-century Elizabethan manor house set in eight acres of countryside with the traditional Cotswold stone building accessed via a romantic archway leading into the grand entrance hall that welcomes guests with an open fire.

There are 21 individually designed elegant bedrooms and suites including the Master and Feature Suite, and The Elan Spa offering a wide variety of treatments, plus the contemporary Spa Café.

Civil ceremonies take place for up to 56 guests in a variety of rooms, all of which can cater for the wedding breakfast. Up to 150 guests can gather in the grand marquee that features a panoramic wall and view of the manor, private facilities, and a contemporary interior to suit different colour themes.

Loved ones can mingle using the bar, lounge, reception area and the terrace or croquet lawn.

Images courtesy of stevefeeney.co.uk

Ceremony licence? Yes
Contact: 01452 864 486, priorscourtbarn.co.uk
@priorscourttithebarn

❤ *We love...* the period cottages dotted around the grounds providing accommodation for newlyweds and wedding guests.

PRIORS COURT TITHE BARN, GLOUCESTERSHIRE

This rustic-inspired historic tithe barn dates back to the 13th century and forms part of the Brockworth Court Estate located in the heart of the Cotswolds between Cheltenham and Gloucester. It features Cotswold stone walls, oak beams and offers a photogenic backdrop.

Ceremonies take place in The East Room for up to 110 guests with the large reception room seating up to 180 loved ones. There's also use of the private courtyard and the hire includes access to the barn the day prior to the wedding, and the morning after.

This beautiful venue is surrounded by tapestry-style gardens that are home to a natural fish pond and a small bridge leading to an island with a thatched Fiji house. This is a great spot to capture those all-important couple portraits.

The Barn at Upcote

...and so

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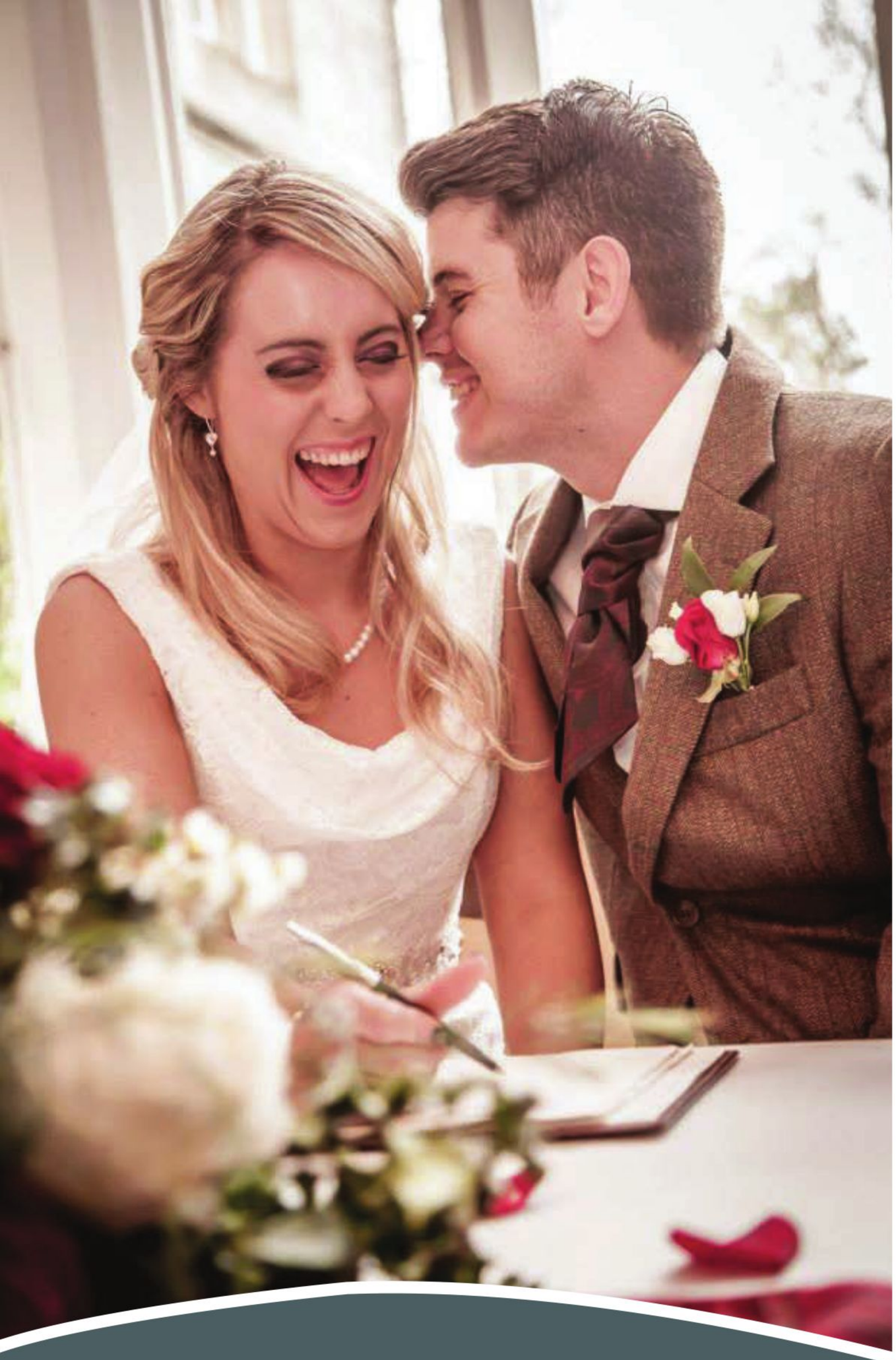
"I'm a little nervous..."

"Don't worry I've got you."



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Our rooms vary in capacity from 30 to 60 ceremony guests.

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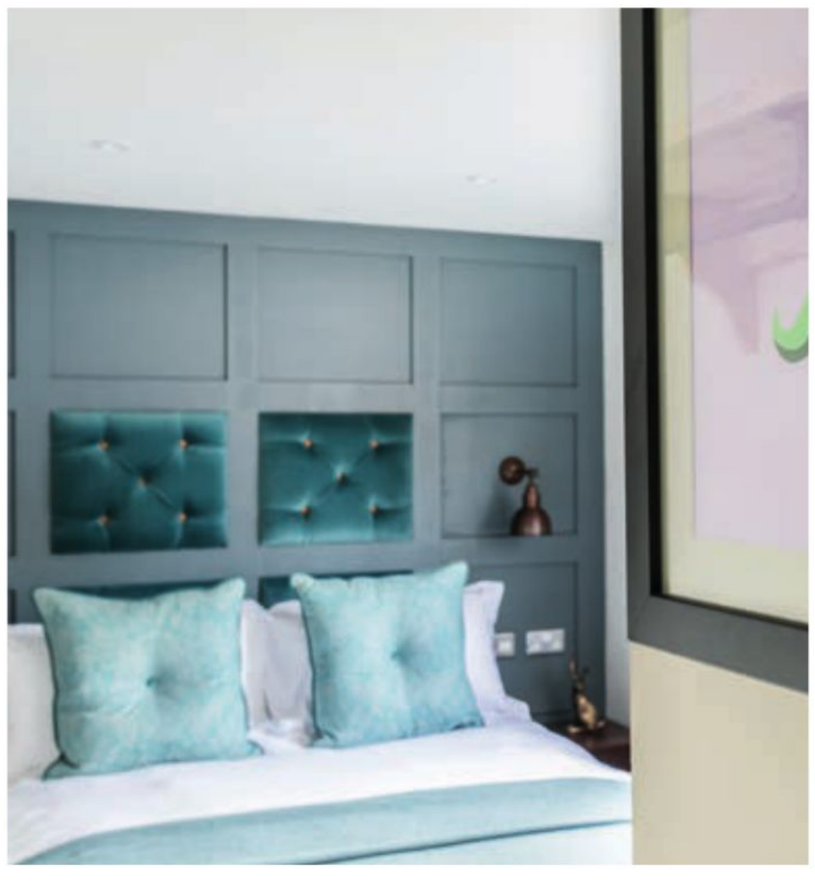

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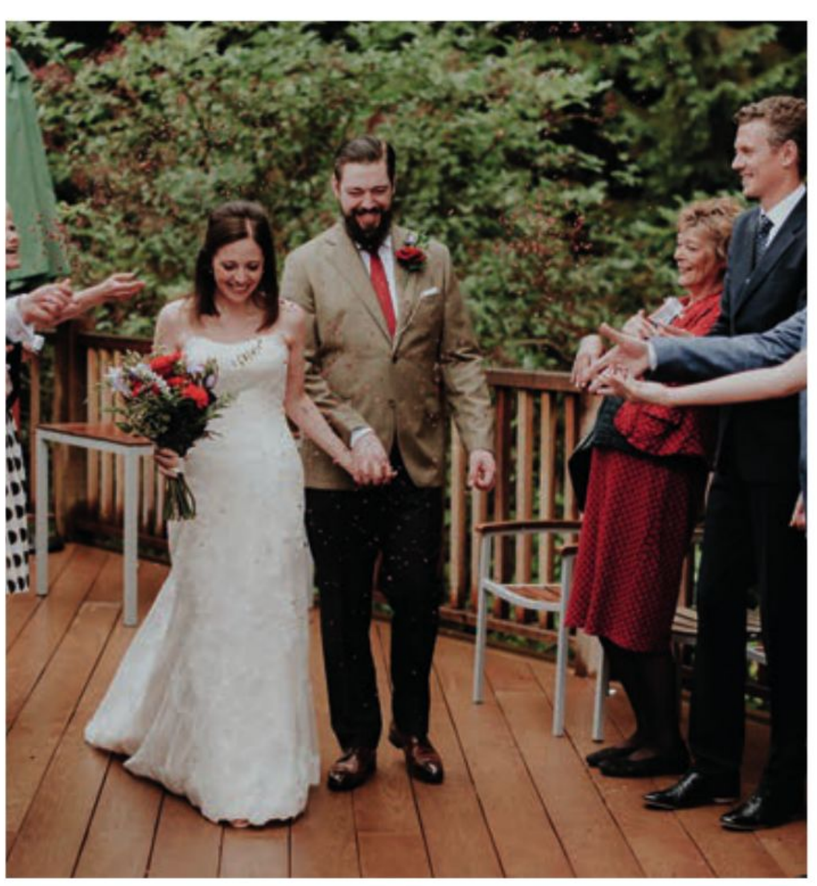
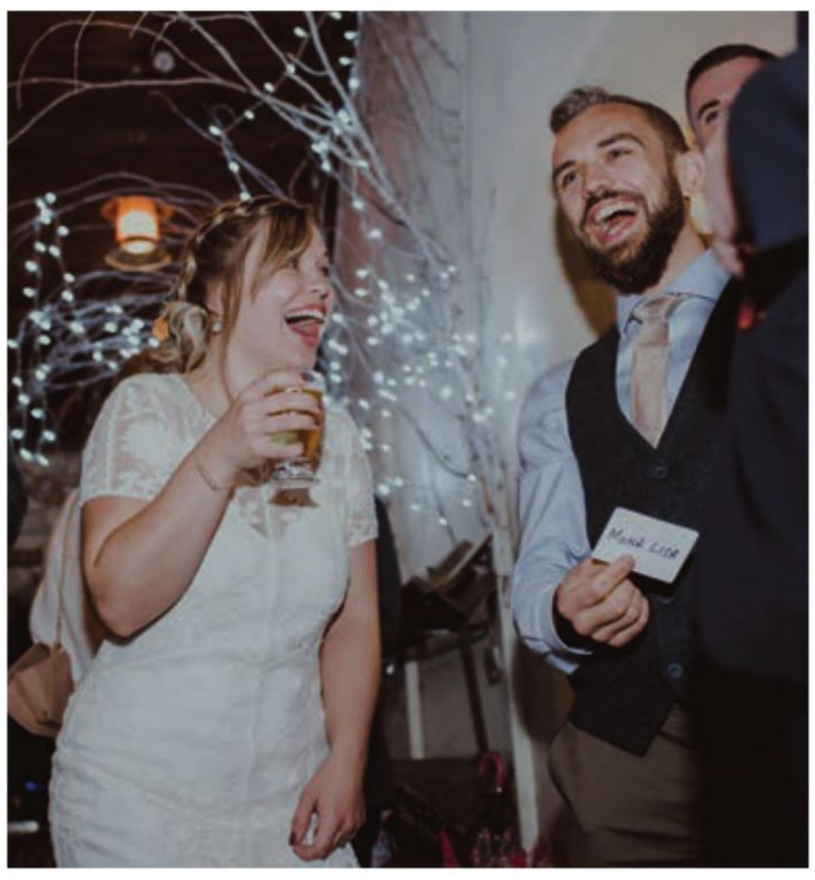


9 INDIVIDUALLY DESIGNED EN-SUITE BEDROOMS



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11AM TO 4PM

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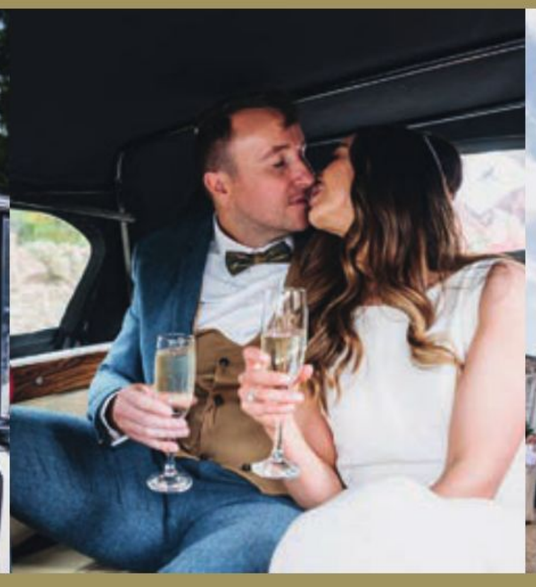

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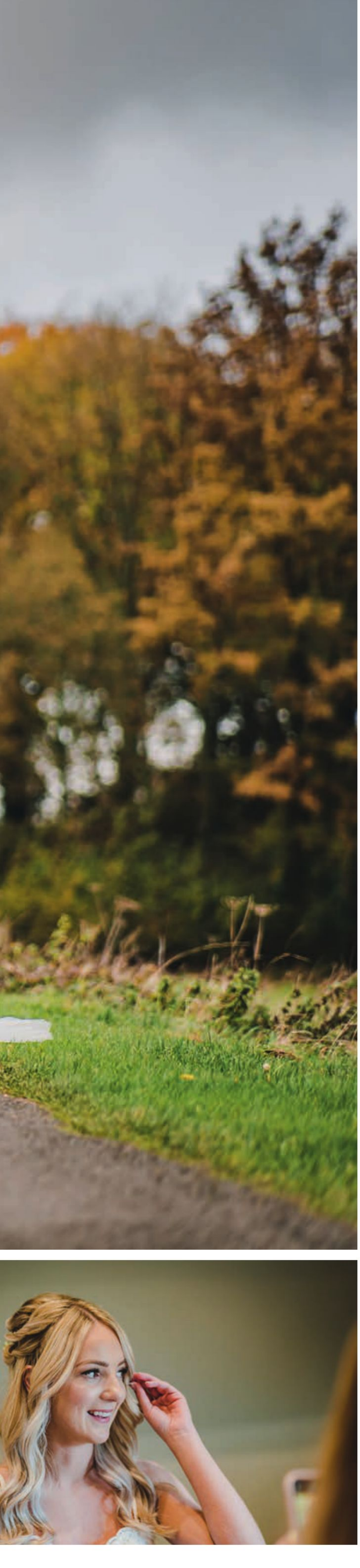
SET TAILS *wagging*

Dog lovers Charlotte and Rhys incorporated pooch-themed accessories into their big day

Images courtesy of Clem Stevens Photography

Charlotte Newell, 26, married Rhys Newell, 27, on 1st November 2019 at Lapstone Barn in Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire.



Charlotte and Rhys met at his work Christmas drinks where they were introduced through mutual friends. They became engaged in a surprise proposal during a romantic trip to Venice. "When Rhys got down on one knee to propose, it was such a surprise that I thought he was joking and walked away at first!" Charlotte tells us.

SETTING THE SCENE

The couple chose Lapstone Barn as their venue because of its mix of rustic and modern décor. "It's such a beautiful venue," Charlotte tells us, "we both fell in love with it." They chose a mix of grey, blue and white accessories to complement the barn and personalised their day with a nod to their pets. "We have a cavapoo and a golden retriever so these were the inspiration behind our table plan," Charlotte explains. "We showcased each table name with a black and white photograph of that breed of dog attached to a glass bottle presented on a circular mirrored plate and each place name was secured to a wine glass using a small wooden peg."

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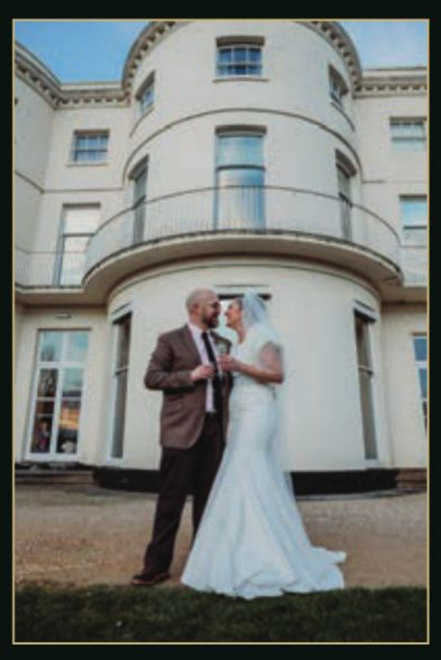

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The couple had rhubarb-flavoured vodka shots as their favours and a three-tier cake decorated with handmade flowers. "Our chosen flavours were chocolate, vanilla and lemon," Charlotte tells us.

They opted for classic white flowers with lots of greenery. "We felt that this really suited our colour theme and the feel of the barn," Charlotte explains. "We displayed gypsophila on each chair in the ceremony room which looked simple yet elegant."

The couple served their guests pulled pork, potatoes and vegetables as the main dish, and lemon cheesecake for the dessert. "During the evening reception we provided pizza which our guests loved," Charlotte says.

LOOKING THE PART

"I loved my fitted dress that featured a dramatic train," Charlotte tells us. "It was very elegant. Our bridesmaids looked beautiful in their silver grey maxi dresses and Rhys looked so handsome in his blue suit teamed with a grey waistcoat. His groomsmen coordinated with him wearing blue three-piece suits."

TIME TO CELEBRATE

"We hired a singer who pretended to be a waiter during the afternoon and then surprised our guests by dropping a tray of spoons to create a loud noise before bursting into song," Charlotte tells us. "He sang many different tracks that our guests loved and then a DJ took over for the evening reception."

"Some of our guests actually got up to help the singing waiter when he dropped a tray of cutlery as part of his act – this was one of the highlights of our day!" – Charlotte

THE DREAM TEAM

Photographer | Clem Stevens Photography | clemstevensphotography.co.uk
Venue | Lapstone Barn | 01386 849 024 | lapstonebarn.co.uk
Bride's dress alterations | Annette Bell Designs | 01242 578 144 | annettebelldesigns.com
Hair stylist | Lauren Gosling Bridal Specialist | 07736 805 803 | laurengoslinghair.com
Make-up artist | Sasha Brown | 07961 537 412 | sashabrownmakeupartist.com
Bridesmaids dresses | Oasis | oasis-stores.com
Groom's suit | Tuxedo Junction | 01452 380 066 | tuxedo-junction.co.uk
Cake | Sugar & Spice | 07990 644 756 | facebook.com/AlyAnneMary
Flowers | Janice's Flowers | 01452 855 836 | janicesflowersgloucester.co.uk
Entertainment | Silver Service Singers | 01744 353 003 | silverservicesingers.com
Stationery | Papier | papier.com
Catering | Lapstone Barn | 01386 849 024 | lapstonebarn.co.uk

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LOVE IN *bloom*

The picturesque grounds of Glenfall House hosted Tara and Kevin's special day decorated with a grey and yellow colour theme

Images courtesy of Natasha Meek Photography

Tara and Kevin Dunlop married on 26th May 2019 at Glenfall House in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

Tara and Kevin met in a nightclub in Cheltenham. "He hadn't planned on visiting the club that night so we both agree it must've been fate that he did," Tara tells us. Kevin proposed close to midnight on Christmas Eve in a surprise proposal. "We had spoken about getting married but I had no idea he was going to ask me then," Tara tells us. "When I think back, he was acting differently that night."

Here, Tara tells us all about their big day at Glenfall House decorated with a grey and yellow colour theme.

Glenfall House was the second venue that we viewed and we both fell in love with it. It was the ideal size to meet our needs and all of the staff there were so helpful.

We loved the fact that we could get married outdoors and had a red carpet leading down to the ceremony spot.

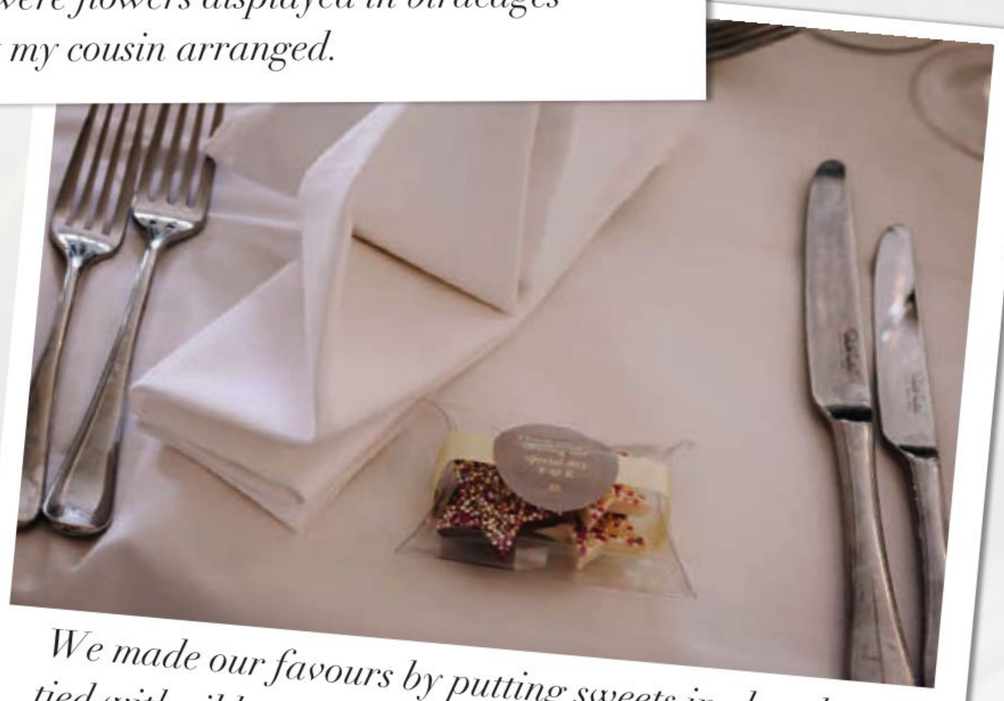
Our bouquets were stunning and had crystal gems in the middle of the roses.

Our bridesmaids looked so beautiful in their grey dresses teamed with white shoes.

We made our table plan using a mirror – it looked so effective. We also created our table numbers.

"Dianne, the owner of Glenfall House, introduced us to our wedding planner, Emma Salt, who did a remarkable job and understood exactly what we wanted." – Tara

Our centrepieces were flowers displayed in birdcages that my cousin arranged.



We made our favours by putting sweets in clear bags tied with ribbon to match our colour theme and sealed with a personalised sticker.

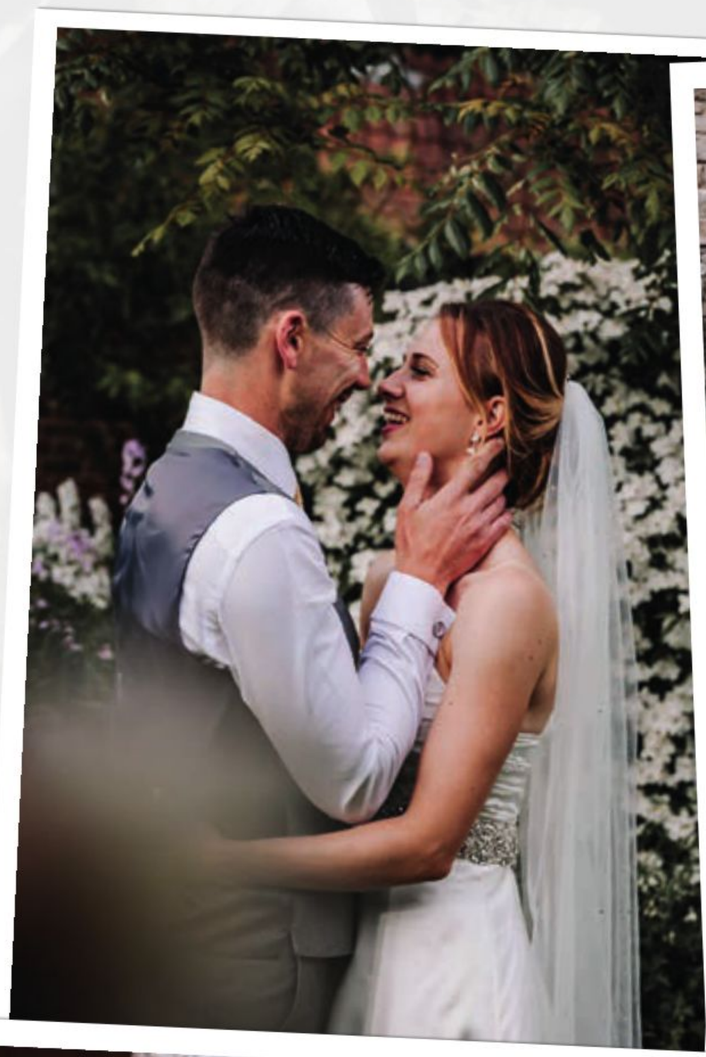
My lovely sister Shelley wrote our elegant place cards because she has such beautiful handwriting.

"Our DJ just knew all of the right tracks to play, it was like he had known us for years." – Tara

Our wedding was a real family affair – my cousin Joe made our delicious wedding cake.

Kevin and his groomsmen all wore matching grey suits with yellow ties. Because Kevin is a golf fan, they had golf ball cufflinks.

"I travelled to the ceremony in a Ford Mustang while our bridesmaids were transported in a limousine." – Tara



I wore a stunning strapless dress made especially for me by a dear friend. I tried on a few different styles and liked elements from each so Gill incorporated them into one design for me. I teamed it with a pair of personalised wedding trainers.

We loved our wedding post box, giant LOVE letters and cute confetti cones.

The grounds at Glenfall House are stunning and the rope swing provided a lot of fun for everyone!

"Our photographer, Natasha, is just amazing. She knew how camera shy Kevin and I are and we had a few awkward moments but she made the whole day relaxed. It was just like having another great friend at our wedding." – Tara

THE DREAM TEAM

Venue | Glenfall house | 01242 323889 | glenfallhouse.co.uk
Photographer | Natasha Meek Photography | 07877 948 922 | natashameekphotography.co.uk
Hair | Jodie Jacobs at Bleu Hair, Beauty and Nails | 01242 602 222 | facebook.com/Bleuhairbeautynails
Make-up | Jasmine Wood at Jodi Brooks Beauty & Cosmetics | 01243 603 200 | jodibrooksbeauty.co.uk
Entertainment | DJ Jeff House | 07970 967 765 | djjeffhouse.com
Groom's suit | Next | next.co.uk
Catering | Trowbridge Catering | 01242 323 889 | glenfallweddings.co.uk/trowbridge-catering
Transport | Xtreme Limos & Wedding Car Hire | 0121 475 9204 | xtreme-limos.co.uk
Bridesmaids' dresses | JJ's House | jjshouse.co.uk
Guest accommodation | Glenfall house | 01242 323889 | glenfallhouse.co.uk and Premier Inn | premierinn.com
Wedding Planner | Emma Salt | marriedinnyc.co.uk

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Lucy Rowland married James Brown on 22nd February 2019 at The Slaughters Manor House in Gloucestershire.

AN INTIMATE *affair*

Lucy and James enjoyed a private celebration with their nearest and dearest at luxury wedding venue The Slaughters Manor House

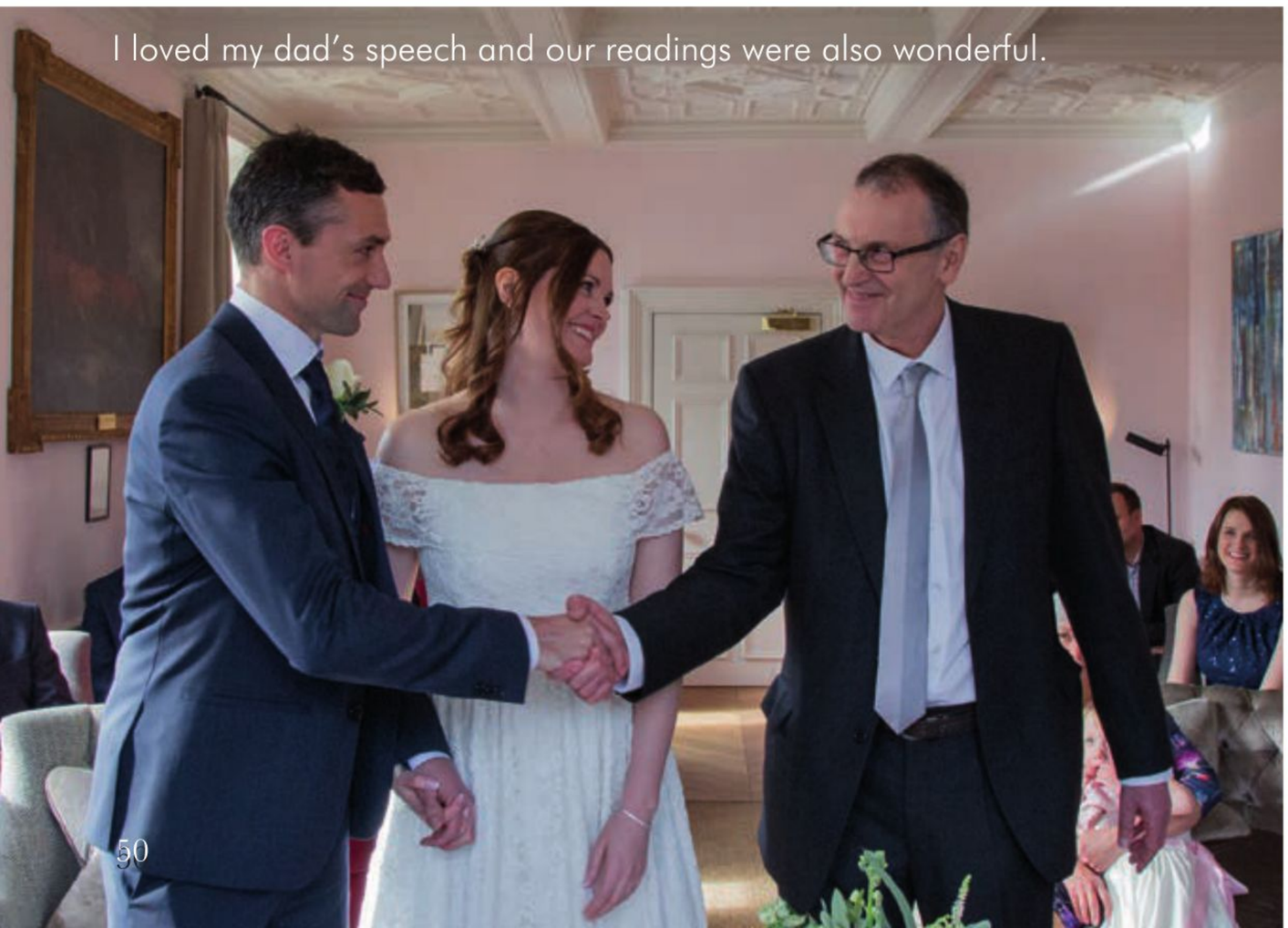
Images courtesy of Nikki Kirk Photography

Lucy and James met in a café and, after a whirlwind six-month relationship, the couple moved in together and soon became engaged. "James asked me to marry him while we were at home one day," Lucy tells us. "It was the perfect intimate proposal as he knew I wouldn't have wanted a big fuss. I knew he was thinking about marriage because he kept guiding me into jewellers while we were out shopping but I didn't know that he'd already bought the ring and had asked my dad before he asked me."

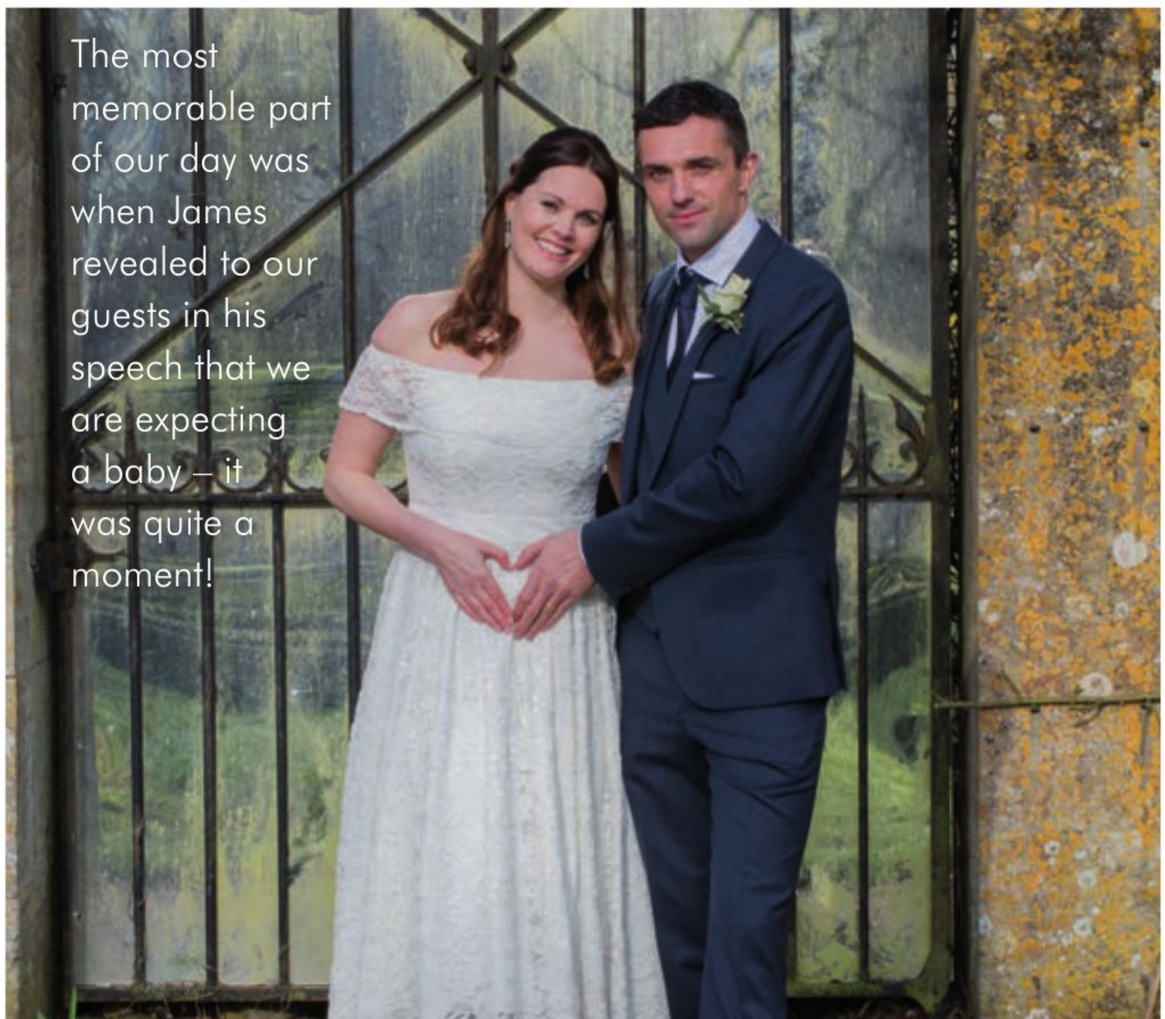
Here, the couple tell us about their special day at The Slaughters Manor House.

We loved the fact that The Slaughters Manor House was suited to a small celebration. It's a traditional historic manor house but the inside is contemporary and modern so it suited us perfectly.

The grounds at the venue are simply stunning – there are photo opportunities everywhere!



I loved my dad's speech and our readings were also wonderful.



The most memorable part of our day was when James revealed to our guests in his speech that we are expecting a baby – it was quite a moment!

We opted for traditional white flowers teamed with green foliage. Shelley from The Broadway Florist did an amazing job. She created bouquet arrangements as centrepieces that we were able to give away to our guests at the end of the evening. We teamed these with single heads of elegant white hydrangea.

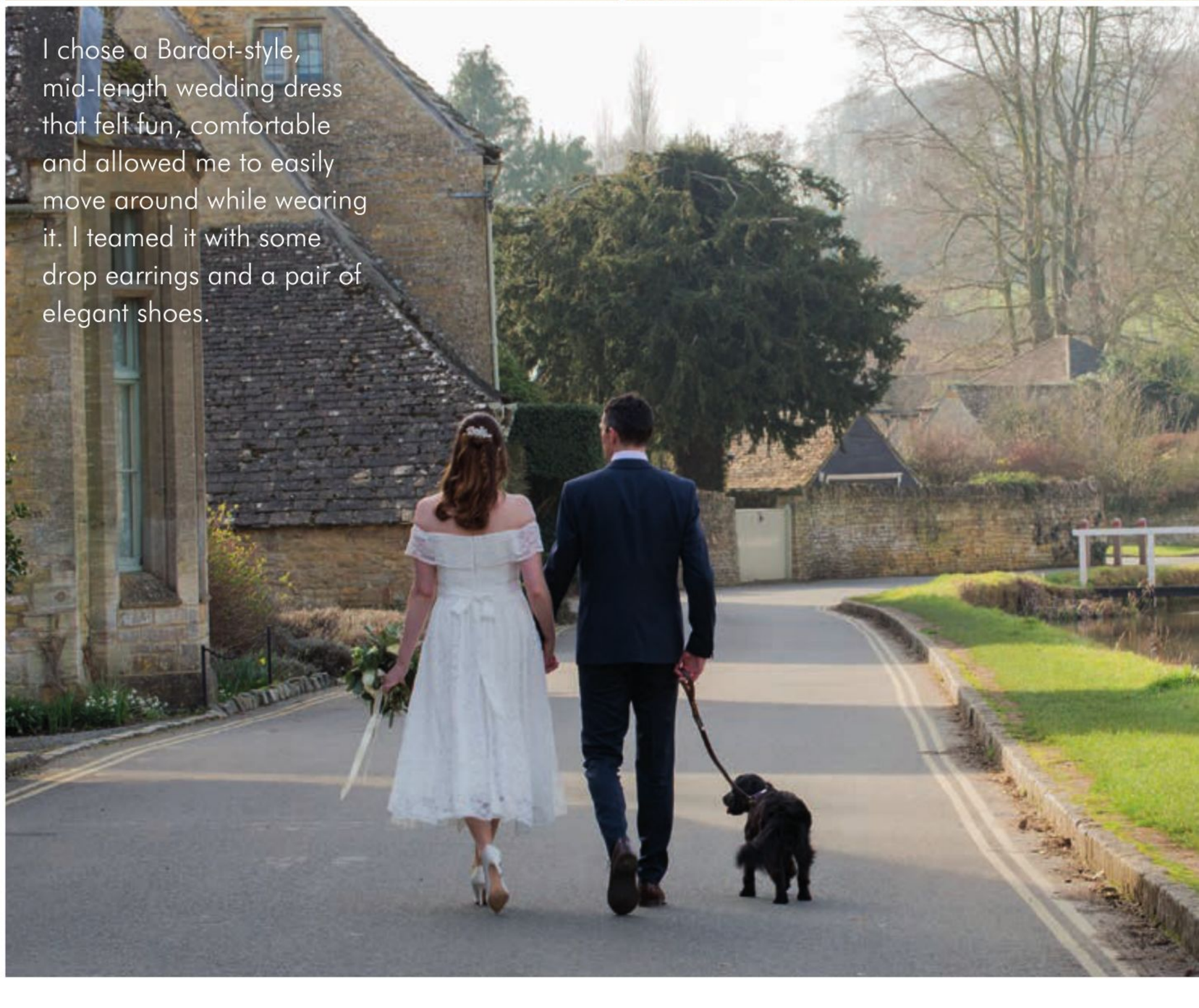
Our table plan was easy to put together because it was one long table of 20 guests.

I loved my bridal bouquet of roses teamed with different varieties of foliage and hand-tied with trailing ribbons. It complemented the cream rose buttonhole that James chose.

Instead of a wedding cake, we had a five-course meal and some fun iced biscuits as our favours.

I went with James to buy his outfit and was more emotional about that purchase than my own dress! When he stepped out of the changing room in his navy three-piece suit, I almost cried – he looked so handsome!

"Our photographer, Nikki, was such a key part of our day. From the moment we met her, she really put us both at ease and made us feel so relaxed. We are thrilled with the photographs, they are gorgeous! She has a talent for taking natural pictures and knowing what will work." – Lucy



I chose a Bardot-style, mid-length wedding dress that felt fun, comfortable and allowed me to easily move around while wearing it. I teamed it with some drop earrings and a pair of elegant shoes.

THE DREAM TEAM

Photography | Nikki Kirk Photography | 07711 855 845 | nikkikirkphotography.com
Venue | The Slaughters Manor House | 01451 820 456 | slaughtersmanor.co.uk
Catering | The Slaughters Manor House | 01451 820 456 | slaughtersmanor.co.uk
Bride's dress | Debut at Debenhams (Gloucester store) | debenhams.com
Flowers | The Broadway Florist | 01386 853 000 | broadway-florist.com
Make-up and bridal hair | Lucie Richmond | 07866 614 601 | lucierichmond.co.uk
Favours | Biscuiteers | biscuiteers.com
Bride's bracelet | Pandora (Cheltenham branch) | 01242 516 345 | uk.pandora.net
Bride's shoes | Monsoon (Cheltenham branch) | 01242 224 194 | monsoon.co.uk
Rings | Tiffany & Co | tiffany.co.uk
Groom's suit | Hugo Boss | hugoboss.com

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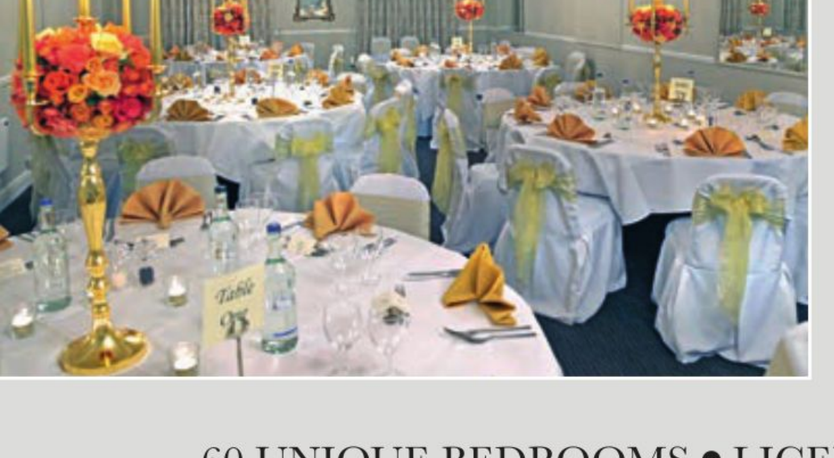

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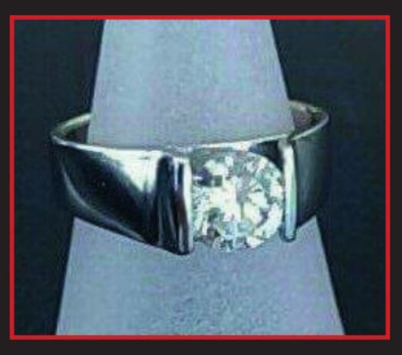
Of course there is also a wide range of jewellery kept in stock to choose from as well, from vintage pieces to one off, hand made originals, yet the on site gold and silver smith maintains a policy of "if you don't see what you want, tell us and we'll create it for you."



So whether you're looking for an engagement or wedding rings, earrings or a necklace, a tie pin or cuff links, a bangle or a brooch, or that special gift for that special someone, Metal and Stone Jewellers offer a complete jewellery service, where you the customer is treated like the unique individual you are.

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It is without doubt that of all the things one spends money on in or around a wedding, there is nothing so long lasting as the Rings, which may reasonably be expected to be worn every day for half a century or more, only to then become family heirlooms, imbued with deep sentimental attachment and memories.

Metal and Stones resident gold and silversmith, Jeff Lippman, shares his insight, based upon many years of experience, in what to look for when making what will be for many, one of the most significant purchases of their lives.

The first thing I would say is that some men go engagement ring shopping with their future partner, whilst other men choose to do this on their own. To minimise the risk of going wrong if you are going on your own, I recommend you find out a few basic pieces of information before you begin, for example...

- What colour of metal does she like?
- What colours of gemstone does she like?
- What style does she like? For example, does she prefer modern, contemporary designs or does she prefer something more traditional?
- Does she prefer something larger or more petite?
- And of course what ring size is she?

The second thing I would say about engagement and wedding rings, is that they tend to fall into one of three categories.

READY MADE...

Most people will be looking to buy a new ring, when doing so it is important to have in mind, before you begin, a rough idea about what colour, style and importantly budget you are comfortable with. Without such guidance one might very easily become overwhelmed by the wide array of styles and designs which are available. A good jeweller will do everything they can to guide you towards pieces they carry which fit your aesthetic sensibilities and budgetary requirements. Of course there are those who would prefer to buy a vintage piece of jewellery, and while this can be fine, rather like buying a pre-owned car, there is the possibility that an older piece might have some issues with wear, and it would therefore be wise to have such a piece checked over by a competent Goldsmith so that any necessary repairs, not to mention size adjustments, can be attended to before the ring is to be worn.

THE FAMILY HEIRLOOM...

Some people will wish to use an existing family ring for its sentimental attachment, this can also potentially be very cost-effective, although I would always recommend to have an experienced goldsmith check the ring for any wear related faults or weaknesses, particularly with the settings, lest you risk losing a stone, and of course attend to any size adjustments that may be necessary. In my experience, whilst using a family heirloom may well be very sentimentally satisfying, there is a possible risk that the style of the piece is not to the taste of the person who will have to wear it. For example, if we are talking about an engagement ring, if the ring chosen is, for instance a cluster ring, and the woman who is being asked to wear this ring for the next 50 or 60 years would prefer a much more petite solitaire, or vice versa, it is entirely reasonable to have her personal taste taken into account. This takes us to our third category of rings.

CUSTOM-MADE...

Whether beginning from scratch, or remodelling an existing family ring, having a custom ring created is an excellent way to ensure that the individual wearer of the Ring, will have a piece which reflects their personal sense of style and the aesthetic, as well as having an individual piece unique to them, and produced at a cost the couple is happy and comfortable with.

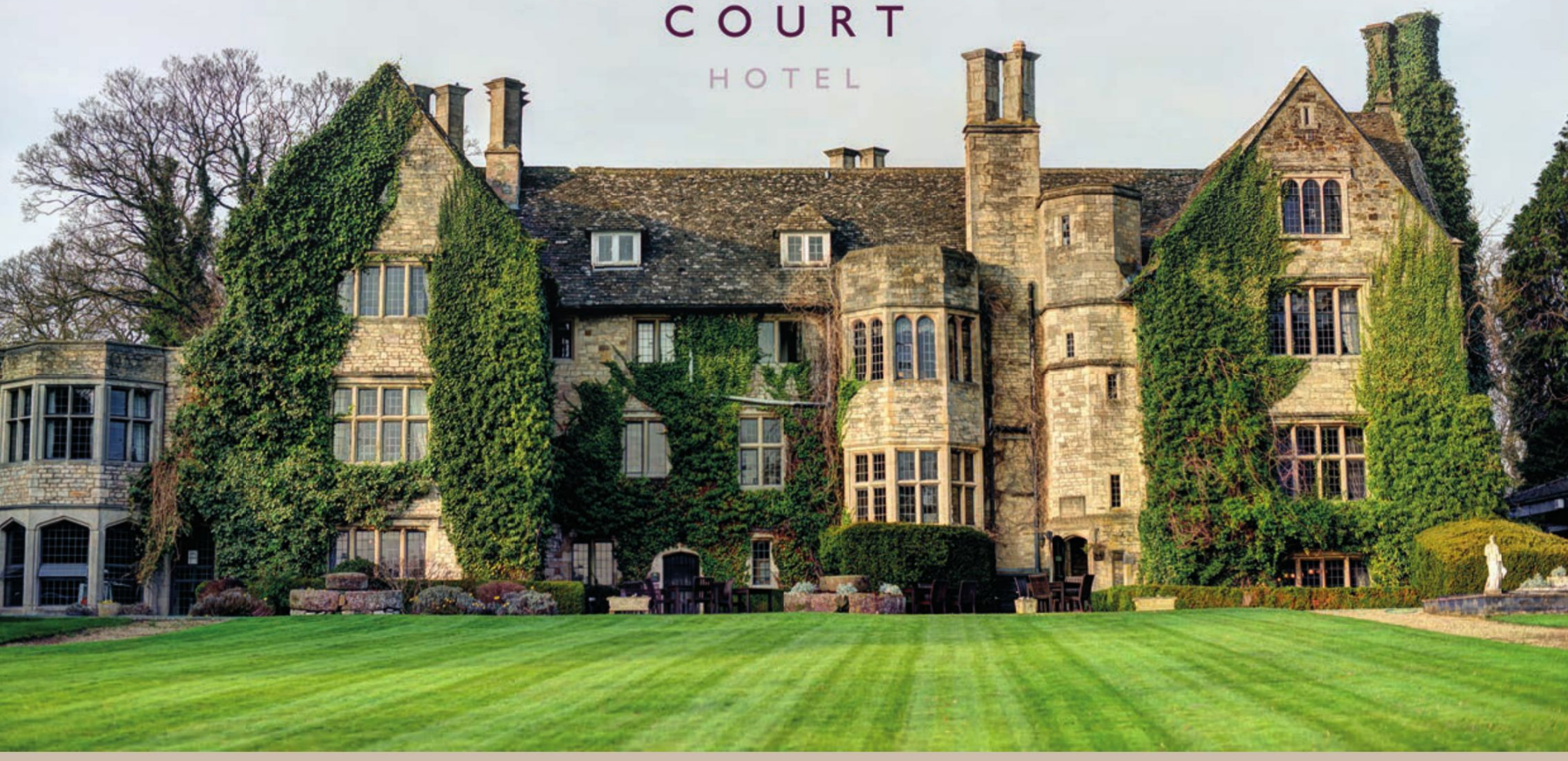
Over the years I have made a wide array of engagement and wedding rings made both from scratch and remodeled from existing family heirlooms to accommodate the personal aesthetic of the bride and groom. When working from the design phase, it can be remarkably straightforward to ensure the couples stays in budget, which can easily be achieved with careful selection of appropriate metals and gemstones. The advantage of made to order jewellery is how easy it is to avoid having to settle on the wrong colour or design.

My favourite example of this comes from when I had a young couple come to me for their engagement ring, who wanted to see Emerald jewellery, because she had green eyes. They had been to 17 other Jewellers before they came to see me, and somehow could never find the right piece. Realising the nature of the problem, I introduced the couple to green sapphire, a gemstone the couple had never heard of until that day, but which replicates the human eye colour of green far better than does Emerald. It literally took no more than 15 minutes to design the ring the stone would be set into, and the couple were delighted with the final piece, which was a direct result of their deciding to have a ring made, rather than merely buying a mass produced, ready made ring, and as it happens for no more money than they had budgeted for.

Whichever way you choose to go, ready-made, heirloom or custom-made, I would always recommend finding a skilled jeweller, an actual craftsman rather than a salesman for preference, to assist you in insuring that this once-in-a-lifetime purchase is something you will look at in many years to come with regret free happiness!

STONEHOUSE COURT

HOTEL



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FUN AND *GAMES*

We speak to Jamie Goddard, band leader of The Zoots, about ways to entertain wedding guests in 2020, and bring you an A-Z of inspiring ideas!

The Zoots have been performing at weddings since 2009 and have played at more than 250 celebrations so it's not hard to see why they have won many awards including International Cover Band of the Year 2018 and UK Wedding Band of the Year. They have been described by entertainment newspaper The Stage as, "Impressive and impossible not to like."

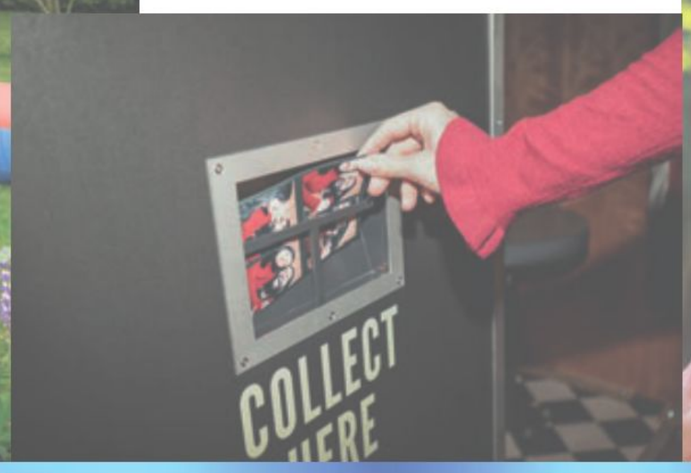
In a highly competitive market, The Zoots have been fortunate enough to perform at some of the most prestigious UK venues including the London Guildhall, and their goal is always to provide the most entertaining live show within the limitations of a venue. They have plenty of experience in knowing what type of music and performance works best to keep guests up and dancing all night!

One of their funniest requests was to sing Band Aid's festive hit *Do they Know it's Christmas* at a wedding in June, and one of their favourite weddings was held in Poland which lasted for two days - one of the longest sets the band have ever performed for.

Jamie tells us about popular requests for first dances at weddings taking place throughout 2020. "Most couples have asked for a song by Ed Sheeran," he tells us, "but a new trend emerging is the festival-style wedding held in a marquee with a more relaxed approach where newlyweds are choosing not to have a first dance on their own, but instead enjoy a group dance with the entire wedding party!"

Jamie advises engaged couples to take note when attending weddings what they like and what they would do differently. "Ask your friends, family or even followers on social media for ideas and then decide for yourself what would best suit your special day."

To book The Zoots, call 07887 990 400 or 07736 276 344 and visit thezoots.com for more information. Follow them on Facebook and Twitter @thezoots and check out sample videos at vimeo.com/thezoots



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07980 587 562, simplyalpaca.co.uk

B IS FOR BAGPIPES

wiltshirepiper.co.uk

C IS FOR CHEF

0345 521 0123, cleverchefs.co.uk

D IS FOR DJ

DJ Mark Louisy, 07887 695 601, bookapartydj.com

DJ Will Harwood, 07578 840 787, musicbeatslife.com

E IS FOR ENSEMBLE

07545 991 621, wiltshirestringquartet.co.uk

F IS FOR FACE PAINTING

07790 575 537, partyfacesfacepainting.com

G IS FOR GO KARTING

01452 311 211, jdrkarting.co.uk

H IS FOR HOUSE MUSIC

DJ Mark Louisy, 07887 695 601, bookapartydj.com

I IS FOR INFLATABLE SLIDES, CASTLES AND EVEN A PUB!

01793 339 816, bounce-r-us.co.uk

J IS FOR JOKES

poptop.uk.com

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01452 311 211, jdrkarting.co.uk

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DJ Mark Louisy, 07887 695 601, bookapartydj.com

S IS FOR SEGWAYS

01452 311 211, jdrkarting.co.uk

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WEDDINGS

THE TALENT *BEHIND THE LENS*

We ask the region's finest photographers to reveal their favourite wedding photograph taken during 2019

"This image was taken at The Great Barn on what happened to be the most perfect frosty winter's day. I'm a girly girl and simply can't resist an elegant veil so this shot is definitely my favourite."

Antonia Pullom of Antonia Grace Photography located in Swindon, Wiltshire, 07701 050 872, antoniagracephotography.co.uk
antonia_grace_photography

Carissa and Paul of Capture Every Moment Photography located in Cirencester, Gloucestershire, 07521 611 678, captureeverymoment.co.uk
cem_photographer

"We love this photo! It's great when we can get creative and in this picture the newlyweds went for a little walk and stopped for a few intimate photographs. Just a peaceful moment between husband and wife."

Clem Hencher-Stevens of Clem Stevens Photography located in Gloucester, Gloucestershire, clemstevensphotography.co.uk
clemstevensphotography

"I absolutely loved working with Charlotte and Rhys. We both had some awesome, creative ideas that resulted in this photo. It was 100% worth getting soaked to the skin for!"

Turn to page 36 to see the real wedding of Charlotte and Rhys in full.

"Andrea and Anthony chose to get married at the Abby Hotel in Malvern on a rare sunny day in August. This photo has a fairytale feel to it and looks like the couple are walking into a secret garden."

Daniella Marinos of Daniella Marinos Photography located in Gloucester, Gloucestershire, daniellamarinosphotography.com
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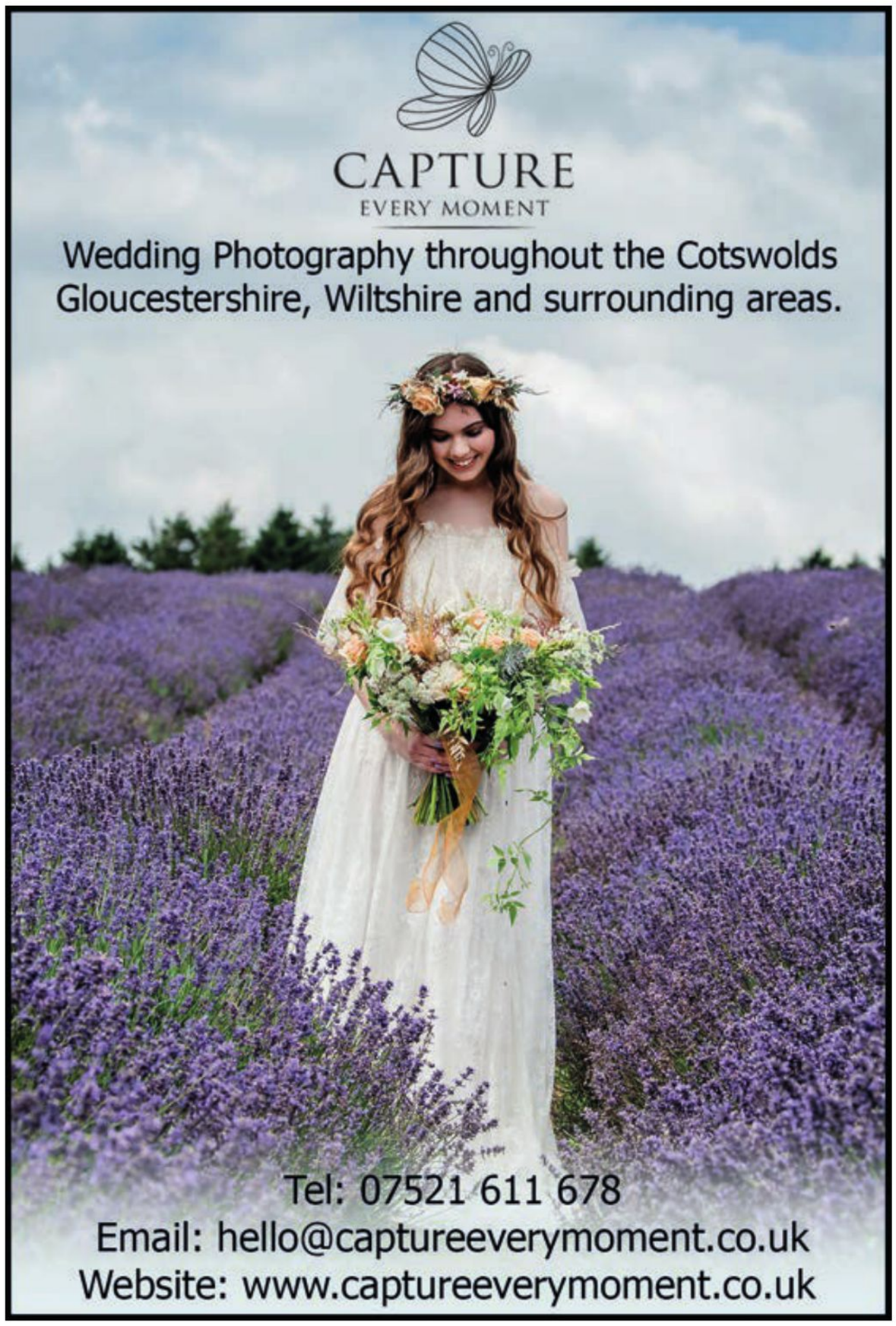
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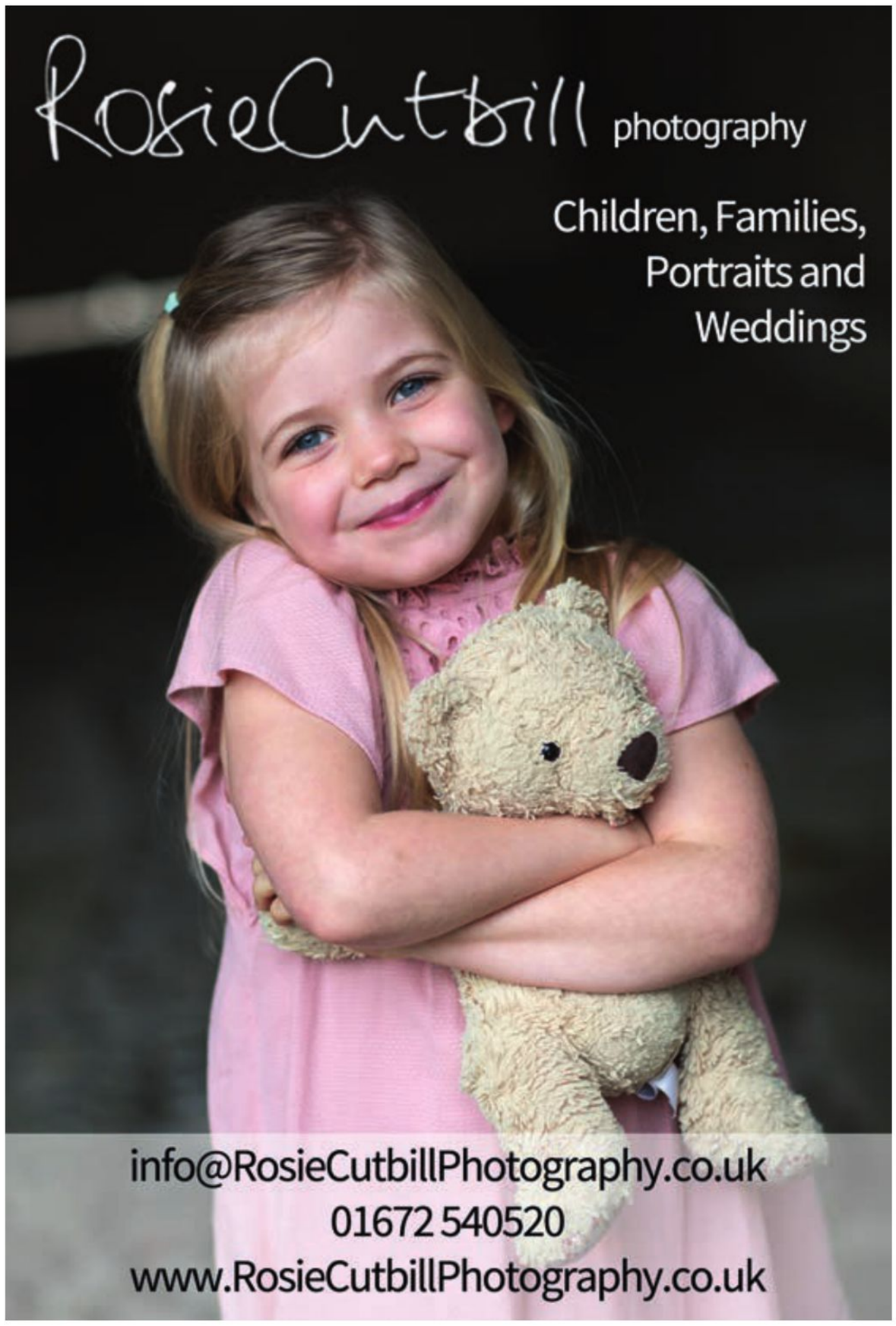
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Nick Adams of Nick Adams Photography located in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, nickadamsphotography.co.uk nickadams_photo

"I love this image because it shows a moment of tenderness between the couple; a quiet space to savour their feelings before heading back into the madness of the wedding party."

Nikki Kirk of Nikki Kirk Photography located in Gloucester, Gloucestershire, 07711 855 845, nikkikirkphotography.com nikkikirkphotography

"We'd had torrential rain all day, however for me it's all about teamwork so with some serious hard work between the couple, myself and my assistant, we took this wonderful shot at The Slaughters Manor House just before we finished for the day. And yes we got soaked!"

Ricky Vassell of Vassell Weddings Professional Photography located in Birmingham, 07743 066 212, vassellweddings.co.uk

"I chose this image because it really captures the shared joy and elation felt at a wedding. When all the formalities are complete its time to let go and party with your loved ones."

Philippa Davies of Pink Elephant Photography located in Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire
07920 796 959, pinkelephantphotography.co.uk
pinkelephantphotography22

"Georgia & Ross's wedding reception proved to have the most perfect backdrop for my favourite photo of 2019. I love how Georgia's simple elegant dress compliments the dramatic backdrop of the old diving quarry. A simple photo, full of impact, that draws you back into the moment."

"I love this picture taken at Naas Court Farm in Lydney, Gloucestershire because you can measure their love by the size of their smile and the sound of their laughter."

Steve Cave of Cave Studios Photography located in Lydney, Gloucestershire
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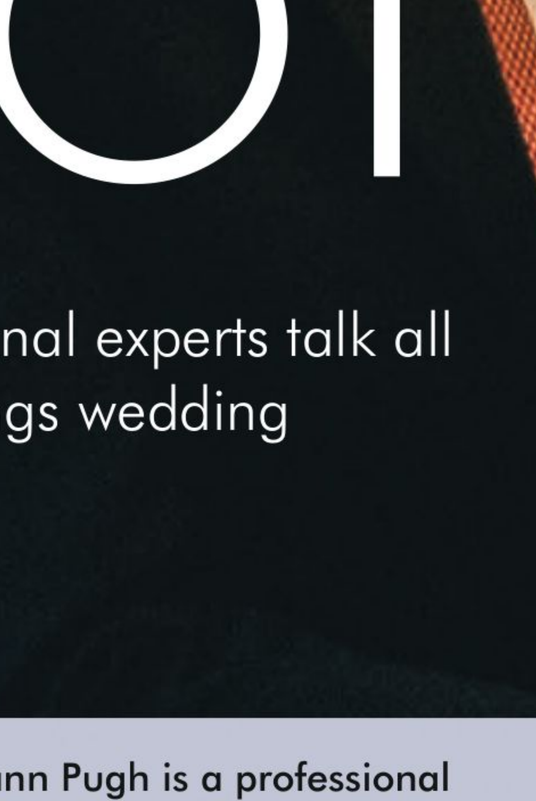
HOT TOPIC

Our regional experts talk all things wedding

Meet the expert: Iann Pugh is a professional toastmaster located near Bath serving weddings throughout Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and further afield. He is a member of the Guild of International Professional Toastmasters.

Iann Pugh | 07935 185 354 | guildoftoastmasters.co.uk



LETS GET ORGANISED

How can hiring a toastmaster benefit us on our big day?

A professional toastmaster is an integral part of any wedding. Their organising skills will ensure that the day fulfils your highest expectations and takes the pressure off both of you. They suit traditional and informal celebrations and will liaise with each supplier and staff member at the wedding venue, greet guests as they arrive, show them the key places in the venue, announce when dinner is due to be served, welcome the arrival of the bride and groom at the wedding breakfast and introduce the various speakers. They will also announce the cutting of the cake and the first dance if required to do so.

It's important to do your research first and have a list of questions ready to ask your potential toastmaster. Request a face-to-face meeting at least four weeks prior to the wedding. I send my clients a running order of the day. This is used as a template for them to adjust, as required, depending what information is received from the wedding planner, venue, caterers and other suppliers.

There are many things to check before the venue is ready and this will be the job of the toastmaster. They can make sure that cloakrooms are manned, disabled ramps are available, the red carpet is laid out (if required), and the tables are laid correctly. A last-minute meeting with the staff, caterers and any other suppliers involved is always a good idea. They will help the band or DJ set up before the room is used and also that the music for the first dance is checked.

Image courtesy of gettyimages.co.uk

FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD

Please can you give us some new ideas for wedding catering? I am vegan and my hubby-to-be is vegetarian and many of the wedding breakfast menus still seem to offer a lot of meat dishes.

Sally says: The popularity of the vegan wedding menu continues to rise with many couples opting for only vegan or vegetarian options. There are so many creative chefs on the foodie scene now preparing tasty, innovative dishes. Popular vegan ones include:

- ♥ Charred cauliflower with fresh gremolata on a sweet potato and chickpea picadillo
- ♥ Verrine pineapple and lime compote, mango aqua faba mousse and fresh raspberries

More and more, couples are requesting local, ethical and organic produce in order to reduce their environmental impact. They are moving away from the traditional sit down wedding breakfast towards food stations, street food and sharing platters all of which will be a big part of weddings throughout 2020. Interactive eating is also emerging where guests can build their own desserts such as Eton mess. This is a fun, sociable way to eat. Personalised alcoholic and non-alcoholic cocktails are often being requested for the toast.

Meet the expert: Sally Pickles is the managing director of Vanilla Catering & Events and has just launched new wedding venue Walled Garden Weddings at The Wardrobe located in Salisbury (turn to page 25 to read more.)

Sally Pickles | Vanilla Catering & Events
01489 589 275 | vanillacatering.co.uk

YOU GLOW, GIRL

How can I get healthy ahead of my wedding?

Katie says: A balanced diet is key for your health and wellbeing and The 1:1 Diet by Cambridge Weight Plan is completely tailored to you, depending on your lifestyle, health and goals. I devise the perfect plan for you to follow in order to achieve your targets. My clients have weekly one-to-one appointments with me in the comfort of their own home, or mine, ensuring they feel well and supported. I also touch base during the week and am always on call when they need me. They finish the plan feeling revitalised and fabulous which is how you want to feel in preparation for your wedding and honeymoon.

Meet the expert: Katie Sherratt is a Weight Loss Consultant working with The 1:1 Diet by Cambridge Weight Plan to help clients regain their body confidence with their own tailor-made programme.

Katie Sherratt | 07975 899 513
one2onediet.com/consultants/26452/1/Katie

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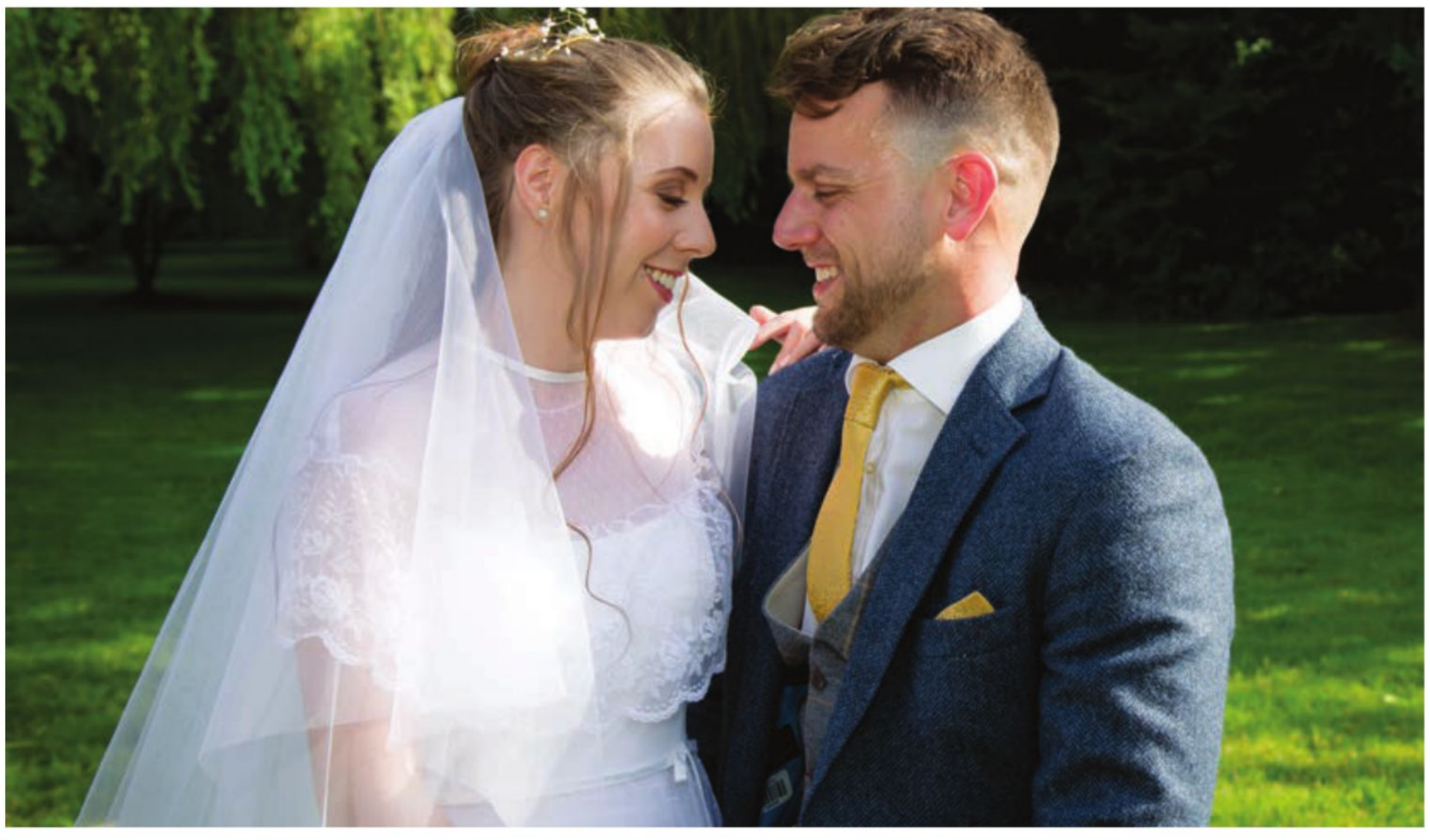

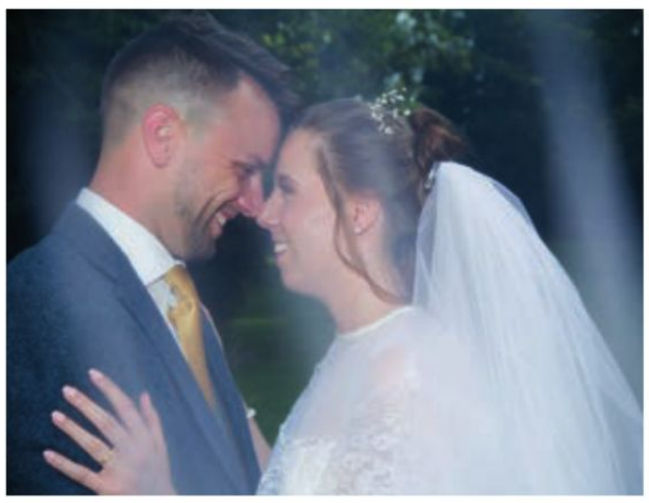

Contact – Ady **07762564366** or Rosie on **07760461786**

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RING-A-DING-DING

Looking for the perfect jewellery for your big day? Take our test to see which design best suits you

Here at County Wedding Magazines HQ, we understand how important it is that you look and feel fabulous on your big day. Jewellery and accessories are a key part in helping you achieve your desired look, so to help you find pieces that will complement your gown we've created the ultimate quiz. Simply tick the boxes that apply and turn over to see the results!

WHICH EARRINGS WOULD YOU CHOOSE?

1

2

3

4

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE NECKLACE?

1

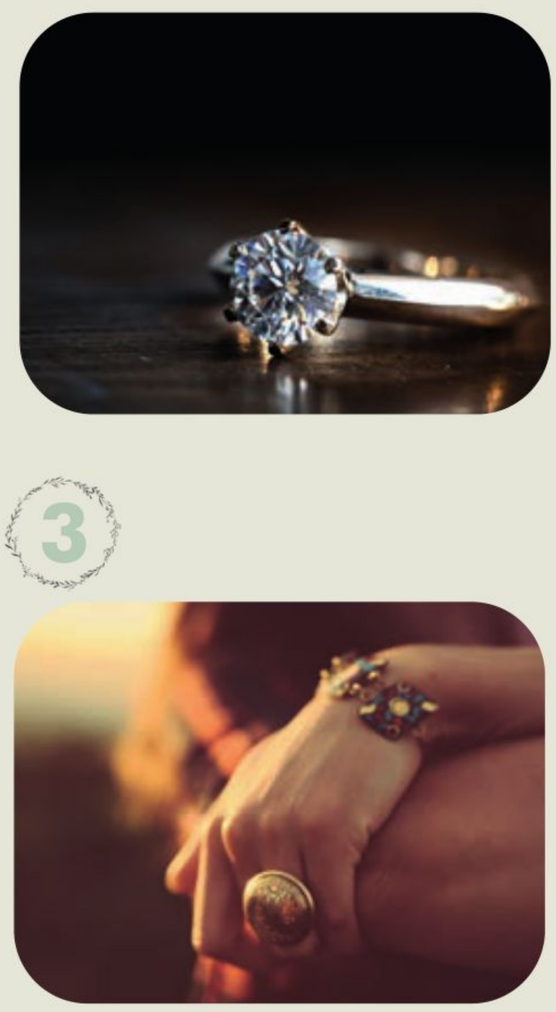
2

3

4

CHOOSE THE MOST APPEALING RING

1



2

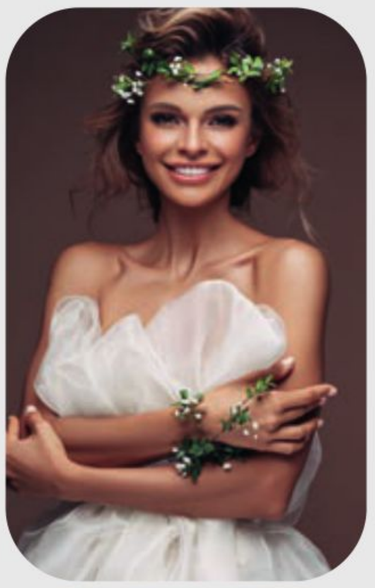
3

4

WHICH BRACELET WOULD YOU WEAR?

1

2



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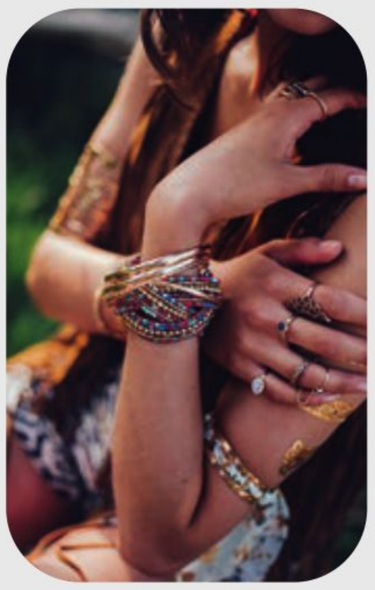

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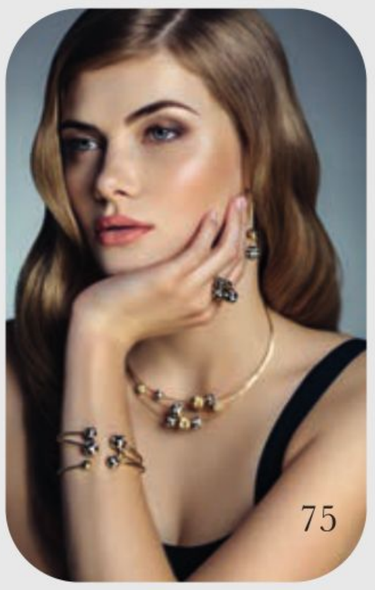
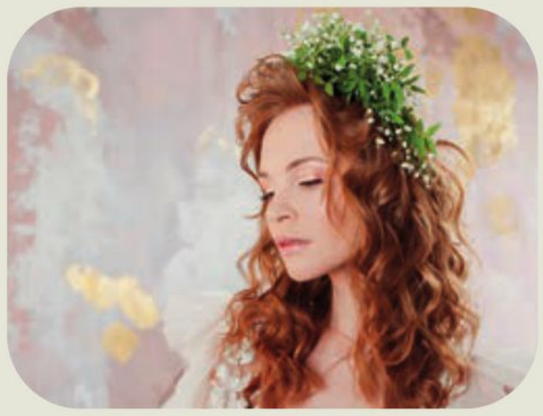


PICK YOUR FAVOURITE DESIGN

1

2



3

4

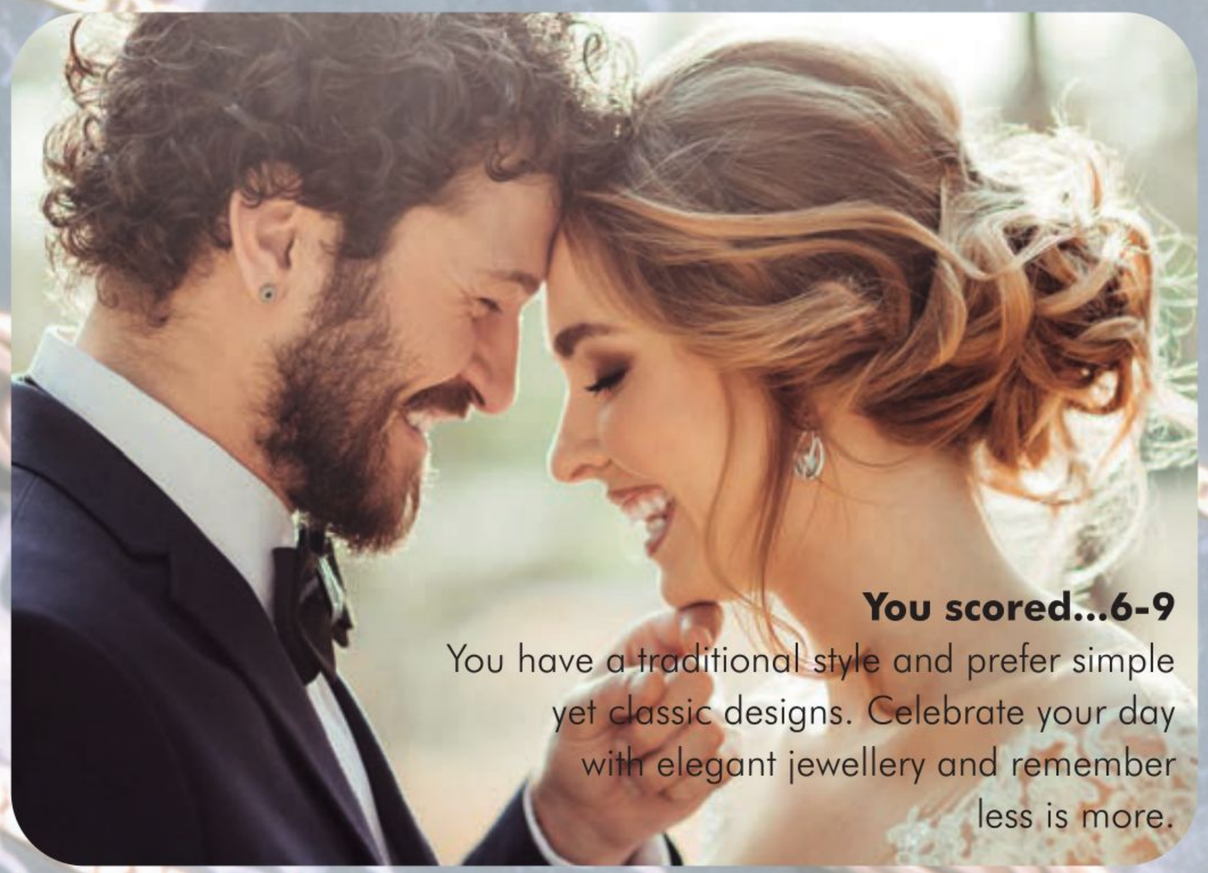
WHICH BAG DO YOU PREFER?

1

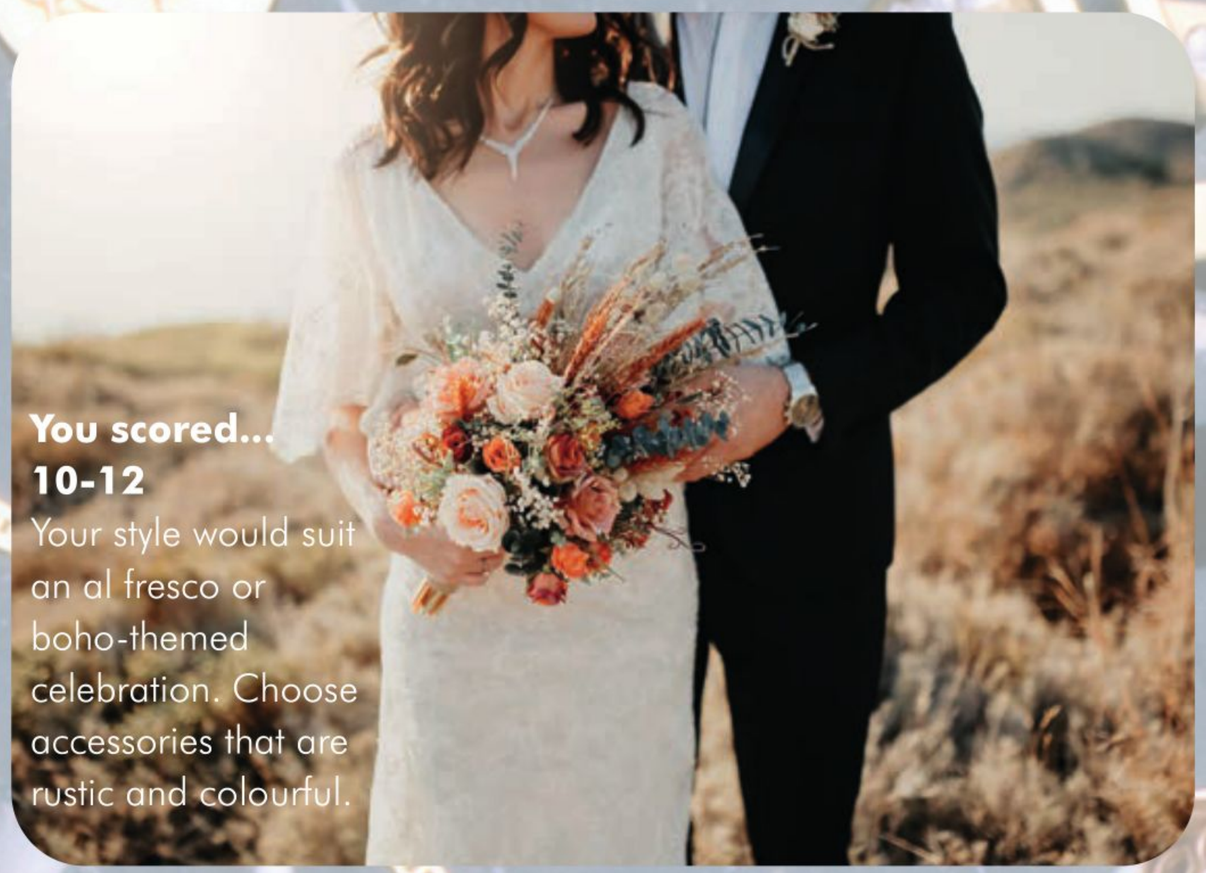
2

3

4



You scored...6-9
You have a traditional style and prefer simple yet classic designs. Celebrate your day with elegant jewellery and remember less is more.



You scored...
10-12
Your style would suit an al fresco or boho-themed celebration. Choose accessories that are rustic and colourful.

You scored...13-15
Alternative weddings are ideal for those who want something a bit different. Opt for strong colours and quirky designs.

You scored...16-20
You're a sophisticated person who loves luxury. Look for grand creations with impressive embellishments and a gold or silver colour scheme.

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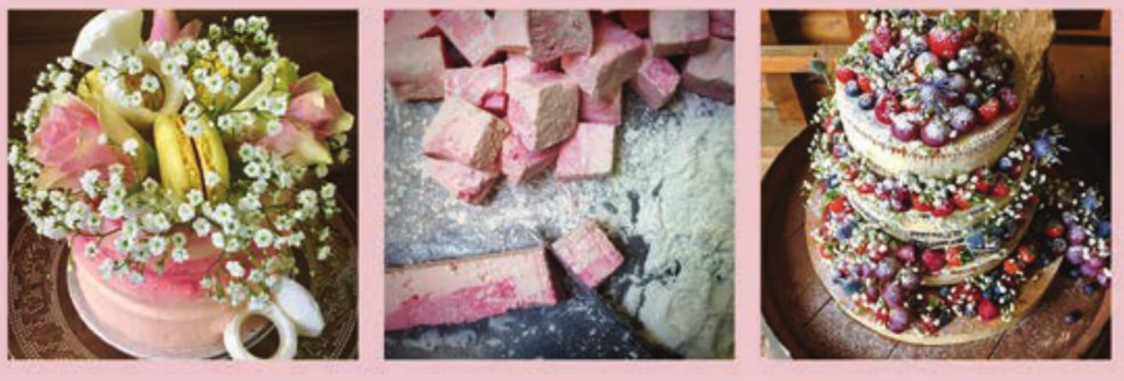

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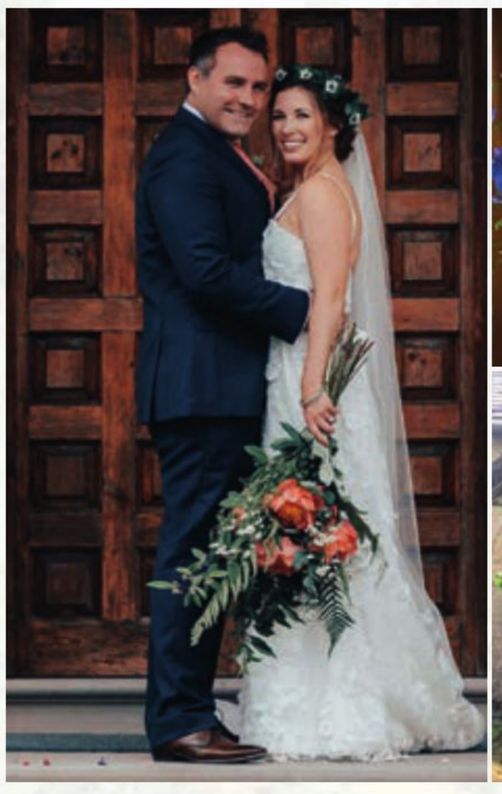

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Gift it

The Wedding Collection by Wanderlust Life is a new jewellery launch, brimming with handmade pieces featuring mother-of-pearl, semi-precious stones and freshwater pearls. We love these champagne quartz earrings, £44, wanderlustlife.co.uk wanderlustlifejewellery

Editor's favourite

Wedding Buttonique custom-makes button and brooch bouquets that will last a lifetime, etsy.com/uk/shop/WeddingButtonique weddingbuttonique

Stylish maids

Grace Loves Lace has launched its new Silky Satin Bridesmaids Edit. This selection of luxurious hand-crafted pieces includes three versatile styles – a midi and mini dress, and a two-piece set available in olive, dusk, steel and moonshine shades. A range of accessories including satin hair buns and scarves has also been unveiled.

In other news, the company has launched their first pair of white leather wedding trainers, ideal for brides wanting comfort and fashion, graceloveslace.com grace_loves_lace

Fashion *focus*

Fashion editor Claire Ridley reveals the latest bridal news, buys and launches

BEST FOOT FORWARD

These ivory satin bridal peep toes adorned with a large chiffon bow at the back, £220, are the latest offering from shoe designer Harriet Wilde. Why not personalise the soles with a short message available in a variety of colours and a choice of fonts? harrietwilde.com harrietwildeshoes

NAME IT

This sterling silver name necklace, £40, is from the new personalised collection from jewellerybox.co.uk and makes the ideal big-day keepsake. jewelleryboxuk

PICK YOUR OWN

Jeweller Emily Mortimer has launched a bespoke service where couples can choose the stone, carat, metal, shape and colour of their engagement ring.

Emily discusses initial ideas and then produces a three-dimensional CAD design, along with a quote that's always within budget. Only the best quality gemstones and GIA-certified diamonds are sourced. Emily will also remodel heirloom pieces, emilymortimer.co.uk emilymortimerjewellery

EDITOR'S PICK

Thank your best girls with this gold-tone crystal bracelet, £89, from the new Tarot Magic collection by swarovski.com swarovski

What lies beneath

Lingerie, swimwear and nightwear brand Boux Avenue has released Bouxtique by Boux Avenue, a luxury new capsule collection inspired by traditional corsetry techniques and French lace fabrics. Bold red and black pieces feature supportive designs and are honeymoon lust-haves, bouxavenue.com bouxavenue

Floral ABUNDANCE

Pick a wedding dress budding with flower detail

rosaclara.com

jennypackham.com

jesuspeiro.com

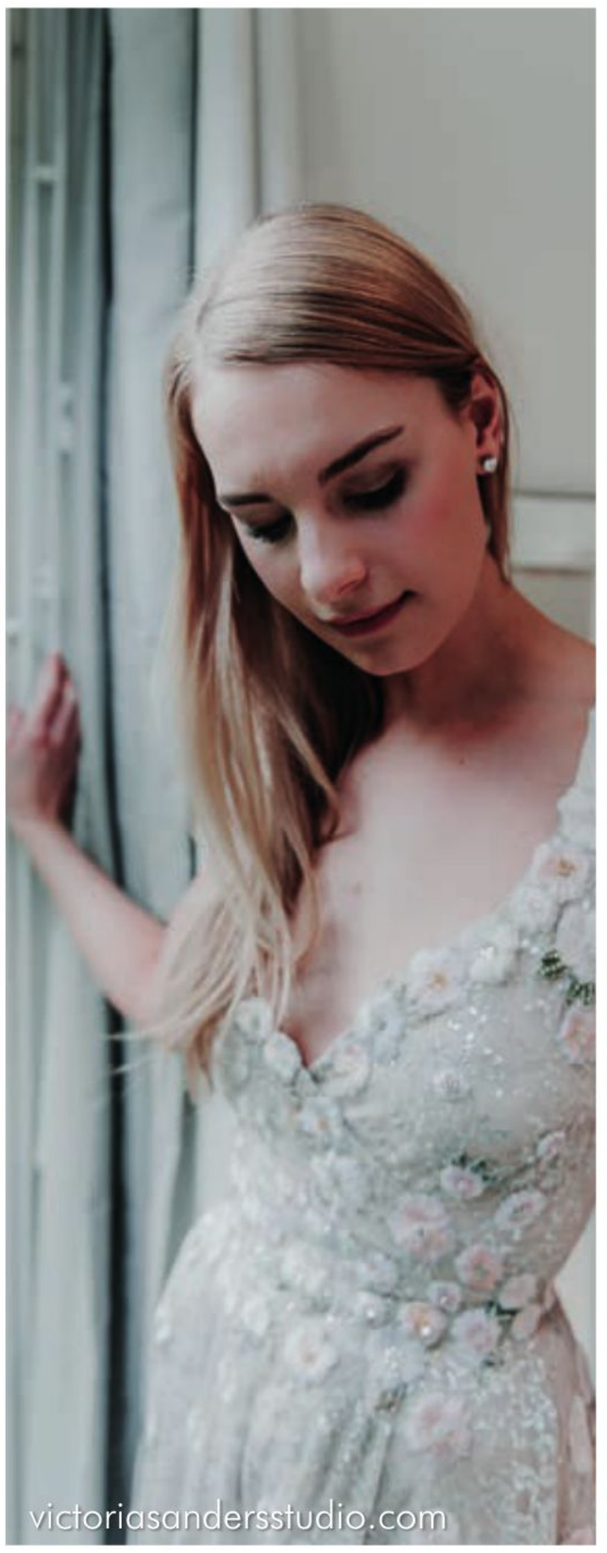
justinalexander.com

Kelly Faetanini at elliesanderson.co.uk

stephanieallin.net

marchesa.com

modeca.com


victoriasandersstudio.com

madelinegardnernewyork.com

phillipalepley.com

kelseyrose.co.uk

rikidalal.co.uk

charlottebalbier.com

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For further wed-spiration and to keep up to date with the latest news and trends check out our *County Wedding Magazines'* Instagram, Facebook and Twitter pages

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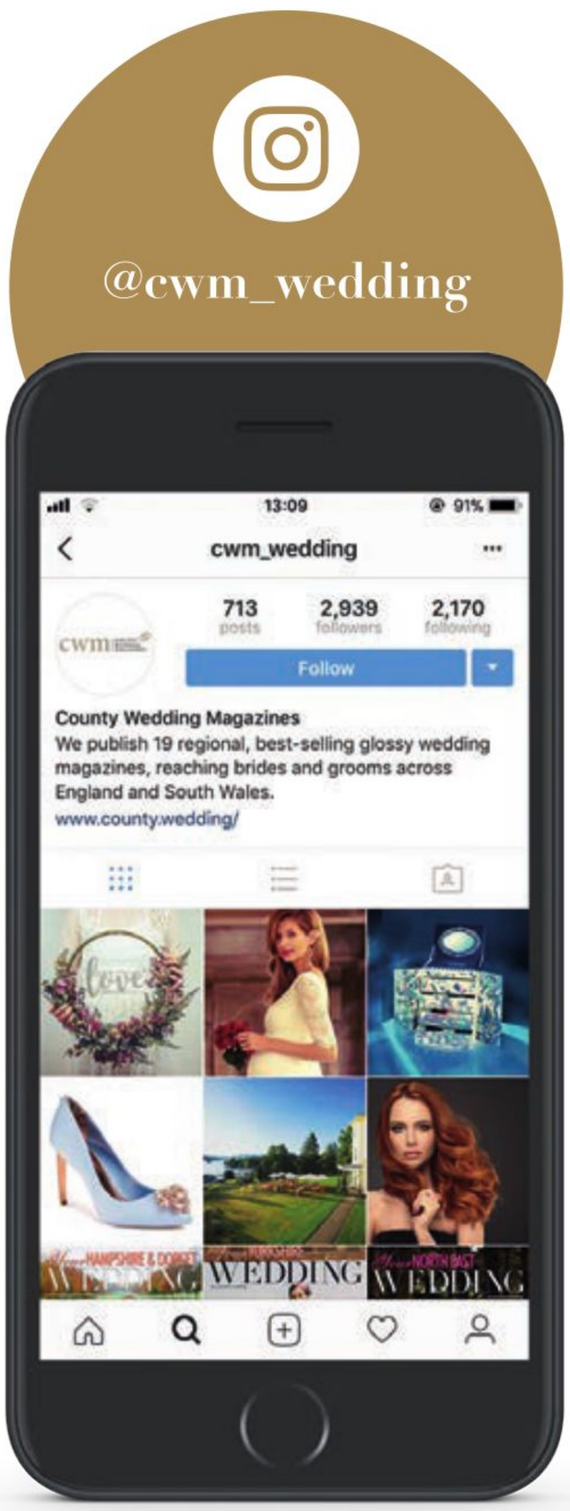

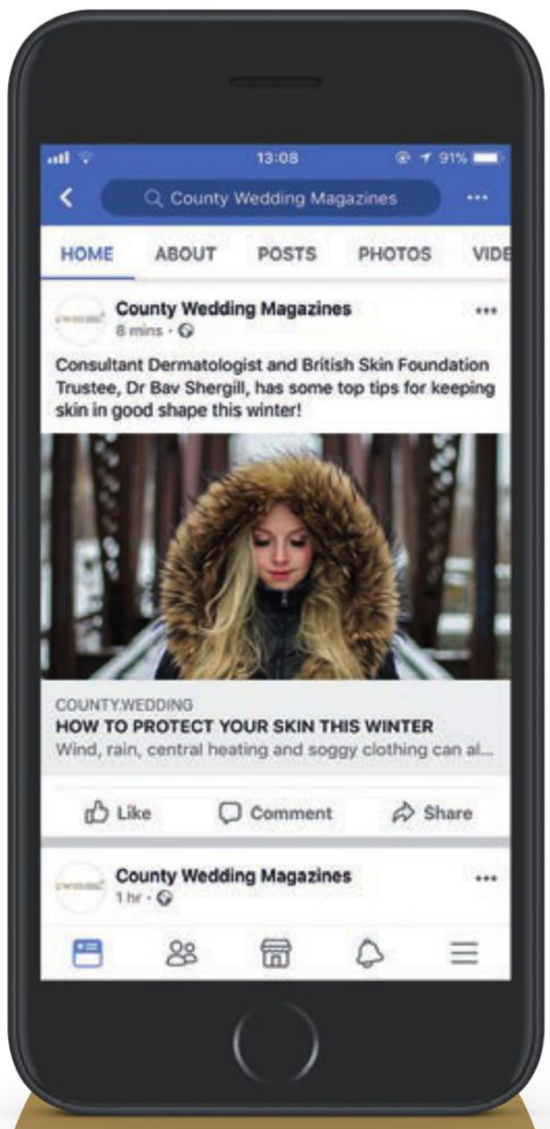

County Wedding Magazines

What's more, our editors are on hand to help brides-to-be with all their planning problems:

- Ask us anything, whether you're on the hunt for a local venue or simply looking for ideas and advice
- Find local suppliers
- Top planning tips from the pros
- Tell us about your big day for your chance to appear in the magazine
- Special subscription offers
- Win wedding essentials with our exclusive giveaways and competitions

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Dare to BARE

Dresses featuring decorative back detail are this season's hottest trend

Style no 103b by jesuspeiro.com

Saint by alexandragrecco.com

Celestial by charlottebalbier.com

Nina by rikidalal.com

Seville by miamiabridal.co.uk

Style no 7620 by enaura.com

Cayla dress and *Caitlin* top
by miamiabridal.co.uk

Summer by graceloveslace.com

Style no 4894
by palomablanca.com

Style no 50346
by kelseyrose.co.uk

Casini by rosaclara.com

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Pastel hues

Wedding guests will love this season's sweet selection of ladylike pieces

Green amethyst pendant necklace, £135, monicavinader.com

Blue crystal stud earrings, £45, uk.pandora.net

Rainbow pastel clutch bag, £40, dunelondon.com

KissKiss Liquid in *Miss Glitter*, £29.50, feelunique.com

Pink scarf, £95, marc-cain.com

Blue headband with pearls and Swarovski crystals, £74, aliceandblair.co.uk

Pistachio full-length dress, £150, thandth.com

Rainbow pastel court shoes, £75, dunelondon.com

Powder blue off-the-shoulder dress, £195, theprettydresscompany.com

Full-length dresses,
£125 each, dessy.com

Into the blue

Team this popular shade with crystal silver accessories

Silver Swarovski crystal and pearl hair slide, £24, aliceandblair.co.uk

Silver satin two-piece, £370, graceloveslace.com

Silver glitter clutch bag, £65, rainbowclub.co.uk

Sterling silver crown bracelet, £70, uk.pandora.net

Silver shimmer necklace, £89, DKNY at shadesoftime.co.uk

Silver crystal and pearl earrings, £18, jonrichard.com

Crystal-encrusted court shoes, £120, dunelondon.com

SEAL OF APPROVAL

We put to the test the latest vegan-friendly products

Nature's Kitchen Super Protein Skin Boosting Anti-Ageing Moisturiser, £26.99, Lovelula.com

"I have sensitive skin that gets easily irritated when trying new products, so I was a little apprehensive about testing this vegan-friendly moisturiser. After a few days of use, my skin felt hydrated and much to my surprise, it didn't feel irritated. The cream has a light consistency and soaks into your skin nicely. It provides moisture throughout the day but doesn't feel or look oily and smells divine. I'll definitely be buying it in the future." – **Melissa Barker**

Babe Night, £28, missguided.com

"I'm a fragrance fanatic and firmly believe you don't have to spend a fortune to get a great scent, from high-end to budget-friendly, I've tried all sorts. Babe Night had a gorgeous aroma from just opening the box! I was keen to have a spritz immediately, and adored the heady notes of orange blossom, jasmine and pink pepper – everyone in the office commented on it immediately and it lasted for my night out after work that evening too. This is now one of my go-to scents, and at only £28 for 80ml it's a bargain to boot!" – **Danielle Harvey**

Coco & Eve Sunny Honey Bali Bronzing Foam, £29.90, from uk.cocoandeve.com

"I love Coco & Eve's iconic hair mask as it does wonders for my locks, so I was intrigued to see if my skin would get the same nourishing treatment with its new bronzing foam. It adheres to its vegan ideals and is packed with lovely natural ingredients. The foam is lightweight and easy to apply with the rather luxurious velvety mitt. It develops in two hours and leaves your skin with an almost airbrushed look thanks to its CellushapeTM formula, which promises to hydrate and firm the skin. The thing I don't like about normal fake tan is that tell-tale biscuity smell, but the summery mango and guava scent of this product means no one will know your secret." – **Hannah Faulder**

Marble Luxe 9-Piece Make-up Brush Set Black & Gold, £45, lilyengland.com

"I've tried so many different make-up brushes from the cheap to the expensive, but I can't say I've ever found any that'd I'd deem indispensable. Until now that is! My absolute favourite in this set is the F10 kabuki foundation brush. It gives my base a flawless finish and uses much less product than applying with fingers or a standard foundation brush. It's an expensive business gathering the perfect tool to build each element of your look, so it's well worth investing in a set like this, as it's great value for money." – **Kelly Andrews**

MUA Essential Eyeshadow, Ember, £1.50, muastore.co.uk

"I have never used eyeshadow from this brand before and was eager to try it out for the first time and it didn't disappoint, especially because it's so affordable too! The colour is spot on for autumn with its stunning burgundy and shimmery finish that pops on the eye. I found it very easy to blend with no fall out which earns this brownie points for me. I have oily eyelids which I was worried about but after wearin this eyeshadow for a few hours it didn't budge. This single eyeshadow not only loo and feels great but is the perfect size to be able to slip it into your bag and apply more if desired. I will definitely be buying more!" – **Olivia Gibson**

Kimberly Sayer Cellular Extract Eye Lift Gel, £31.70, Lovelula.com

"As a bit of a night owl, I regularly pay the price with puffy eyes, fine lines and dark circles. This handy gel tackles all of the above and is a real morning-after saviour. Light, non-greasy and easy to use, a little goes a long way. It gave the delicate skin around my eyes an instant lift, plus my concealer and foundation went on like a dream afterwards, with no caking – win, win!" – **Sarah Reeve**

18+

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We have everything for all of your needs. Just open https://avxlive.icu

BEAUTY BUZZ

10/10

It's always tricky to find the perfect shade, but that should be made simple with the new essential eye wardrobe from MUA. Featuring 10 beautifully buildable tones, six pearl and four matte varieties, they're just £1.50 each! With exceptional pigment to rival brands 10-times the price, can you really afford not to try them all! What's more they are 100% vegan and cruelty-free to boot! Check out muastore.co.uk

The key to being big-day ready is to start your beauty regime early! Here's a pick of the latest health and beauty essentials to help you look good and feel great from the inside out.

Danielle x

Danielle Harvey, beauty editor

Brush it off

The key to great make-up application is down to having the right tools, and that means high quality brushes; enter beauty and lifestyle brand, Lily England! The company's new brushes, in stylish black, gold and marble, are hand-finished, vegan-friendly and are not only affordable but are totally wedding-album-worthy! Luxurious and cruelty-free, the range boasts sets for the face, eyes or a full brush kit. Each synthetic brush is made with high-quality super-soft bristles designed to last – suitable for people with sensitive skin! The new range also includes chic marble make-up and travel bags, great for stylishly organising your toolkit. The set is £45 and is available at lilyengland.com

THE FACE HAS IT

Creating a tan-compatible, cosmeceutical, vegan skincare line was essential to the Amanda Harrington philosophy and tanning range. The just-launched New Skin Face are advanced glycolic facial pads designed specifically to promote rapid exfoliation and to create the perfect smooth base. These generously sized, ultra-soft and biodegradable cotton pads are soaked in a bespoke blended formula of glycolic, fruit acids and soothing aloe vera – to expertly polish, brighten and refresh the face.

A must-have multi-tasker, erasing unwanted tan or leftover traces of make-up, they are gentle enough to use 3-4 times a week within your usual skincare routine – brightening the skin and removing impurities, creating the perfect canvas for tanning. Priced £18 for 30 facial pads visit amandaharrington.com

HONEY, HONEY

French pharmacy brand Nuxe has just added two new products to its iconic collection. Perfect for creating that bridal glow, they soothe and nourish dry and sensitive skin.
The Nuxe Reve de Miel collection (literal translation Honey Dreams) is aimed at dry and sensitive skin, using honey and precious essential oils which will wrap the skin in softness. The Ultra-Comforting Face Balm uses nourishing, soothing and repairing active ingredients while the Melting Body Balm with honey, provides a sensory and effective response to dryness – exactly what parched, dry winter skin needs, a cocoon of argan, honey, mimosa, vanilla and botanical oils – hello beautiful! Face Balm,£27.50, Body Oil Balm, £22.50, Lip Balm, £10.50 at escentual.com

PERFECTLY BAKED

The B.Makeup collection at Superdrug boasts four new B.Baking Powders – a big-day essential for the bride and her girl squad. Finely milled for an effortless lightweight application, they instantly mattify, blur and help make-up stay in place all day.
Vegan-friendly and cruelty-free, there is a choice of four shades; translucent, light, medium and dark. Priced at just £6.99, they're available from superdrug.com/brandshop/B/makeup and stores nationwide.

MIGHTY MULTITASKING

Hydrating and oxygenating this AHA cleanser is mild, yet ultra-effective, with a beautiful and comforting texture. Priced £58, visit mzskin.com and Harrods and Harvey Nichols nationwide.

BE KIND

Reading the back of products can certainly lead to confusion with names and ingredients you don't recognise and then follows the worry of not knowing what you're truly putting on your skin! Step forward, Kind Natured, the skincare brand that believe in keeping it natural. There's three key ranges encompassing all your beauty needs, from facial oils to jelly masks, eye creams to moisturiser, each comes under one of the following:

❤ BRIGHTEN

Ginseng – helps to plump and firm skin which leads to a naturally radiant glow.

Grapefruit – Grapefruit helps even the complexion, delivering a natural luminosity.

❤ HYDRATE

Coconut milk – the natural fatty acids within coconut milk make it perfect for treating dry and irritated skin.

Cotton – rich in Vitamin E and fatty acids, which help to reduce inflammation, soothe skin and moisturise.

❤ CALM & SOOTHE

Shea – Shea has proven anti-inflammatory properties, helping to calm any redness and alleviate dryness caused by sensitive skin.

Aloe – Rich in vitamins and known for its soothing properties, Aloe helps to calm and soothe the skin.

Full skincare range available to purchase at Boots stores and boots.com

GOING GREEN

Greenpeople has some exciting new launches. Pure Luxe Body Oil (£25) is blended with plant botanicals for superior radiance and an unrivalled skin glow. Rich in pomegranate and phospholipids, this leaves the skin with a beautiful satin-soft finish. Next up the aptly named Ultimate Wonder Balm (£32); a richly rejuvenating multi-purpose beauty balm which can be used as a cleanser to effectively melt away make-up or utilise this SOS balm to soothe and protect sensitive lips, tame eyebrows, nourish cuticles or soothe dry skin anywhere. Available from greenpeople.co.uk, selected Holland & Barrett stores nationwide and online.

DAY TO NIGHT

Introducing Babe Night, the new fragrance by Missguided adding to its award-winning collection.

The intoxicating new fragrance opens with citrus notes of lemon, orange and green apple and develops with heady accords of orange blossom, jasmine and spicy pink pepper. Base notes of musky vanilla, cedar and patchouli make Babe Night the ultimate scent to take you from day into the evening – perfect for the 'I dos' to the first dance!

Available in an 80ml Eau de parfum, Babe Night is vegan-friendly and cruelty-free. Priced £28, from missguided.com

SAVING PLANET EARTH

Tisserand Aromatherapy collaborates with National Geographic so brides can rest assured they're buying their beauty products without damaging the planet!

The collaboration has been designed to protect and respect your wellbeing as well as the earth's and celebrates the power of nature from all over the world, with three new aromatherapy blends housed in fully recyclable packaging. Putting sustainability at the core of the collection, it's been created with 100% PCR (post-consumer recycled) plastic,100% natural ingredients and a dedication to giving back to those who work in conservation via the not-for-profit National Geographic Society. The three blends are available in six options priced from £9: Shower Wash, Bath Oil, Diffuser Oil, Roller Ball, Mood Mist, Travel Kit (compromising Bath Oil, Mood Mist, Roller Ball), packaged in a reusable vegan cosmetic bag (£20). Available from Boots and tisserand.com

BRONZED BEAUTY

Due to popular demand, the Sunny Honey Bali Bronzing Foam from Coco & Eve is now back in stock after selling out over 190,000 units in just nine weeks!

Packed with key ingredients such as mango, guava, banana, linseed oil, there's definitely no biscuit smell here! This self-tan is the world's first tan with anti-cellulite technology to blur pigmentation and perfect skin for all occasions. With a lightweight and non-sticky formula, the tan is fast-drying and develops in just two-hours – perfect for hen dos, big-days and honeymoons!

100% vegan, natural DHA, and no nasties, this is certainly the self-tan you need. Priced £29.90, check out uk.cocoandeve.com

UP, UP *and away*

Multi-award-winning bridal and celebrity hair designer Vicki Lord talks to Kelly Andrews about creating the perfect up do silhouette, 2020 trends, and her top tips

"I used to do my own hair as a child, and have been creating my own up styles from the age of five," Vicky says. She left school before the age of 16, and went to work in a salon where she learned that Vidal Sassoon was interviewing for apprentices: "Everyone told me I should go, but I said 'I can't do that!' I was just working at a little salon in Allington at the time." Nevertheless, her friends and family were persistent in their encouragement and eventually Vicki caved! She remembers, "I gathered all of my nearest and dearest together to model every hair-up style in my arsenal, and create a portfolio. The interview panel was impressed with what I'd put together, and told me they'd never had an apprentice produce anything like it before. Out of 50 candidates I was one of only a handful to be given the opportunity to become an apprentice."

Following her time at Vidal Sassoon, Vicki became a freelance hairdresser, undertaking further specialist training as she worked. She explains: "I did a hair extension course with Balmain and became one of their trainers. Later, I went on to become a regular session stylist, but hair-up has always been with me – it's my passion."

THE SILHOUETTE IS EVERYTHING

With a vast knowledge and 30 years of experience when it comes to creating innovative looks, nothing excites Vicki more than advocating the silhouette as a planning tool. "Hairdressers should understand shapes," she explains, and continues, "We work with them all the time. When you're learning to cut hair you're taught how to consider face shapes, and I take the same ethos into my designs. I'm constantly thinking about the silhouette I'm creating. For example, those with a square jawline shouldn't have anything at the sides of the face, as it'll look wider than it is. Likewise, with oval face shapes wearing the hair high will overly elongate. So, the first thing I do with my brides is sit down and sketch out the dress with hair styles, thinking about the face shape and neckline."

Keen to share her knowledge on this subject, Vicki regularly heads out on the road to some of the country's biggest wedding fairs to talk to brides in person. She says, "So many brides have come to me with a Pinterest board of styles they like, and I have to say to them: 'Hang on, look at your face shape then look at that picture again. Do you still like the style?' I've been championing this idea for more than 20 years and I've tried to teach it to other hairdressers. It's really important. In fact, I actually think brides should think about their hair before they choose their dress – say 'yes' to the hair! Think about it, if you have your heart set on wearing your hair down and nothing will sway you, you should be looking for a figure hugging dress or a fishtail design."

LET'S MAKE IT HAPPEN!

"Fashion goes round and round in a circle. I look at the latest catwalk trends, but most of the time you become the trendsetter," Vicki says when asked about her inspirations. She continues, "My muse is the bride herself. Seeing her dress and her wedding set-up – is it boho, contemporary, vintage? That's what gives me my moodboard."

I asked Vicki to give us the inside track on the top wedding hair trend for 2020, something she'd already given a lot of thought to: "I'm noticing that dresses are becoming a lot sexier with a lot of deep V's and low backs. With that in mind, I want to bring back a Mediterranean high-gloss look. There are so many undone styles, so I'd love to see some structure and creativity. Think Kim Kardashian and Audrey Hepburn with those sharp centre partings. It's a timeless look that'll never date."

CAREER HIGHS

As a session stylist Vicki has worked with celebrities from Jodie Kidd to Tess Daly, but one in particular gets the award for creating her most surreal moment. She tells us more: "I loved working with Macy Gray's hair, it was so cool to make her look different, I did a mohawk on her. I had to stand in the wings while she was performing, ready to make any adjustments and as she came off stage she headed straight for me saying, 'Hey Vicki how ya doin'? I love the frizz, you've done a massive job on the frizz, but aw man can ya take the grips out?' So there I was, pulling out hair clips, when next thing I know, Macy Gray's head is in my lap and I'm giving her a scalp massage! Things don't get any weirder than that, but it was my best moment."

Vicki's favourite celeb client right now is Shona McGarty, otherwise known as *Eastenders'* Whitney Dean. "I love giving her a red carpet look that's the complete opposite to her on-screen character – something demure and classy," she explains. Her ultimate dream of a client though would be the incomparable Lady Gaga. Why? "She'd wear my crazy sculptural hairpieces! She needs me in her life! It will happen one day," she laughs.

TOP TIPS

If you're trying to grow your hair for the big day, you're not alone, but that doesn't mean you should neglect your locks. Vicki says, "Regular trims are paramount. If you're scared of having too much taken off, have your hair washed and straightened at the salon and just have the ends trimmed dry.

"Use regular conditioning treatments. I'd highly recommend using Amika's Soulfood once a week. Free of sulphates and parabens, it's also vegan and cruelty free. Olaplex is also a great product and will improve the structure of your hair. I couldn't live without my T3 heat styling products and Batiste Dry Shampoo either.

"You might also want to think about clip-ins or extensions. I'm Balmain's ambassador and love their products. I'd say 90 per cent of brides, models and celebrities will have hairpieces in. No one has that much hair! If you've got a big dress you need big hair or you're going to end up with a bridesmaid's do and you're the one who needs to stand out."

GIRL POWER

Vicki launched her own fresh and contemporary hair salon in Canterbury, Kent in the spring of 2019, where she and her talented team specialise in their own fields including cutting, styling, colouring, hair extensions, hair up and, of course, bridal. "We have the bridal suite and academy upstairs and the salon downstairs, as well as Kent's very first braiding bar."

The multi-award-winning hairdresser says she now wants to inspire others: "I really want to drive my academy forward. Plus, in the future I'd love to have my own chain of salons, and launch a range of hair extensions and products. Who knows what the future holds?"

A newly single mum of a 10-year-old and a 15-year-old Vicki is determined to be a positive role model for her children: "I've gone through an emotional rollercoaster and I've come out the other end thinking 'I *can* do this, and I *will* do this.' Women are stronger than we think we are. Work-life balance is hard, but there are more important things than dirty dishes. Life is for living!"

Find out more at vickilordhair.com

Beauty Q&A

Our two experts share their big-day tips

PRE-WEDDING PAMPER

Can you suggest some beauty treatments that I can book before my wedding to make me feel fantastic on the day?

Rebecca says: I would recommend having either a gel manicure or pedicure applied because it offers a stronger, long-lasting finish and shouldn't chip like regular nail polish can. Don't keep it on for a long time before having it re-applied because in the long term it will soften your nails as the air isn't reaching them. It's an excellent idea for a special occasion like a wedding but I would recommend removing it after your honeymoon and leave your nails to breathe.

Having a spray tan is another way to feel great on your wedding day. Sienna X spray tan provides a natural finish which is good for both the wedding and honeymoon. I always recommend having a patch test done first because this way you can see the colour that it will be on you before committing to the final procedure. It's best to have it applied a couple of days before the wedding because it looks more natural a few hours after.

Another pre-wedding beauty investment is a Dermalift non-surgical face or body treatment that helps to tighten the skin and tone up key areas.

BEAUTY CHECKLIST

Having never used a professional hair and make-up service before, what tips do you have for sourcing the right artist for my wedding?

Marie says: This can be a daunting prospect because it's almost as important as finding the right dress but it can be a fun and enjoyable task!

Firstly, ask around to get recommendations from friends and family members who have had their hair and make-up done recently for a special occasion. Look at their photographs and if you think they looked fab then take a look at the artist's website and social media pages for examples of their work. This way, you can see if their style suits the look that you want to achieve on the day. Examine the quality of their work and enquire whether they have any professional photographs to show of their real life brides and not just snaps taken on an iPhone.

Research their experience, where they trained, what products and brands they use and whether they have the relevant insurance. It's so important that you hire a professional who can handle whatever is asked of them on the day so remember to read their reviews.

Secondly, get in touch with them and request a face-to-face meeting. A good way of doing this is to see whether they are attending any local wedding shows in the area and ask to meet them there. This way, you'll see whether you both get along, and have a better understanding of what they can offer you. I have many brides visit me at wedding shows to discuss their ideas, it's a great chance for us to get to know each other. Remember that you're not just hiring a service, you're hiring a personality and you'll want somebody who is confident, calm and friendly, especially if they are also styling your bridal party.

Finally, book in for a trial with them to sample the style(s) you have in mind. You'll get to know how they work and see the results for yourself. If you're happy, make sure you book them well in advance. Talented and popular hair and make-up artists can get booked up to two years in advance so, make sure you secure your date with them.

CONTACT OUR EXPERTS

Rebecca Pattenden | 07951 212 701 | beautyandhairbyrebecca.com

Marie Kelly | 07771 906 117 | mariekellyhairandmakeup.co.uk

BEAUTY & HAIR BY REBECCA

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Email: becky-patt@blueyonder.co.uk

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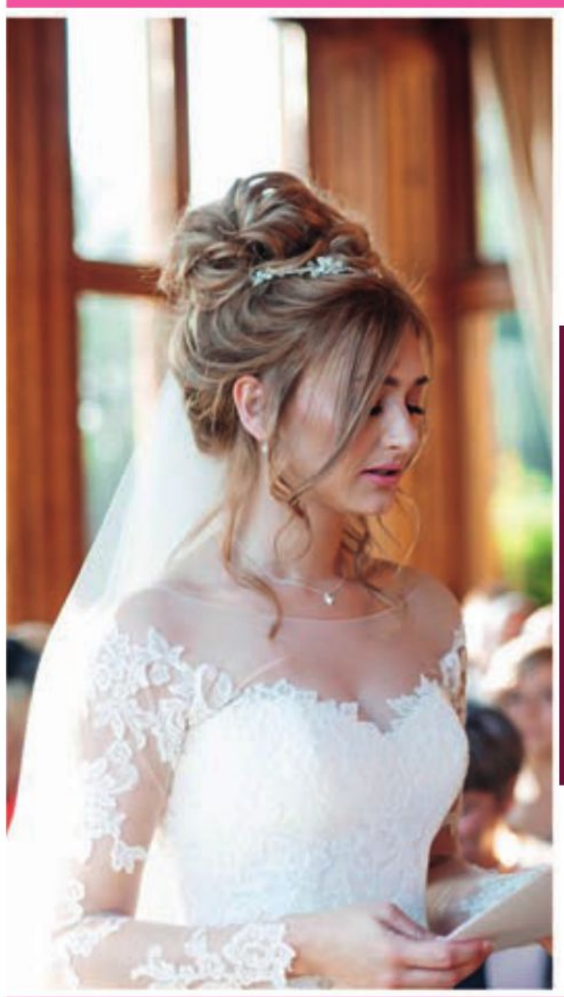
2020/2021 BRIDES



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KEEPING WATCH

The new Areo Collection from BOSS Watches (Hugo Boss) boasts masculine chronographs impeccably crafted from stainless steel with a choice of Italian leather strap, matte and polished black bracelet styles.

The pilot-inspired functionalities of this watch include a slide-rule bezel and two matching logarithmic scales – one stationary, the other rotating – to make a host of multiplication, division and conversion calculations possible. A retrograde chronograph movement including a date display defines the bold design.

Priced £499 from hourtime.co.uk

FROM THE WAIST UP

The new Butler Stewart Christopher Waistcoat is a beautifully tailored addition to the big-day wardrobe!

Waistcoats are as popular as ever with grooms, and this instant outfit upgrade comes in five tweeds and all feature a solid coloured satin back with a cinch buckle. Notch lapel and two welt pockets are just some of the attention to detail given to this classic garment. Colours include Oxford Blue, Dark Brown, Heather, Harvest Brown, and Pear Green, all priced £225 from butlerstewart.co.uk

Read all ABOUT IT!

Danielle Harvey shares her latest news and product launches for the man of the moment

Showers forecast

This travel-size shower trio is perfect for any budding groom offering one for each big event; the stag do, wedding day and honeymoon!

From The Groomsmith collection these mini shower gels are certain to refresh and revive you, priced at £5, from marksandspencer.com

BEST FOOT FORWARD

New online store Quarter & Last offers high-end footwear at the click of a button. From the finest selection of Derby brogues to Chelsea boots there's something for every style of groom – handpicked from a curated selection of luxury brands! This range is supported by a high level of customer service, including free UK next day delivery and free UK returns.

Northampton plays a big part in Quarter & Last's collection with several of its stocked brands born in the area including Barker Shoes, Joseph Cheaney & Sons and Tricker's England, alongside popular names such as Loake and Jeffery West.

Australia's well-known heritage boot brand, R.M Williams, is also available including its iconic Craftsman boots and Chelsea styling.

Leather and rich shades of suede lead the collections in both tailored and casual footwear with prices from £140 to £445. Quarter & Last is available online now at quarterandlast.com

Super hero

We love the new Jimmy Choo fragrance Urban Hero the perfect big-day scent! For this new addition, the brand chose to celebrate the intensity and contrasts of modern masculinity, this woody aromatic eau de parfum is inspired by the urban environment.

On top, the freshness of precious lemon caviar with its vibrant undertones combines with the warmth of black pepper. Its heart opens onto the sensuality of rosewood and the sophistication of vetiver. The dry down combines the urban elegance of grey amber with a note of leather for just a hint of rebellion. Priced from £33 to £70 from theperfumeshop.com

BEST FOOT FORWARD

Start your wedding off on the right foot with advice from Percy Stride

Choosing the right shoes for the groom and his groomsmen is an investment they'll love and cherish forever.

When it comes to tying the knot, there's an awful lot to think about. From choosing the perfect wedding dress and sending out the invites, to cake sampling and finding the ideal venue. However, one thing that often slips down the priority list is the groom's footwear.

This is quite surprising when you consider how many hours the groom, the groomsmen and the father-of-the-bride spend on their feet on a wedding day. Especially when the infamous dad dancing moves come out in the evening.

As well as the comfort factor, opting for quality footwear is a sign of style as well. Men's fashion is no longer deemed as an additional "nice to have", it's an integral way of life.

How the groom and his groomsmen dress on the day says a lot about your wedding. It's an opportunity to showcase both of your personalities, add an extra layer of sophistication to the occasion and make the important men rightfully stand out from the other guests.

Every step should be calculated and considered. When the guests arrive at the wedding venue, the first people they'll see is the groom and his groomsmen. How they look will instantly set the tone for the whole day and the way guests perceive your big day.

It will have a detrimental effect on your wedding photos too. So, if the groom and his groomsmen's shoes are scruffy, the wrong style or in a ghastly colour, there's no filter or editing tool in the world able to make them disappear.

Unlike a bride's wedding dress, choosing quality footwear for the groom and his groomsmen doesn't have to be a one day only purchase – although I'm sure there are some brides out there who secretly wear it around the house – you know who you are!

One British independent footwear company who have covered quality, style and comfort all in one are Percy Stride.

However, one of the most notable reasons to invest in a quality pair of shoes like these is that you'll be giving the groom and his groomsmen something they can cherish forever.

The versatility of the Percy Stride Oxfords and their premium construction gives them life after your big wedding day, allowing all of the special men involved to combine them with jeans and chinos for a smart/casual appearance at work or on a date night.

Every time they reuse their special pair of Percy Stride Oxford shoes, the groom and his groomsmen will be transported back to the special wedding day. It's the gift that keeps on giving.

To find out more about the hassle-free Percy Stride wedding packages, email info@percystride.com or visit percystride.com

Subscribe

Designed to deliver outstanding knowledge, inspiration, expert advice and information for brides and grooms in the region, *Your Glos & Wilts Wedding* magazine is available at leading supermarkets and newsagents in the area.

Aware of the growing need for an intelligent solution for digital-savvy brides who are always on the go, *Your Glos & Wilts Wedding* magazine also delivers an exceptional online experience, with a dedicated website, an interactive eMagazine, as well as buzzing social media alerts.

For more information, visit the website, yourgloswilts.wedding

4 easy ways to get your copy

1 Take out an annual subscription for just £17.60 and save 15% off the normal cover price. Delivered to your door with FREE P&P

2 eMagazine online for £1.49 – suitable for smartphones and tablets

3 Order online at yourgloswits.wedding

4 Pick up a copy from your local newsagent or supermarket

Buy online at yourgloswilts.wedding
Sign up for a year's subscription to *Your Glos & Wilts Wedding* and not only will you save money on the cover price, you'll also receive a votive candle set worth £15*.
We've teamed up with Shearer Candles to give County Wedding Magazine readers the chance to claim a Mr&Mrs votive candle set – worth £15 – when you take out a year's subscription.

Shearer Candles is a leading creator and purveyor of artisan candles and scented products. Established in 1897, the company is the UK's longest established lifestyle candle manufacturer, working with only the purest ingredients and inspired by the business's beautiful surroundings in Scotland.

Shearer Candles' new Alphabet Collection of scented votive candles features each letter of the alphabet, plus a heart and ampersand. Candle lovers can spell out their initials or whatever special message takes their fancy, including Mr&Mrs for newlyweds or individual initials for guest favours and table place settings.

The candles carry the firm's popular Egyptian Cotton scent, loved for its delicate fresh linen-style fragrance. Each votive candle will burn for approximately 20 hours.

The Alphabet Collection is exclusively available to purchase in Shearer Candles stores including its website shearer-candles.com
All you need to do to claim your gift is take out a year's subscription to *Your Glos & Wilts Wedding*.*

*Subject to availability.

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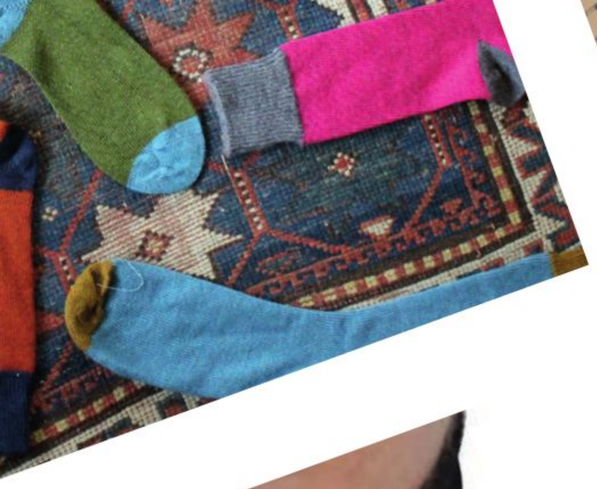
SOCK IT to me!

Keep it classic on your big day or show your fun side? Check out this selection of socks



matalan.co.uk

CHECKMATE

Rock this perfectly patterned look

£14, mandco.com

£130, joebrowns.co.uk

POA, atelier412newyork.etsy.com

£429, tedbaker.com

£225, chesterbarrie.co.uk

£25, farrar-tanner.co.uk

£60, simoncarter.net

£70, riverisland.com

£69.99, Maestro Brown, baselondon.com

SHORT-HAUL SUNSHINE

The stunning Greek island of Rhodes is perfect for newlyweds seeking a relaxing getaway.

A destination famous for its serene sunsets and breathtaking beauty, the recently renovated five-star, adults-only Lindos Village Resort & Spa is perfectly located between mountain and sea.

For a truly romantic experience, couples can visit Lindos' most picturesque beaches including St Paul's Bay, which is naturally formed in the shape of a heart. Dramatically overlooked by the town's historic acropolis, honeymooners can spend an evening under the stars while enjoying Greek and Mediterranean delicacies paired with traditional Rhodian wine – all to the backdrop of a candlelit beach.

Couples wanting to explore further afield should head for the nearby island of Symi – famously known for its delectable shrimps – where a sprinkling of colourful neoclassical houses and harbourside eateries glisten along the Aegean Sea.

For further details about Lindos Village Resort & Spa, visit lindos-village.gr

YOUR CARRIAGE AWAITS

For a mini-moon to remember, how about staying in Sprat & Winkle, a newly refurbished converted Victorian train carriage?

The London and South Western iron clad corridor coach has been fully converted into a cosy holiday let, complete with light fittings from the Orient Express and vintage luggage racks.

Newlyweds can sit back and relax with a barbecue on Platform 1 at Horsebridge railway station in Hampshire, or set out for a stroll along one of the many country footpaths nearby.

Sprat & Winkle is priced from £425 for three nights. To book, visit mulberrycottages.com

HONEYMOON *News*

From a five-star adults-only resort in Greece to a converted railway carriage in the UK, Demelza Rayner showcases a selection of the latest honeymoon hotspots

BEACHSIDE BLISS IN ST LUCIA

One of the island's best-loved adults-only resorts – Rendezvous – is now offering a wider range of complimentary romantic experiences including 'bubbles and sand', 'stars and a movie' and 'wine 101'.

For 'bubbles and sand', a picnic rug is set up on the beach just before sunset with a bottle of champagne. 'Stars and a movie' describes a film screening on the beach, with comfy seats set up on the sand, and popcorn and drinks served. Finally, 'wine 101' is a fun, informal tasting session.

In addition, there are two experiences available at an extra charge; a couple's cookery class and a massage lesson at The Spa in the Water Garden.

Visit theromanticholiday.com to find out more

Bright ideas

Have some fun with your honeymoon luggage. Available in bright red, lime, sea green and stone grey, these brilliant bold cases are ideal for standing out on the carousel. Visit tumi.com to find out more.

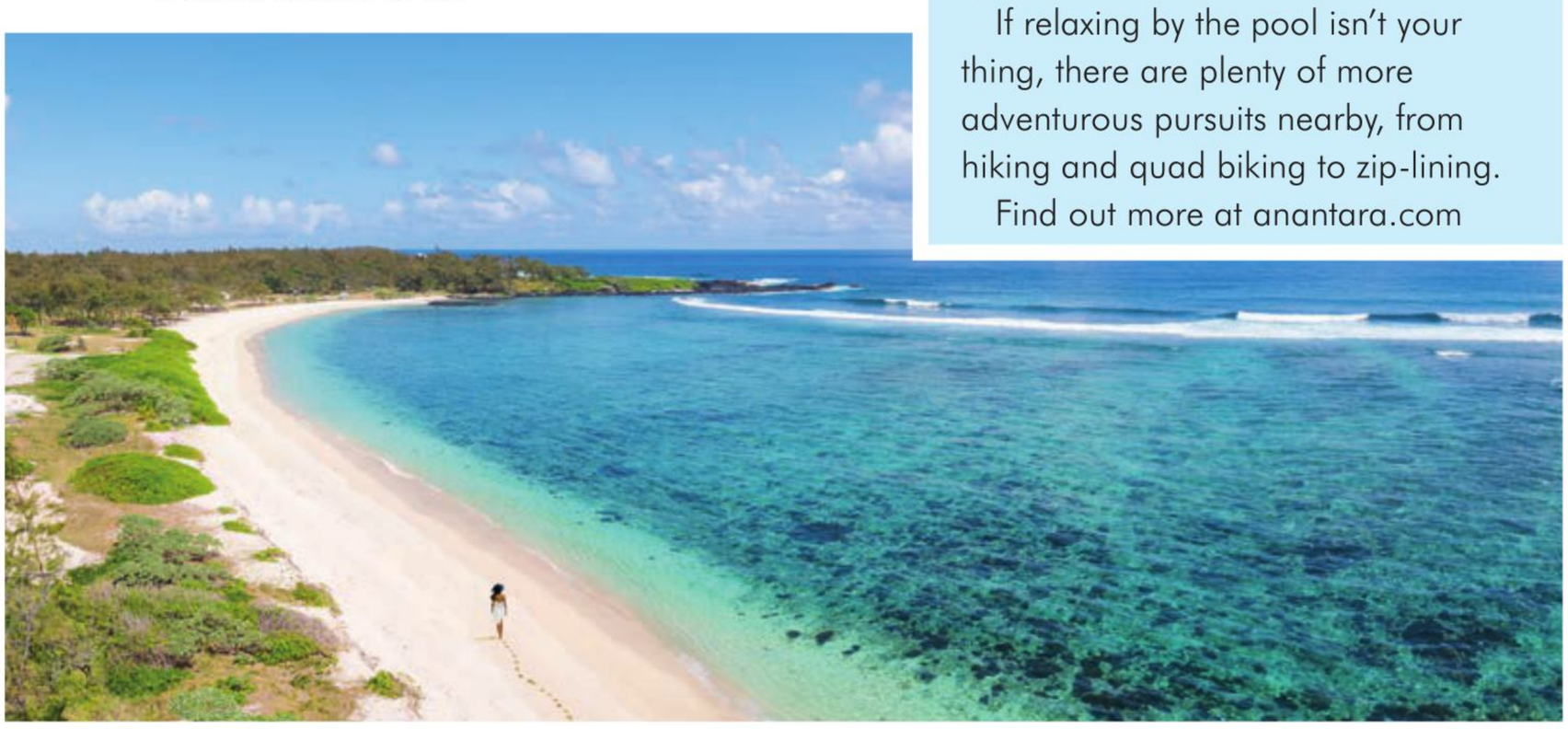
BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

If the darker evenings and cold mornings just make you want to hibernate, then the decadent 'Behind Closed Doors' winter honeymoon package from Blakes Hotel London will help you to hibernate in style!

Upon entering one of Blakes' beautifully designed suites, couples can abandon their layers, slip on Kiki De Montparnasse silk pyjamas and jump into the king-sized bed.

For the ultimate 'do not disturb' experience, breakfast, lunch and dinner are served in-room, with unlimited room service. This includes oysters – a known aphrodisiac – along with chocolate pastries and a Laurent Perrier Champagne Jereboam that can be enjoyed in the room or in a luxurious bathtub.

Find out more at blakeshotels.com/offers/behind-closed-doors



TREAT YOURSELF

Discover the stunning south coast of Mauritius on your honeymoon while staying at one of the island's newest luxury hotel openings – the Anantara Iko Mauritius Resort and Villas.

Fringed by acres of sugarcane and the crystal-clear waters of the Indian Ocean, the resort is ideal for newlyweds, boasting the signature Anantara Spa, an array of exotic dining options and numerous stylish suites.

If relaxing by the pool isn't your thing, there are plenty of more adventurous pursuits nearby, from hiking and quad biking to zip-lining.

Find out more at anantara.com

EXPLORE SOUTH AMERICA

What could be more romantic than viewing the solar eclipse in Argentina and Chile in December 2020? Luxury travel firm Hayes & Jarvis invites couples to explore these captivating countries with its Patagonia discovery tour. Beginning in the Argentinian capital of Buenos Aires, the tour will continue on a magical journey including hiking on the still-growing Perito Moreno Glacier, a catamaran cruise across the Biosphere Reserve of Tierra del Guero, a whale-watching cruise, seeing Magellan penguins and unbelievable scenery along the way.

For further details visit hayesandjarvis.co.uk

KUONI'S TOP 10

Top luxury travel firm Kuoni has recently released its 2020 travel hotlist, providing plenty of new destination inspiration for soon-to-be-weds.

Exploring countries beyond the well-trodden tourist trails is a key theme for the year ahead, so Kuoni has created more travel options to places including India, Africa, Canada, the USA and Italy for couples who want to see the world's natural wonders in lesser-known regions, national parks and states. Destinations tipped for increased bookings in 2020 include:

1. India, beyond the Golden Triangle
2. Zimbabwe, back after years of political instability
3. USA, direct flight to Charleston and Portland increase demand for fly-drives
4. Indian Ocean, 16 new hotels added for 2020
5. Greece, luxury credentials on the up
6. Colombia, added to its escorted touring programme
7. Japan, the buzz continues for the Olympic Year
8. The Caribbean, new hotel openings
9. Canada, escape the crowds in winter
10. Italy, slow travel in the regions of Puglia and Basilicata

Colombia features for the first time in Kuoni's escorted touring collection, with a 12-night tour taking in the country's coffee-growing region and UNESCO-listed old town of Cartagena.

Hotel openings in Antigua raise the bar for luxury with Hammock Cove and its collection of ultra-modern pool villas due to open in December, while in Mauritius the new adults-only Lagoon Attitude has a strong sustainable ethos.

Luxury credentials in Greece are on the up for 2020 with the Angsana in Corfu a notable addition – an offshoot of the Banyan Tree brand, it is cool and contemporary and mimics a classic Greek hilltop village.

Find out more at kuoni.co.uk

ME, YOU AND THE FAMILY TOO

It is possible to balance romance and family thanks to Zafiro Hotels' family-friendly facilities, finds Georgina Cassels

As every parent knows, holidays take on a whole different meaning once you've had kids – and that's OK, I mean, who doesn't enjoy getting up at 6am to smear sun cream on a reluctant toddler? But when it comes to your honeymoon, you're probably thinking more indulgent couples' massages and lounging on a chic day bed, less constructing 17 sandcastles before noon. As I was to discover on a recent trip to Zafiro Hotels in Mallorca, you can have the best of both worlds – this family-friendly hotel chain balances the needs of the whole family with something for everyone.

Indeed, as we drove up to Zafiro Palace Alcudia – our first port of call for this dual-destination trip – its soaring lobby and magnificent views through floor-to-ceiling windows certainly suggested the former over the latter, as did the glass of fizz we were offered to ease the already seamless check in. It was only as we crossed the central pool area that I began to suspect that this is not just paradise for loved up newlyweds but their children too because there, nestled among the – count 'em – nine different outdoor swimming pools, including six swim-ups accessed directly from the ground floor suites and an adults-only area – was a pirate ship, complete with slides. If my five-year-old had been with me, she would have lost her tiny mind at that alone, never mind the playground, which boasts a bouncy castle, climbing frame and table tennis.

Reaching our elegant Penthouse Suite, we were swiftly transported back into adult-land: think rooftop terrace complete with Jacuzzi and Bali bed, not to mention a room with space enough for a family of four. The Londoner in me couldn't resist mentally scrolling through every flat I've ever lived in and comparing square footage. No prizes for guessing the victor. There's also facilities designed to make a parent's life all the easier: in my case, tea and coffee facilities and a microwave but rooms with a more extensive kitchenette are available too – not that you'd need it as the feast on offer at the hotel's Market Buffet Restaurant is impressive, with something to please even the fussiest of eaters while catering to the more discerning gourmands out there too with local specialties on tap.

There's three further à la carte restaurants to boot and, strictly in the interests of research, you understand, I sampled them all over the course of the trip, from the Asian delights at Tastes & Sushi and pasta at El Portico to the traditional Mallorcan fare at El Olivo. Book the hotel's babysitting service now; you're in for a treat (although all the restaurants welcome mini diners too).

Indeed, food is a central part of Mallorcan life and the island's many specialties are not to be missed. From the homemade sobrassada (a type of cured sausage) we nibbled as we drifted on the turquoise sea aboard an idyllic traditional laut (boat) one afternoon, to the pa amb oli (bread with oil), rubbed with a native tomato expertly prepared for us by Zafiro Alcudia's head chef, we were never knowingly underfed.

I'm ashamed to say that on our two previous family holidays to Mallorca, we didn't venture much further than the beach so it was a delight and pleasure to discover more of this beautiful island. Alcudia's charming old town, for one, with its beautifully preserved walls and Roman ruins is a must for even the most reluctant tourist. But it was Palma that captured my heart and imagination – from the stalls piled high with fresh produce at Mercat de l'Olivar to the distinctive octagonal ensaimada boxes stacked in Horno San Cristo's window, it's not only a foodie paradise but also a delight for fans of art and architecture thanks to its abundant galleries, impressive cathedral refurbished by both Gaudi and Barcelo in its time and several well preserved Art Nouveau façades dotted throughout.

Luckily, Zafiro Palace Palmanova is perfectly placed for those who wish to explore further. And I certainly did; with our tastebuds well and truly set alight by a wander around the market, we headed to La Rosa Vermuteria & Colmado to sample ALL the local specialities over a leisurely lunch – made all the more appealing thanks to the convivial atmosphere and industrial-vintage décor. We may have slightly over-indulged (I'm assured that's the Mallorcan way or, at least, that's my excuse), which made the prospect of a post-prandial stroll through the cobbled streets to Es Baluard Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art all the more appealing but not before ducking in to the Caixa Forum to check out works by local artist H. Anglada Camarasa. While it's no surprise that the stunning Mallorcan light has lured many an artist to its shores, this small island certainly boasts more than its fair share of notable painter alumni – Miro among them. Es Baluard's permanent collection boasts works by him as well as Picasso, Sorolla and Barcelo not to mention sweeping views over the city, marina and sea beyond.

And if that's all a little erudite, rest assured that I also spotted former Love Island contestant Georgia at the airport as we waited to board our evening flight. After all, it's all about balance, right?

MY HIGHLIGHTS

❤ **A private boat charter**
llautsanfrancisco.com
If there's a more charming boat in existence than Llaut San Francisco then I'll eat my (sobrassada-covered) hat. Setting sail from Alcúdia port, we cruised along the coastline parallel to Cala Poncet to the Isla de Alcanada where we dropped anchor in full view of the island's lighthouse. Despite the somewhat 'fresh' temperature of the sea in May, I couldn't resist jumping into those turquoise waters for a leisurely snorkel before a feast of homemade and local specialties including local wines, tumbet (a tumble of cooked Mediterranean vegetables) and ensaimada (a sweet pastry dish), laid on by our charming captain Miguel.

❤ **Open-air yoga at Zen, Body & Mind**
zafirohotels.com
Zafiro Palace Hotel Alcudia offers a wide range of wellness programmes through its Zen, Body & Mind space, not to mention the full gamut of spa facilities, but being led through a series of poses from the basic to advanced (I very nearly did a headstand) on the rooftop terrace has to be up there with one of the best ways to start the day.

❤ **Wine tasting at Bodega Ribas**
bodegaribas.com
This family winery dates back some 300 years, making it the third oldest winery in Spain. Tastings take place inside the 18th-century family house, which is a sight to behold in itself thanks to the traditional tiled kitchen and idyllic terrace. The bodega's wines, made from native Mantonegro and Prensal grapes, are truly local, and excellent, especially when paired with regional cured meats and cheese.

Georgina Cassels was hosted by Zafiro Hotels and stayed in Zafiro Palace Hotel Alcúdia and Zafiro Palace Hotel Palmanova. For more information, visit zafirohotels.com

SETTING *sail*

Francesca Hayden at ROL Cruise highlights her top seven honeymoon cruises for newlyweds seeking a fuss-free way to travel

Your first few days as newlyweds are some of the most magical of your life, so why not begin your journey as a married couple on a blissful honeymoon cruise? From breathtaking destinations and unsurpassed service, to exquisite accommodations and tranquil spa treatments; a cruise provides the perfect balance of relaxation and romance.

1

THE STUNNING SOUTH PACIFIC

It's hard to know whether Oceania Cruises' luxurious Regatta or the picture-perfect islands of the South Pacific are the highlight of this cruise, but you and your new spouse will have a glorious 21 nights to decide.

The South Pacific is the quintessential honeymoon destination and, as you step ashore, you'll soon see why. Vast mountains, white sandy beaches, turquoise oceans and glittering coral reefs will make you feel as if you are in paradise.

Back on board, suites boasting resplendent décor give way to spacious balconies; the 'finest cuisine at sea', created by world renowned master chef Jacques Pépin is readily available; a 24-hour butler service will cater for your every whim and you can enjoy an unrivalled array of spa treatments. What else could you possibly need for the honeymoon of a lifetime?

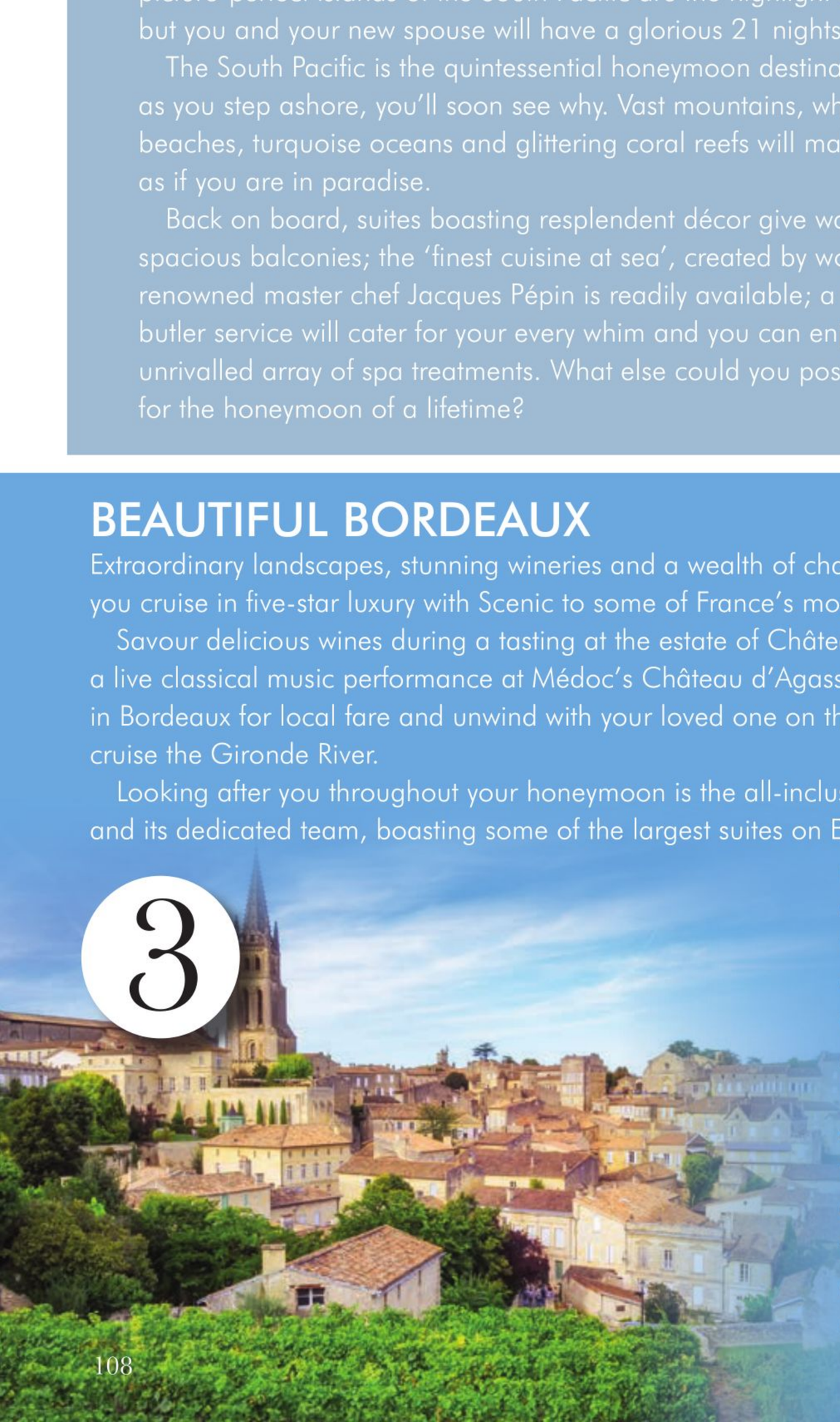
2

BEAUTIFUL BORDEAUX

Extraordinary landscapes, stunning wineries and a wealth of charming towns await as you cruise in five-star luxury with Scenic to some of France's most romantic destinations.

Savour delicious wines during a tasting at the estate of Château de La Rivière; enjoy a live classical music performance at Médoc's Château d'Agassac; 'shop with a chef' in Bordeaux for local fare and unwind with your loved one on the sun deck as you cruise the Gironde River.

Looking after you throughout your honeymoon is the all-inclusive five-star Scenic and its dedicated team, boasting some of the largest suites on Europe's waterways, a private butler service, diverse and delicious food experiences, exquisitely appointed wellness areas and exemplary levels of luxury. You and your spouse will be forgiven for thinking that you are honeymooning in the plush comfort of one of the world's most elegant hotels.



3

BREATHTAKING CANADA

Not all newlyweds seek sun, sea and sand on their honeymoon; for some, the more active the holiday, the better. Within the unique world of rail travel, Rocky Mountaineer is the key to unlocking the hidden world of the spectacular Canadian Rockies.

The 'Journey Through the Clouds' route will take you and your partner from Jasper to Vancouver in world-renowned GoldLeaf Service, which boasts panoramic views from the bi-level glass-dome coach. Your journey will also include award-winning service, five-star cuisine and stays at some of the world's most luxurious hotels.

This incredible rail journey is paired with a cruise on board Cunard's iconic Queen Elizabeth, so that you can follow your nuptials with traditional luxury and enjoy endless entertainment, opulent accommodation and an array of delectable dining choices.

WILDLIFE WATCHING IN THE GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS

Your honeymoon is the perfect opportunity to embark on a once-in-a-lifetime journey, so why not do it with Celebrity Cruises? Its new ship, Celebrity Flora, was designed with state-of-the-art technology and is one of the most eco-friendly ships sailing today.

The location of the remote Galápagos Islands offers wildlife and landscapes found nowhere else on Earth. Explore the islands and witness marine iguanas, Galápagos tortoises, sea turtles and the iconic blue-footed boobies as well as beautiful, diverse terrain and plants that inspired Charles Darwin with his theory of evolution.

Returning to the ship after a day spent ashore, you can enjoy all-suite accommodation, including the cutting-edge Sky Suites with infinite verandas, as well as the first ever glamping experience at sea; an open-air star gazing platform – ideal for any starry-eyed couple.

4

ENCHANTMENT IN EASTERN EUROPE

For a honeymoon not too far from home, this magical 10-night river cruise is ideal for any newly-married couple.

Award-winning Emerald Waterways will take you to the heart of many European destinations where a variety of included excursions enhance your cruise experience. This can include anything from joining a locally guided tour of Budapest; visiting a traditional family home in Osijek; enjoying tastings at a local vineyard in Vidin; or hiking to the Rock-Hewn Churches of Ivanovo.

Emerald's Star-Ships also boast contemporary designs, including the Emerald Owner's one-bedroom suites. Each one has an outdoor private balcony, a separate living room and bedroom, a walk-in wardrobe, a complimentary minibar and an invitation to dine at the Captain's Table. What more could you want from your honeymoon?

6

5

WITNESS THE NORTHERN LIGHTS

This inspiring expedition will turn your honeymoon from a holiday into an experience you'll remember for the rest of your lives.

As exploration experts, it is Hurtigruten's vast knowledge that will enhance your expedition as you enjoy stunning Scandinavian design; the Science Centre, which is packed with innovative technology, high-tech gadgets and a hand-picked expedition team, who will lead the way on hiking and walking tours, outings to local performances and onshore events.

The Northern Lights themselves are a breathtaking natural phenomenon that newlyweds can witness multiple times from the top deck or ashore in a number of authentic Norwegian destinations. This voyage ensures that you get front row seats to the most extraordinary light show on Earth.

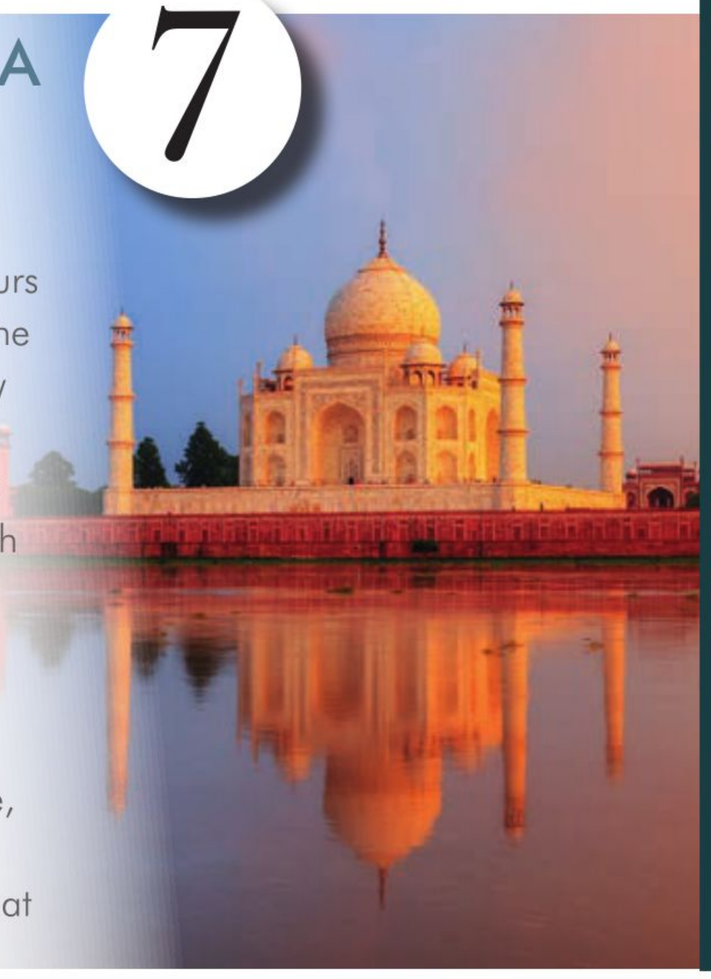
DISCOVER AUTHENTIC INDIA

7

The chance to honeymoon in the lap of luxury is yours with this exquisite tour and cruise of India's iconic Golden Triangle.

Beginning with opulent five-star hotel stays and tours in New Delhi, Agra and Jaipur, you will then cruise the sacred Ganges River on board Uniworld's beautifully appointed Ganges Voyager II.

Drawing design and décor inspiration from India's colourful palette, your suite has French balconies with floor-to-ceiling glass doors, cosy seating areas and spacious bathrooms with rain showers. If you can bear to leave your stunning suite, elsewhere you will find enticing public areas and luxurious amenities, including a lounge with full-service bar, fitness centre, restaurant, the Voyager Spa and a sun deck where you can relax and take in the ever-changing views that India has to offer.



For more information on ROL Cruise, including details of any of the itineraries above, visit rolcruise.co.uk or call 0800 251 1005.

SWISS MARVEL

Claire Muffett-Reece discovers why Switzerland is the perfect summer honeymoon destination

When I was offered the chance to visit Switzerland in July I'll admit it wasn't a season I'd initially choose as my preference. The Alps are typically known for their ski season, and it was hard to envisage a trip that didn't involve an abundance of snow. How very wrong I was about to become...

My destination for three nights was none other than Suvretta House, a five-star hotel in the heart of St Moritz that's welcomed the Kennedys, Eva Peron and the Emperor of Japan through its doors. Built in 1912, this Art Deco wonder is nestled in the Alpine landscape of the Upper Engadine, on the Chasellas plateau in Suvretta. With Suvretta itself being 1,850 metres above sea level, your honeymoon starts the very minute you touch down at Zurich airport, as the scenery you'll encounter on the three-hour train journey to St Moritz is some of the most romantic you'll ever see. I'd taken my laptop with the idea of working on the journey, yet constantly found myself rushing from one side of the train carriage to the other, snapping glacier blue rivers and snow-capped mountains as we climbed higher and higher to our destination.

Upon arrival at the train station we were greeted by the hotel's vintage green bus, which took us straight to Suvretta House for a delicious afternoon tea. Suitably stuffed after far too many sandwiches and scones, I was given a key (a proper key, none of the problems of your key card locking you out of your room!) to my Junior Deluxe Suite, a huge room complete with walk-in wardrobe, large bathroom with separate shower and panoramic view of the mountains and lakes of the Engadin. I could happily have spent my time lounging around in this magnificent space, but after a quick change it was down to dinner in one of the hotel's off-site mountain restaurants, Chasellas.

COME DINE WITH ME

From our very first dinner at Suvretta House it became clear that the hotel takes feeding its guests seriously. Chasellas, situated 1,936 metres above sea level, offers 45 indoor seats and an inviting sun terrace directly situated at the entrance to the ski and hiking area. Expect typical Austrian fare to fuel you, from Bavarian sausage, fried chicken 'Viennese style' with potato salad, and Swiss fillet of beef with prawns. Suvretta House also has another off-site restaurant, Trutz, which is even higher up the mountain for those seeking a more active honeymoon experience! A mere 2,211 metres above sea level, it's reached by around a 90-minute hike (or cable car if you fancy a less energetic approach). Ask to sit outside and enjoy the stunning views, taking advantage of the blankets that are offered – even throughout the summer months. Here I enjoyed an ice-cold Viva Tavola beer while getting stuck into a variety of dishes, from air-dried meats and Wienerschnitzel, to polenta with gorgonzola and a delicious barley soup.

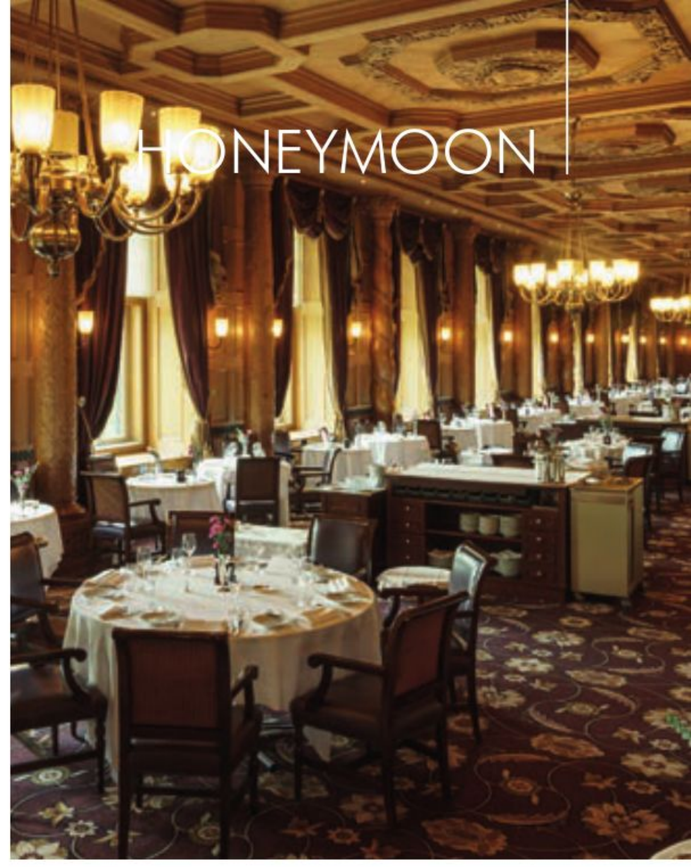
For me, however, the best meal of the entire trip was at Suvretta's Grand Restaurant, a breath taking room with incredible panelling, carved solid oak columns and elaborately decorated cassette ceiling. There I enjoyed a warm lobster salad with Amalfi lemon and green asparagus, followed by a saddle of summer venison. Completing the meal with cheese and biscuits, I was glad to take full advantage of Suvretta's outdoor summer activities to help burn off those extra calories!

LET'S GET PHYSICAL

Looking through my itinerary, I was pleasantly surprised to see many activities available for those visiting Suvretta House in the summer season. Swapping ski boots for hiking shoes was my first port of call, with a hike up the mountains with our experienced guide, Heinz. Making sure to turn on my Strava app before we set off, I was impressed to discover our party had hiked just over 6km, with a calorie-burning 385-metre elevation, in just shy of two hours. That's not bad considering we weren't yet accustomed to being that high above sea level!

The following day it was time for a bike ride – and I've never been more thankful to be given one of the electric variety! Foolishly thinking it would be a leisurely jaunt around a flat-level lake, we were soon heading off-road and up into the mountains! Before I knew it we'd clocked up a bottom-burning 25km – and another elevation of 388 metres!

Throughout my stay at Suvretta House I also took part in a tennis lesson – I'll never be a Serena or Venus, mind you – and enjoyed the hotel's incredible spa facilities, with a refreshing swim followed by a full body massage. However, one activity I'll never forget is sailing on St Moritz Lake, with an experienced sailing instructor from Suvretta Sports. Sitting there, enjoying some of the freshest mountain air and cleanest waters in the world, I saw why you should one hundred per cent choose the mountains of Switzerland – and Suvretta House – as your perfect honeymoon destination.



BOOK IT

Summer rates at Suvretta House start from 410 CHF (approximately £347) in a Double Room Standard Mountain, per night, on a half board basis. Book your honeymoon at Suvretta House by visiting suvrettahouse.ch

WIN!

A LUXURIOUS THREE-NIGHT HONEYMOON TO TUSCANY

Enter now for your chance to win a once-in-a-lifetime trip to the incredible Fonteverde resort in Italy

WORTH £1,500

County Wedding Magazines has partnered with the stunning resort of Fonteverde to offer one lucky reader the chance of winning a three-night stay on a half-board basis to the luxurious hotel, plus spa treatments.

Fonteverde Tuscany is located in the stunning Medici Palace of San Casciano dei Bagni, the historic former property of Ferdinando de' Medici. The Renaissance Palace is renowned for its position set upon a natural thermal spring, overlooking the hills of the Val d'Orcia Valle, cypress groves and small churches.

Hotel of the 'Worldwide Health & Wellness Destination of the Year' is credit to its natural thermal spa and large spring water pools from which to soak up the panoramic views of the hills beyond. Honeymooners can enjoy a range of indulgent beauty and massage treatments, from nourishing clay facial masks to invigorating thermal massages, and choose to participate in the brand's award-winning Equilibrium programme, designed to reduce internal inflammation and rebalance the body and immune system – the perfect antidote to post-wedding indulgence!

Fonteverde's rooms and suites pay tribute to the Italian Renaissance, showcasing exquisite art and stunning décor.

Find out more at fonteverdespa.com

THE PRIZE

- ❤ Three-night stay
- ❤ Half-board basis
- ❤ One spa treatment per person

HOW TO ENTER

For your chance to win, simply answer the following question:

In which region in Italy is Fonteverde located?

Enter online at yourgloswilts.wedding

The closing date is 3rd April, 2020. Terms and conditions apply. See website for details.

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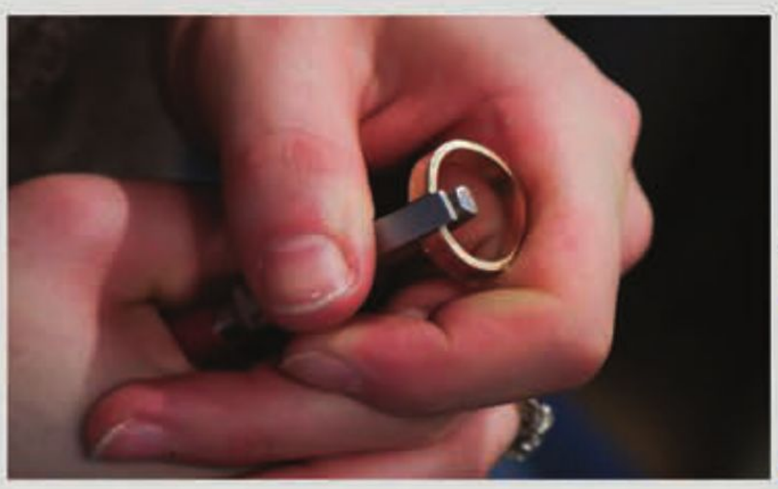
WORKSHOPS FOR TRADITIONAL, FITTED AND ALTERNATIVE RINGS IN ANY PRECIOUS METAL



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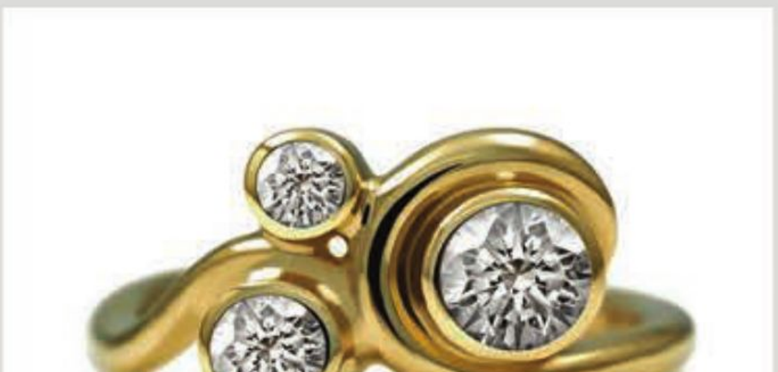

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APRIL/MAY 2020

ON SALE: 27th March 2020

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Big-day flora and fauna ideas

FUN AND FRIVOLOUS

Fab bridal fashion

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Elegant wedding dress styles

DID YOU KNOW?

Your Glos & Wilts Wedding is just one of our many County Wedding titles – find out more on our website yourgloswilts.wedding

We love featuring local brides and companies. If you want to get in touch email editor@county.wedding for your chance to grace the pages of next issue

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CLEVERCHEFS.

ELEGANT CATERING & EVENT MANAGEMENT

Make Your Wedding Food Magical

The food and drink is such a big part of your wedding day because it gives you the platform to express your innovative andcreative personality to your guests. Thats why couples are choosing to work with exciting outside catering companies like us to bring that magic and excitement to their big day.

At cleverchefs we pride ourselves on working with our clients to create their dream or by letting our wedding inspiration team guide them on that journey. We are a fresh, vibrant catering company who have been recognised by winning over eight wedding industry awards for our excellence in just 3 years. We work with some of the countries top wedding venues, but we can also provide everything from the marquee, Gin and Cocktail bars, evening street food and event management.

TESTIMONIALS

"Cleverchefs produced outstanding food & service on our wedding day, we were made to feel at ease right from the first meeting all the way to the big day. They said they would make it special but 'WOW' they really excelled & made our day perfect, you would be crazy to use another caterer."
- Luke & Ellie, Bristol

"As soon as we met the team we knew they were the caterer for us. Our guests are still commenting on how exceptional the food was and it was so important for us that we got that right, I would recommend cleverchefs to anyone, they are second to none. Thank you all again."- Alice & Tom, London

Multi-award winners

- **Winner of the Wedding Caterer of the Year**
  Welsh Wedding Awards 2019
- **Regional Finalist Wedding Caterer of the Year**
  The Wedding Industry Awards 2019
- **Food, Drink & Hospitality Winner**
  Business Growth Awards 2019
- **Entrepreneur of the Year**
  Business Growth Awards 2019
- **Winner of Wedding Caterer of the Year South West**
  The Wedding Industry Awards 2018
- **National Finalist Wedding Caterer of the Year**
  The Wedding Industry Awards 2018
- **Winner of Caterer of the Year**
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Get in touch feedme@cleverchefs.co.uk 0345 521 0123 cleverchefs.co.uk

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