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Malton, North Yorkshire

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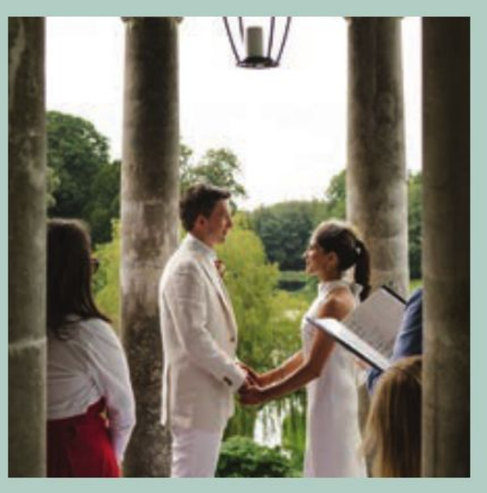

"The family feel you bring creates a unique atmosphere and during our wedding, instead of it feeling like a corporate set-up wedding venue, it felt like getting married in a family home. You went above and beyond, making us feel at ease and welcomed."

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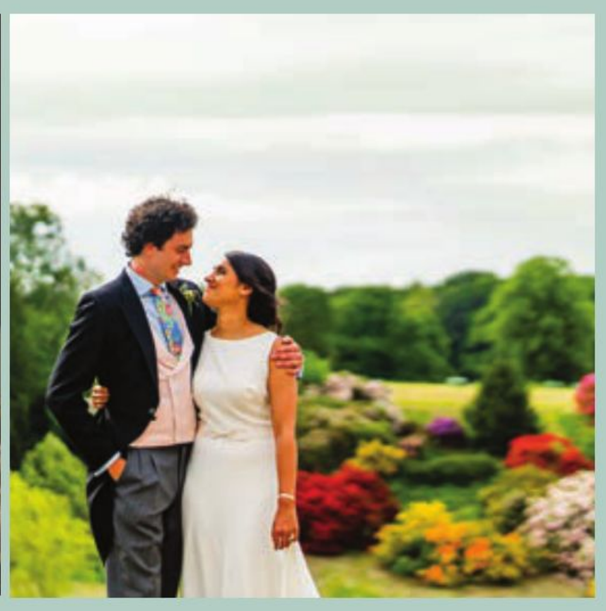

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ISSN 2052-0522

kd EVENTS & PUBLISHING
cwe COUNTY WEDDING EVENTS

Welcome...

If you're joining us for the first time following a Valentine's proposal *squeals*, then get ready to meet the best suppliers our county has to offer. You're probably feeling slightly overwhelmed by the sheer amount of choice you have, but don't worry, we've been showcasing the best of the Yorkshire wedding industry for more than seven years – so you've come to the right place!

I'm super-nosey so I particularly love our real wedding features (starting on page 30), and our lovely fashion editor, Claire Ridley, always has a treat with her incredible dress picks (page 69). If you've already got your gown, then make sure you check out our jewellery feature (page 59) to find the perfect pieces to complete your look. Longing for some sunshine? We hear you! Head to our travel section (page 94) for some post-vow getaway inspo. Happy reading!

Hannah x

Hannah Faulder, editor

photographybykathryn.com

This is such a pretty bouquet. 45

How stunning is this ceremony room? 63

nataliehamiltonphotography.com

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This cake is to die for.

lumierephotographic.com

See images that portray the raw emotion of weddings. 52

drawnbylightphotography.co.uk

We love this epic shot!

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WOOD HALL

HOTEL & SPA

WETHERBY, WEST YORKSHIRE

Offering commanding views over acres of West Yorkshire countryside, Wood Hall provides the most stunning of settings for weddings and celebrations in the run up to the big day and beyond. With elegant function rooms, beautiful grounds and sunny terraces for your outdoor ceremony, choose Wood Hall and create memories for you and your guests that will last a lifetime.

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LET THE PARTY BE-GIN

After taking beer lovers for tours across the region, it's now time for gin lovers to get in on the action with Brewtown Tours' new offering. Perfect for pre-wedding celebrations, you'll visit three independent gin distilleries each with its own approach and its own signature flavours – including the Yorkshire favourite: rhubarb gin. During your gin journey you can taste samples, buy bottles and get up close to the action. What's more, transport from York station is included in Ginnifer the gin bus! Why not add an elegant gin afternoon tea at York's renowned Grays Court Hotel to round off a wonderful day? Visit brewtowntours.co.uk

nataliehamiltonphotography.com

Nearlywed NEWS

All the latest from around the region

Happy anniversary!

The remarkable Birdsall House is celebrating its two-year anniversary as an exclusive wedding venue in April. It's been a whirlwind two years, with the venue being nominated for Best New Venue in the UK Wedding Awards 2019, receiving acclaim from national newspapers for its renovation and being used as a location for an upcoming Netflix film. As well as this, it has of course been host to plenty of beautiful weddings.

Sitting in its own private valley on the edge of the Wolds, the house has been in the Willoughby family since it was built in 1540. The family decided to share this incredible building with the public to ensure the longevity of such a spectacular setting. Lady Cara Willoughby says, "To be involved in a couple's memorable wedding day is something myself and the team will never tire of."

To find out more, head to birdsallestates.co.uk

R&R IN THE HEART OF HARROGATE

Editor Hannah Faulder checks out DoubleTree by Hilton Harrogate Majestic Hotel and its fabulous new spa development

With a word like majestic in its name, this venue has to have the wow factor, and it truly delivers. Nestled in pretty landscaped gardens and taking a prominent position overlooking the spa town, it's no wonder the four-star hotel is affectionately known as the jewel in Harrogate's crown.

The imposing brick façade houses stunning interiors brimming with Victorian features. As my sister and I sit down for a three-course dinner we marvel at the incredible dining room. Huge windows, impressive floral arrangements, and my favourite feature: the decadent, shining champagne bar. It feels as though you're sat in a film set for a period drama, but thanks to a £15m renovation it has a thoroughly modern edge. We also got to take a peak at the glorious Carriage Suite, with light streaming through the huge windows and grand pillars accenting the space, it's the perfect spot for wedding celebrations with up to 500 guests.

I'm an avid spa-goer, so the thing I was most excited about was visiting the incredible new Harrogate Spa. Part of the hotel's major renovation project, and joined to the main building, it is a haven of calm and befitting of the town's spa heritage. Inside, it's clear it has been designed and built with expertise. "It's been a pleasure and a dream of mine to be heavily involved in the creation of The Harrogate Spa," says spa director Lynn Roach. "The entire team have put their heart and soul into it, and I feel that guests will sense that."

The changing rooms have all the facilities you could need, and stepping into the main pool area it has a wonderfully serene

feel in warm yellow stone with twinkling ceilings to create a cosy atmosphere. There's also a Jacuzzi, salt wall sauna and steam room. It wasn't long before I was totally chilled out on a lounger, only to be stirred by my therapist coming to collect me for my hot stone massage. The spa uses ESPA products, and I was able to smell the different oils available and choose the one that I was most drawn to. Then, I soaked up the relaxing scent coupled with the most incredible full-body massage. I was once told that it's a compliment to your therapist if you fall asleep during a massage, and I hope that's true because she did have to wake me up at the end – bliss!

Find out more at theharrogatespa.com and doubletree3.hilton.com

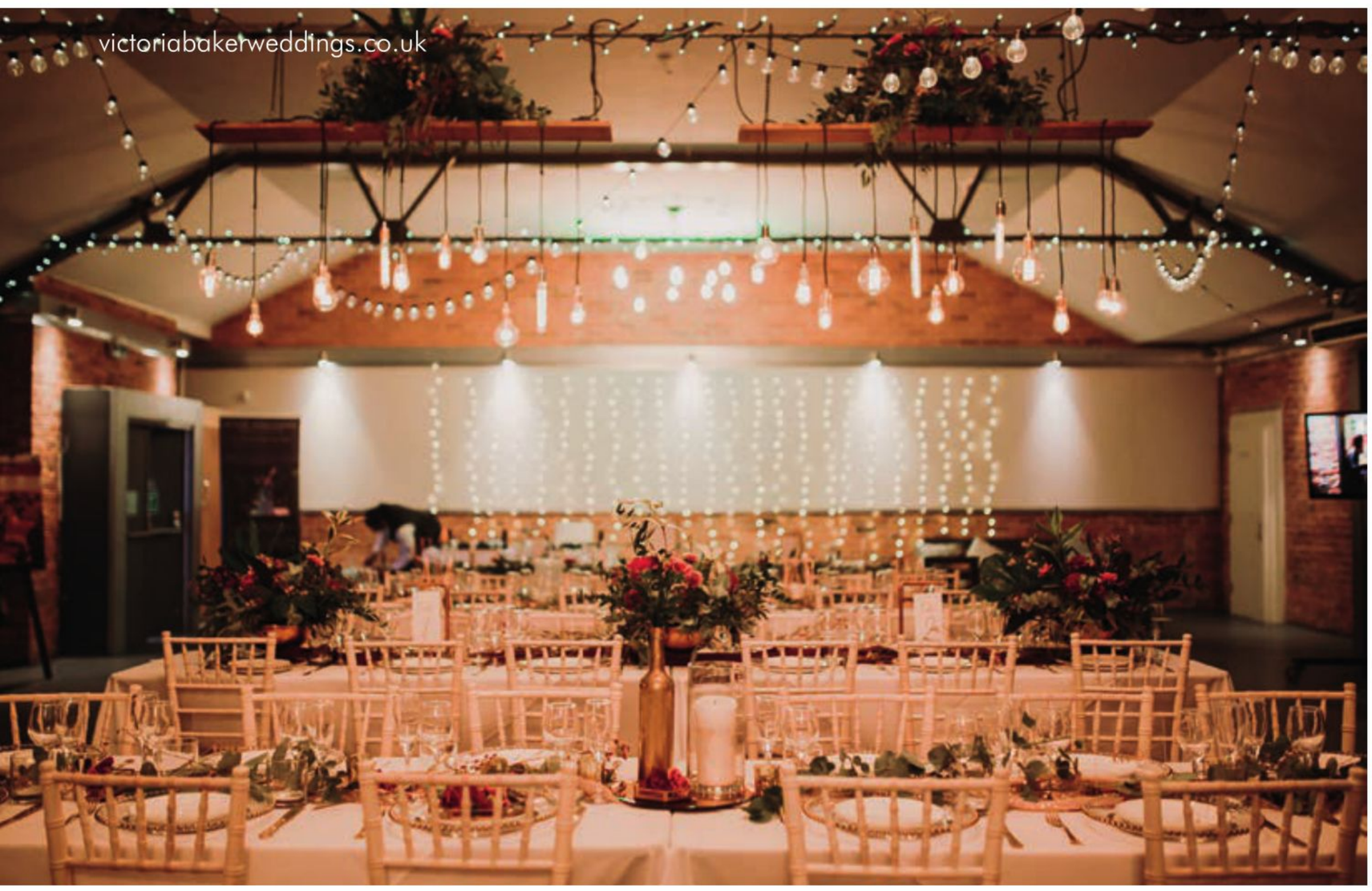
If you go down to the woods today

Camp Katur has announced the launch of its spectacular Woodland Dome, the ideal spot for intimate nuptials immersed in nature. The first of its kind in the UK, it offers panoramic views and the feeling of being outside, no matter what the weather. The Woodland Dome is suitable for 80 seated guests and is accessed by a magical festoon-lit pathway. It includes tables, chairs, lighting, swing hammocks and an outdoor campfire. There's a glamping village on site along with 10 acres of meadow for guests to pitch their own tents. For legal ceremonies, there's also the Woodland Wedding Chapel.

Make sure you add the venue's wedding fair on Sunday 19th April to your diary so you can take a peak. Head to campkatur.com for more information.

HOME FROM HOME

The stunning Greenbank Barns has just received its wedding licence so nearlyweds can now hold an intimate ceremony in the grounds and make a weekend of it in its incredible on-site accommodation. You can host 28 guests across The Farmhouse and two adjoining barns, Dexter and Shorthorn. Sitting outside the pretty village of Ravensworth, there's nothing but green rolling hills on its doorstep and a wonderfully secluded location to host your nearest and dearest. Visit holidayathome.co.uk



Modern love

If you're looking for a Leeds venue, then make sure you visit New Craven Hall's wedding showcase from 11am to 2pm on Sunday 31st May. Situated in a developing industrial area south of the city centre, its aesthetics embrace the surroundings while housing a wonderfully modern space for the contemporary couple. Exposed brick walls and metal beams combine with warm lighting and soft furnishings for the perfect atmosphere. The venue offers a completely bespoke service, allowing you to have total control over your day. To find out more, head to newcravenhall.co.uk

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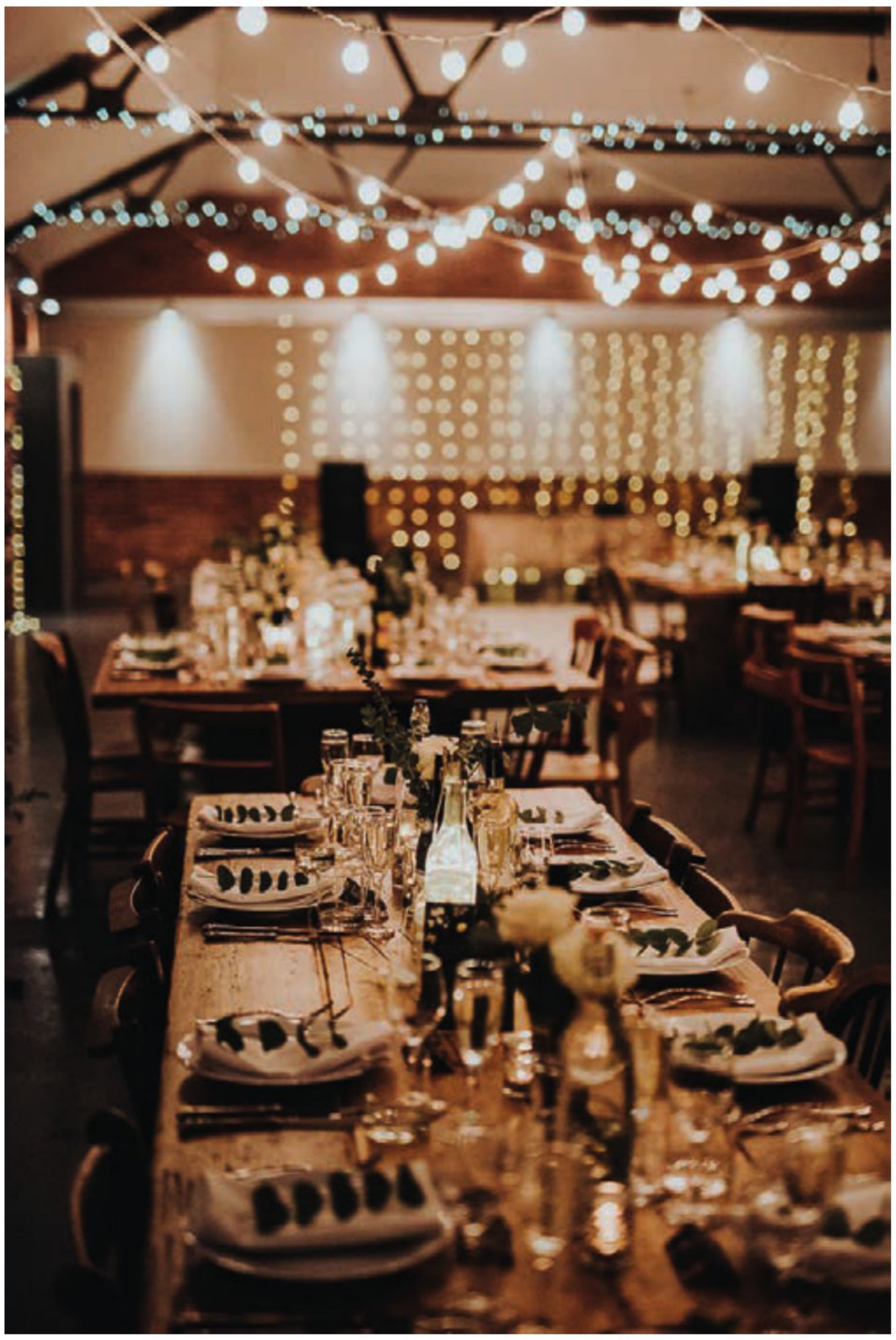
Meet the big names and rising stars of the county's craft distilling scene on our never-before-available Yorkshire distillery tours. Lasting for around a day, our tours are all inclusive so once you join us you won't have to worry about a thing along the way. So if you're interested in connecting with Yorkshire's craft gin community, hop aboard the Brewtown ginibus and join us for a tour.

Book now & grab a seat on the next bus!

brewtowntours.co.uk
01904 636666 | hello@brewtowntours.co.uk



NCH
NEW CRAVEN HALL

When it comes to weddings at New Craven Hall, we offer a completely bespoke service. Couples can create their very own wedding package, allowing complete control over your special day, all with the help of our inclusive wedding coordination service.

Whether you would like to do everything in one place or come to us once you have said 'I do', we offer a flexible service that can fit around your timings and requirements. Because we know that all couples have their own quirks, stories and styles, we work on a personal basis to ensure your day reflects just that – you.

We are licensed to hold civil ceremonies, transforming the Main Hall into a cosy and romantic setting for your guests to share the most important moment of your day.

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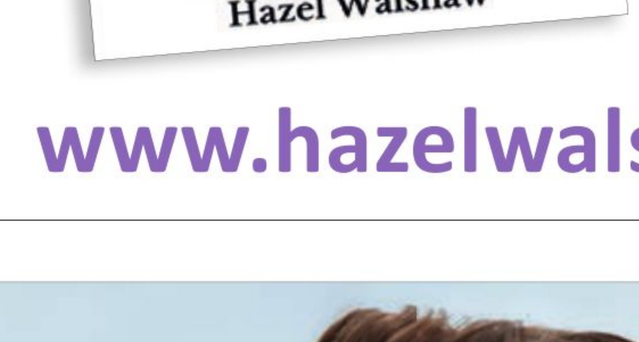

"This book has everything you need to plan the perfect wedding!"

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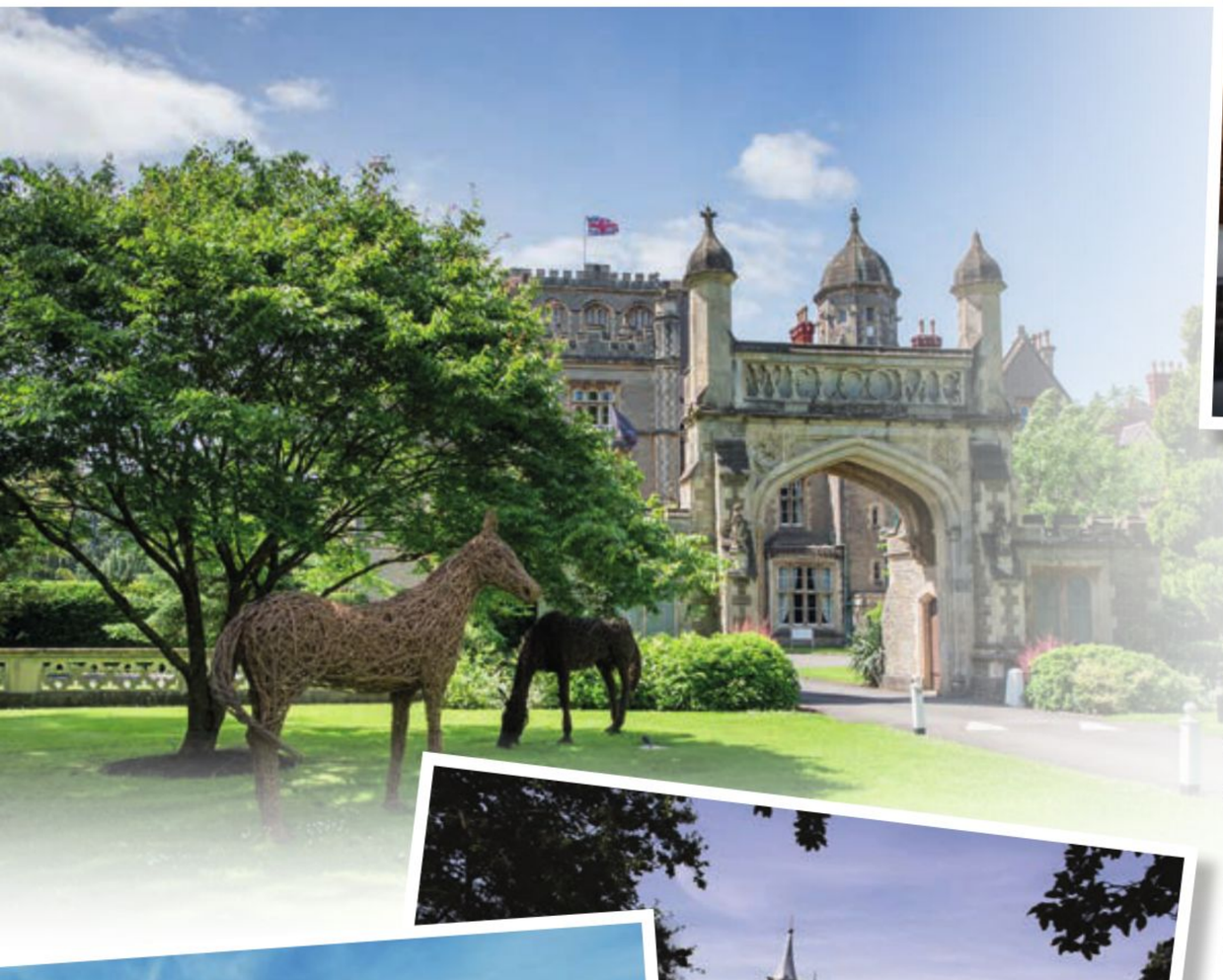
Our lucky readers will receive a free cheese gift box for two people with any new wedding booking. Simply quote code 'gift34' when ordering.
To find out more, head to celebrationcheeses.com

Freebies & OFFERS

Take advantage of these gorgeous giveaways and fab offers



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De Vere Hotels is a group of exquisite properties throughout the UK offering an unforgettable experience for even the most discerning of traveller.

From the finest London venues like the lavish De Vere Grand Connaught Rooms, to historic 18th-century mansion houses such as De Vere Beaumont Estate, just south of Windsor, there's ample choices no matter your preference; be it a pre-wedding break with your loved one, or a group get-together to celebrate your nuptials, there's a host of properties with facilities such as spas and golf courses to enjoy a relaxing stay.

County Wedding Magazines has teamed up with De Vere Hotels to offer our chosen winner an overnight stay with breakfast at any De Vere hotel in the UK. What's more, for those unlucky in winning this lovely prize, our CWM readers can save 10% when you book direct with De Vere by joining its loyalty scheme, Applause, devere.co.uk/applause/

For your chance to win, enter via our websites. Terms and conditions apply.

PLANNED TO PERFECTION

Having been a wedding planner and on-the-day coordinator in Yorkshire for more than 10 years, there's not much that Hazel Walshaw doesn't know about weddings. Luckily for engaged couples everywhere, she has put all of her expertise into a book. "My book is called Planning a Wedding the Wedding Planner Way," she tells us. "It puts a decade of experience into one handbag-sized book. You can find advice on the whole planning process, from the initial stages right through to preparing the seating plan, speeches and what to expect on the day. Not only that, but it's brimming with helpful hints from other industry professionals. It's like hiring a wedding planner without the price tag!"

If you're planning your big day yourself and could use a helping hand, then enter our competition on our website to win one of five signed copies of Hazel's book. To find out more, head to hazelwalshaw.co.uk

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Spotlight on...
HULL AND EAST RIDING

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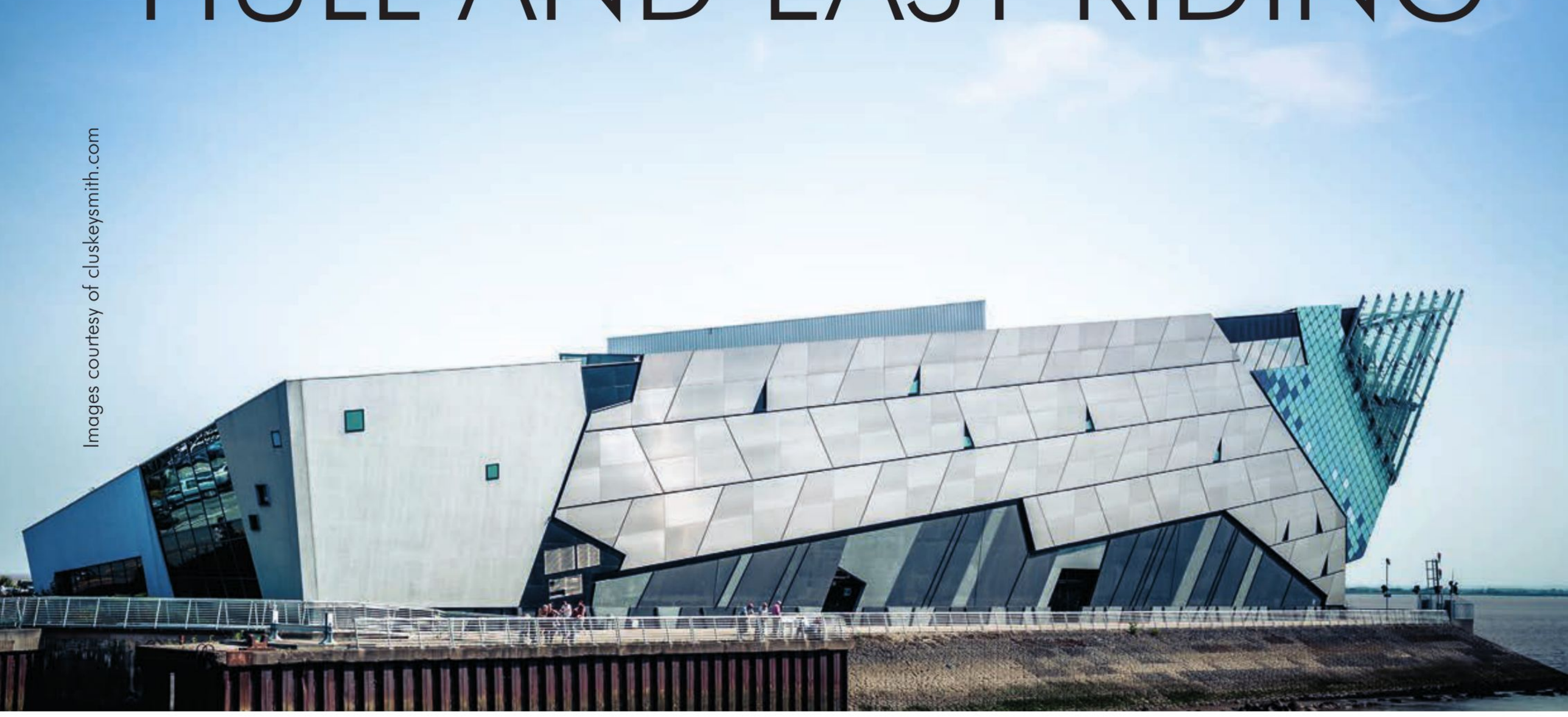


THE DEEP

01482 382 000 | thedeep.co.uk

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT?

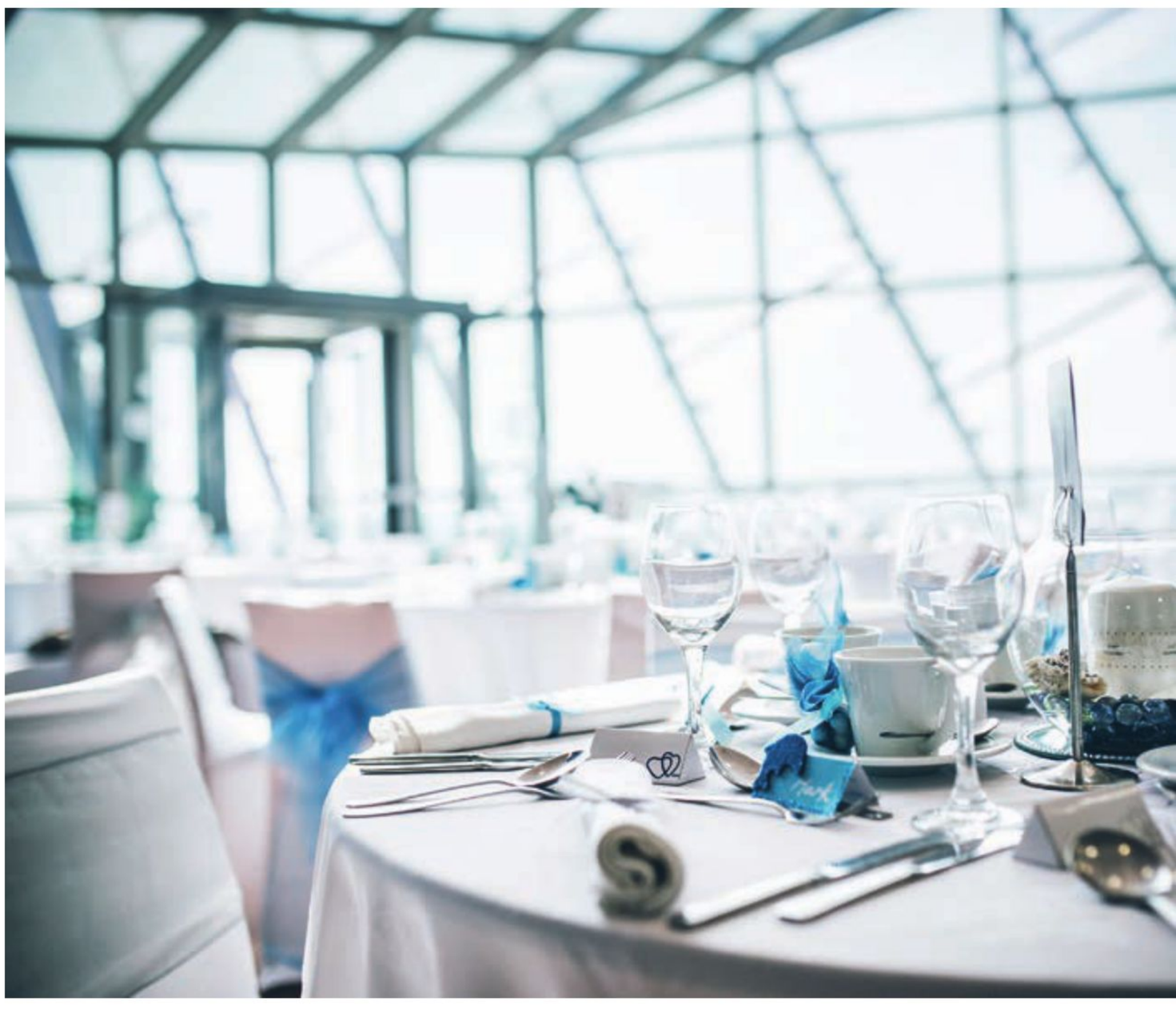
For weddings with a difference look no further than The Deep, Hull's award-winning aquarium. Situated close to the city centre, it's just a short walk from the marina and there's plenty of accommodation nearby. With a number of spaces to choose from, it can accommodate parties of all sizes, from intimate affairs to large gatherings. Couples enjoy exclusive use of the venue after hours.

TIME TO CELEBRATE!

Nuptials can take place alongside majestic sharks and turtles in Endless Oceans, by mesmerising jellyfish in Cool Seas, in front of playful penguins in the Kingdom of Ice or in the stunning Observatory overlooking the city and Humber.

WE LOVE...

The dedicated event team works with each couple to ensure their special day is exactly how they imagined it.



BARFF HOUSE COUNTRY WEDDINGS

07944 944 822 | barffhouse.co.uk

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT?

Taking centre stage within the private grounds of a Georgian farmhouse is this beautiful marquee and traditional oak-beamed barn venue. Surrounded by flowering shrubs, borders and woodland, the area is decorated with fairylights, lanterns, straw bales and a fire pit.

A rustic flower arch marks the entrance to the venue, and inside it boasts rustic beams and atmospheric lighting. The marquee is provided by Village Farm Marquees and comes complete with flooring, lighting, furniture and table linen.

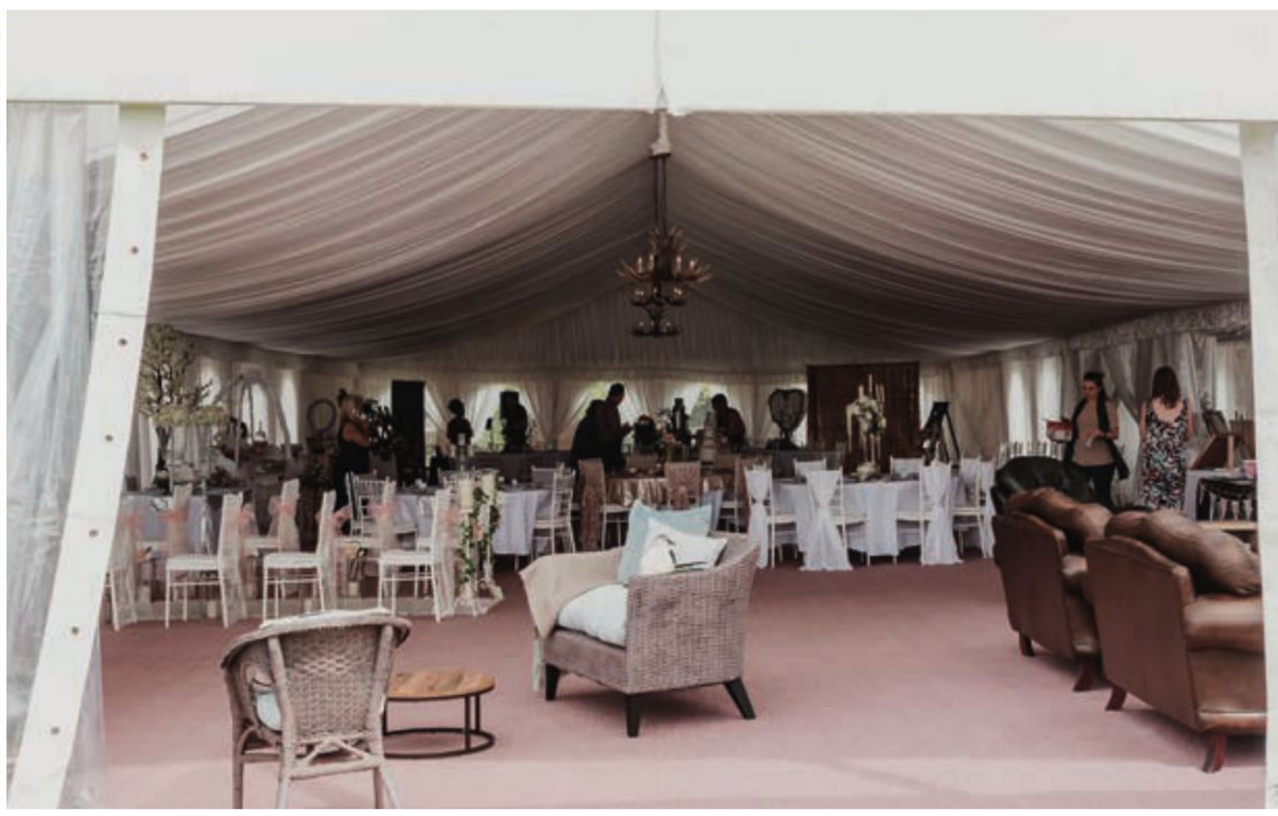
TIME TO CELEBRATE!

Weddings are celebrated with up to 100 loved ones. Ceremonies can be held al fresco, with the signing of the register to take place inside the farmhouse's Ceremony Room. Alternatively, the entire ceremony can take place in the barn.

The venue offers a flexible approach to receptions, allowing guests to choose between the gardens, marquee, house and barn. Welcome drinks are normally held in a picturesque gravelled spot in front of the house.

WE LOVE...

Couples can have a free tasting of local wines provided in the drinks package. After the party, accommodation is offered in the award-winning cottage, the farmhouse and the romantic shepherd's hut.



CHERISHED MEMORIES WEDDING VENUE

01405 785 412 | cherishedweddingvenue.co.uk

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT?

Cherished Memories is an exclusive-use marquee venue found at the dreamy Balne Croft Farm. Tucked away in a secluded setting within 18 acres of open countryside, the incredible vistas take in the River Went in the East Riding of Yorkshire. Couples can make use of the owner's home for photographs with its country-meets-modern styling.

The service here is entirely bespoke and the team prides itself on making dreams a reality. At present, all weddings booked for 2021 include free overnight accommodation for the newlyweds.

TIME TO CELEBRATE!

The venue is currently awaiting its wedding licence, and once received, ceremonies will be held in the Croft Room of the house. The bespoke marquee can seat up to 200 loved ones for a post-vow celebration.

WE LOVE...

The venue has a quirky cocktail lounge for couples to make use of. Converted from an old artic lorry, it's been transformed into a Latino-style bar.

Hull's most unique wedding venue

If you're looking for a fantastic venue for your big day, then look no further than The Deep, Hull's spectacular aquarium.

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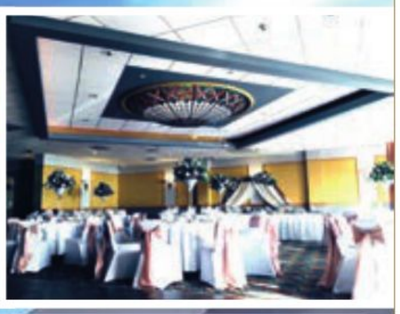
EXPANSE HOTEL



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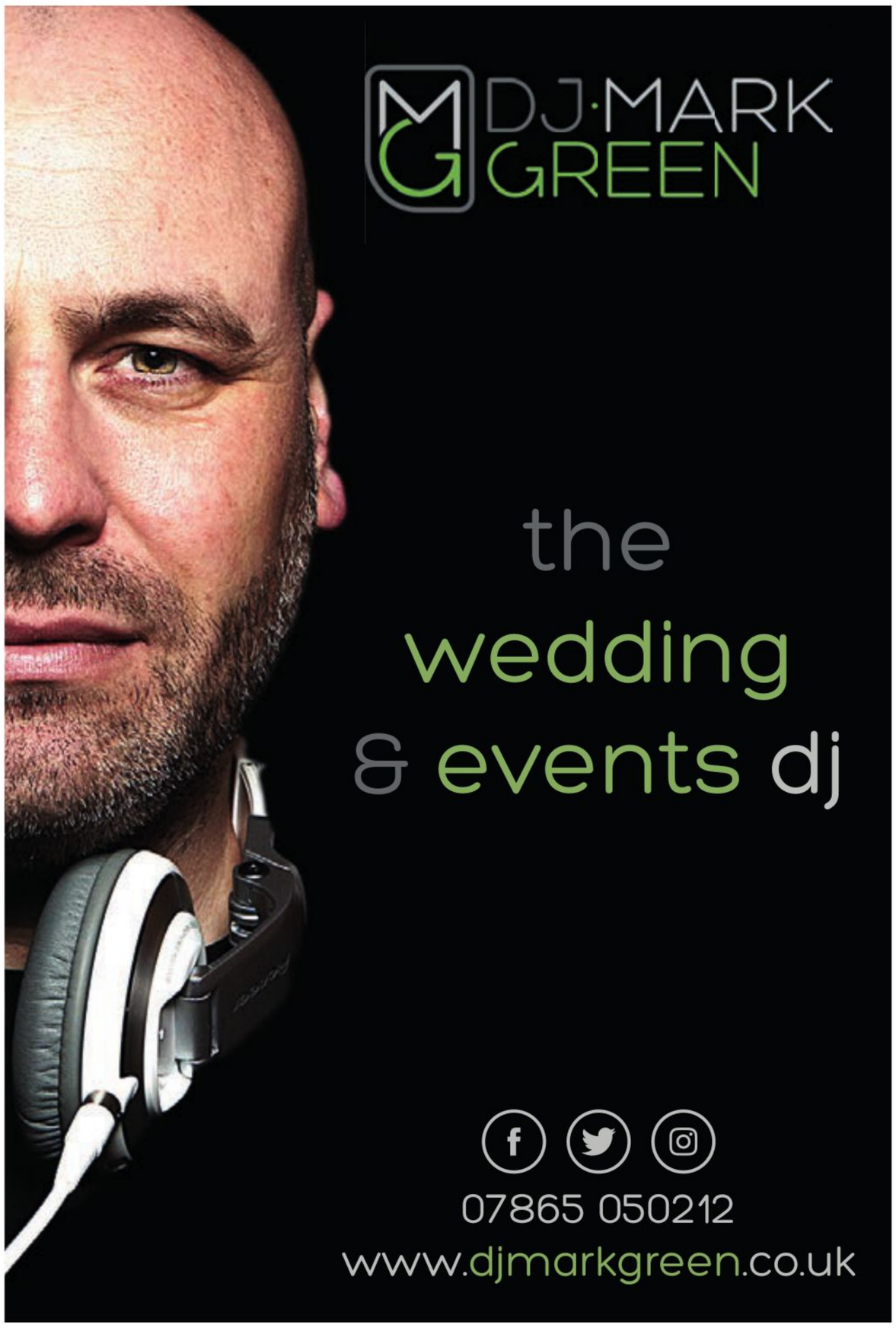

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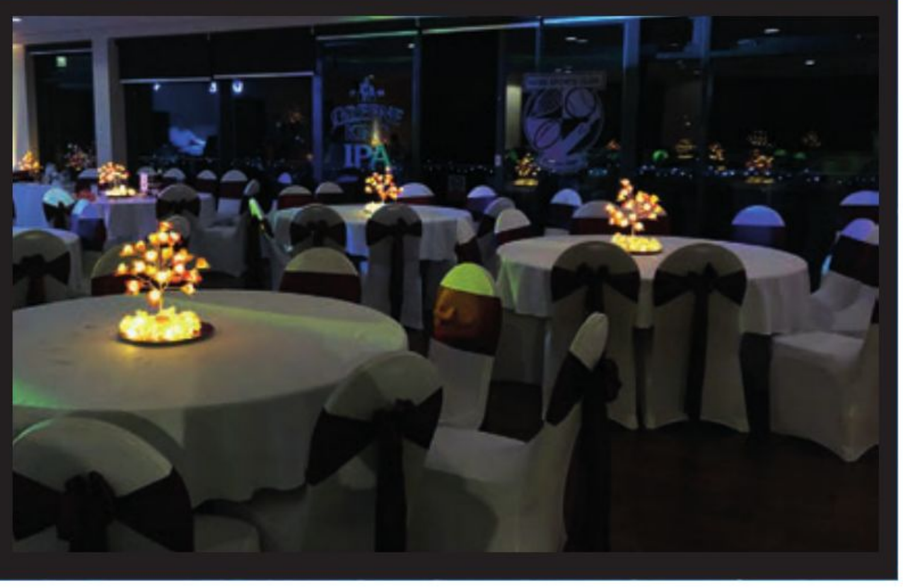

ROYAL HOTEL HULL

01482 598 503 | theelitevenueselection.co.uk

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT?

With its iconic status as one of the city's central landmarks, the Grade II listed Royal Hotel Hull offers splendid Victorian architecture alongside dramatic, luxurious interiors. Licensed to hold ceremonies and with a number of opulent reception spaces, couples can spend their entire wedding at the hotel.

TIME TO CELEBRATE!

There are four spaces for couples to hold their wedding. The Royal Suite (240 guests) is a stunning banqueting suite full of character and period charm. The Edwardian Suite (120 guests) is a traditional space with plenty of natural daylight. The Windsor Suite (130 guests) is beautifully decorated with wood-panelled walls and intricate ceilings, while the intimate Prince of Wales Suite (50 guests) offers the ultimate private-dining experience.

WE LOVE...

Guests can book to stay overnight to make the most of the celebrations.

VILLAGE HOTEL HULL

01482 560 908 | village-hotels.co.uk

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT?

Just a ten-minute drive from the city centre, Village Hotel Hull is a contemporary hotel with an in-house Starbucks, pub and grill and relaxing spa. Outside is a cultivated wedding garden, ideal for intimate couple shots.

Couples will love the team's flexible approach to ensuring the day is tailored to them. Guests are able to make use of the fantastic leisure club with its swimming pool, gym, sauna and Jacuzzi.

TIME TO CELEBRATE!

There are two suites available for celebrations. The Vision Suite (40 guests) is the smaller option for more intimate occasions, while the Inspiration Suite (120 day guests and 200 evening guests) is a large space with panoramic views of the Humber, a private bar and its own lounge area.

Guests will be glad to know the venue has 116 on-site rooms and the happy couple receive a complimentary room with breakfast the next day.

WE LOVE...

Nearlyweds can check in for their last-minute preparations such as facials, waxing, nails and tanning as well as treating themselves to a chilled-out spa experience after the wedding.

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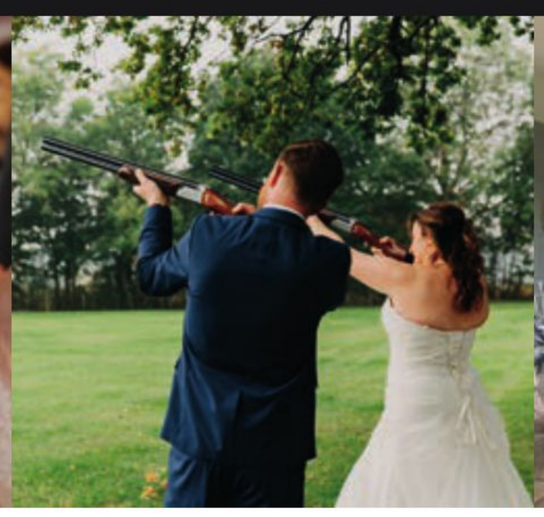
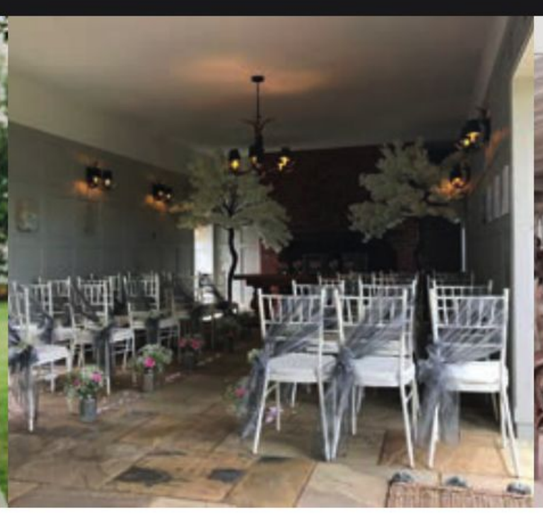
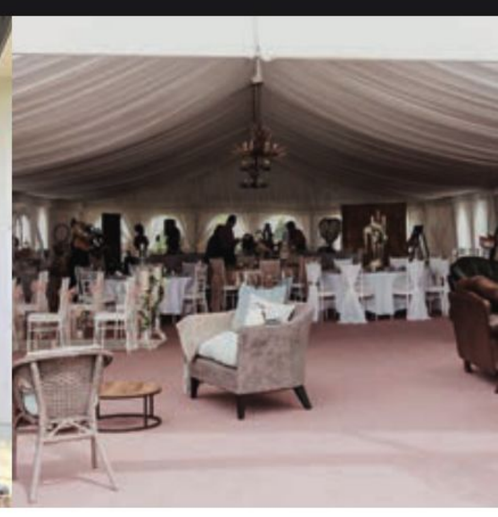

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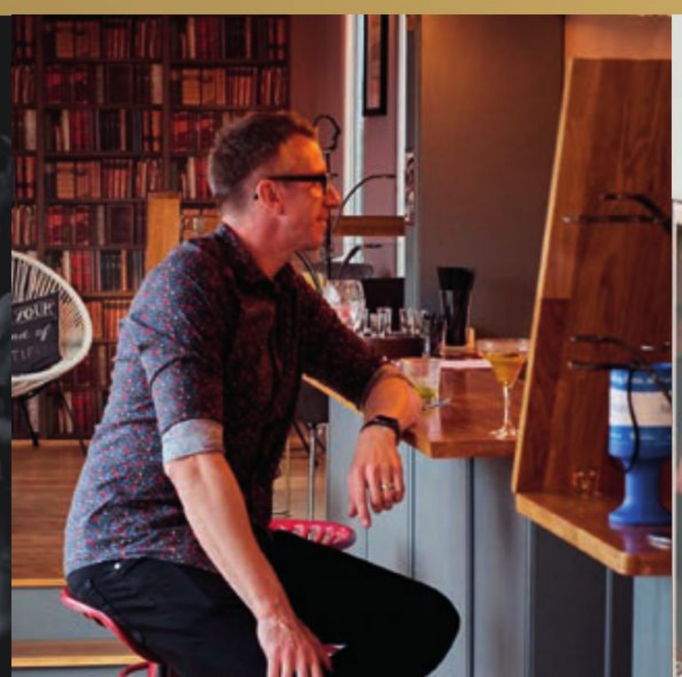

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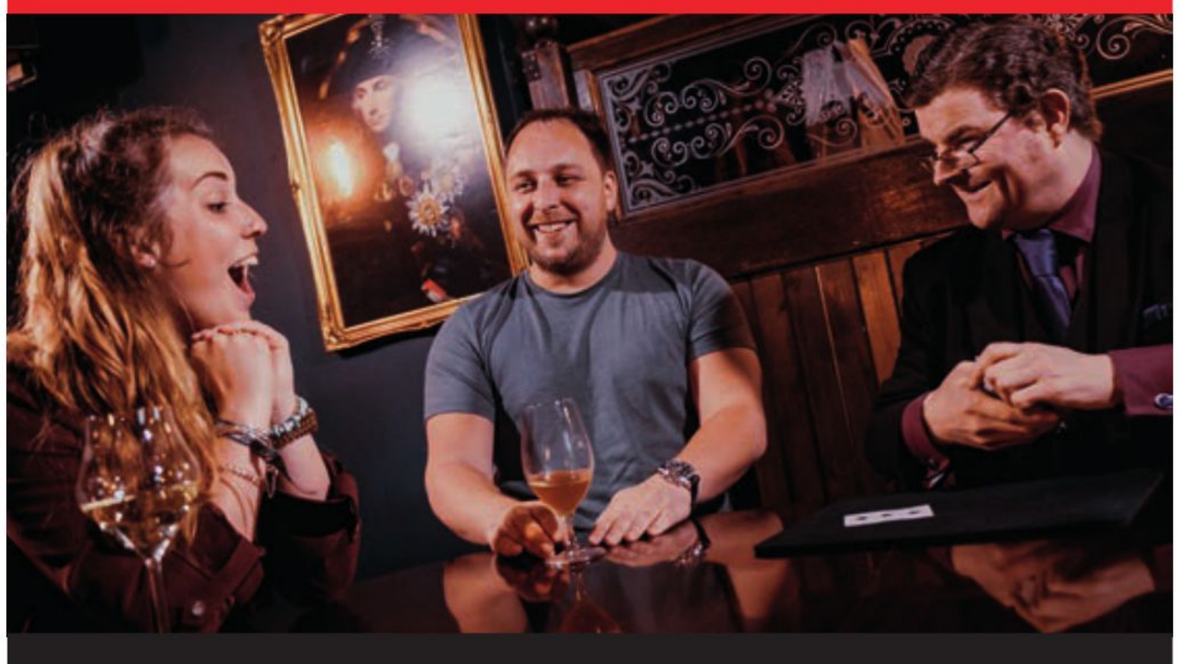

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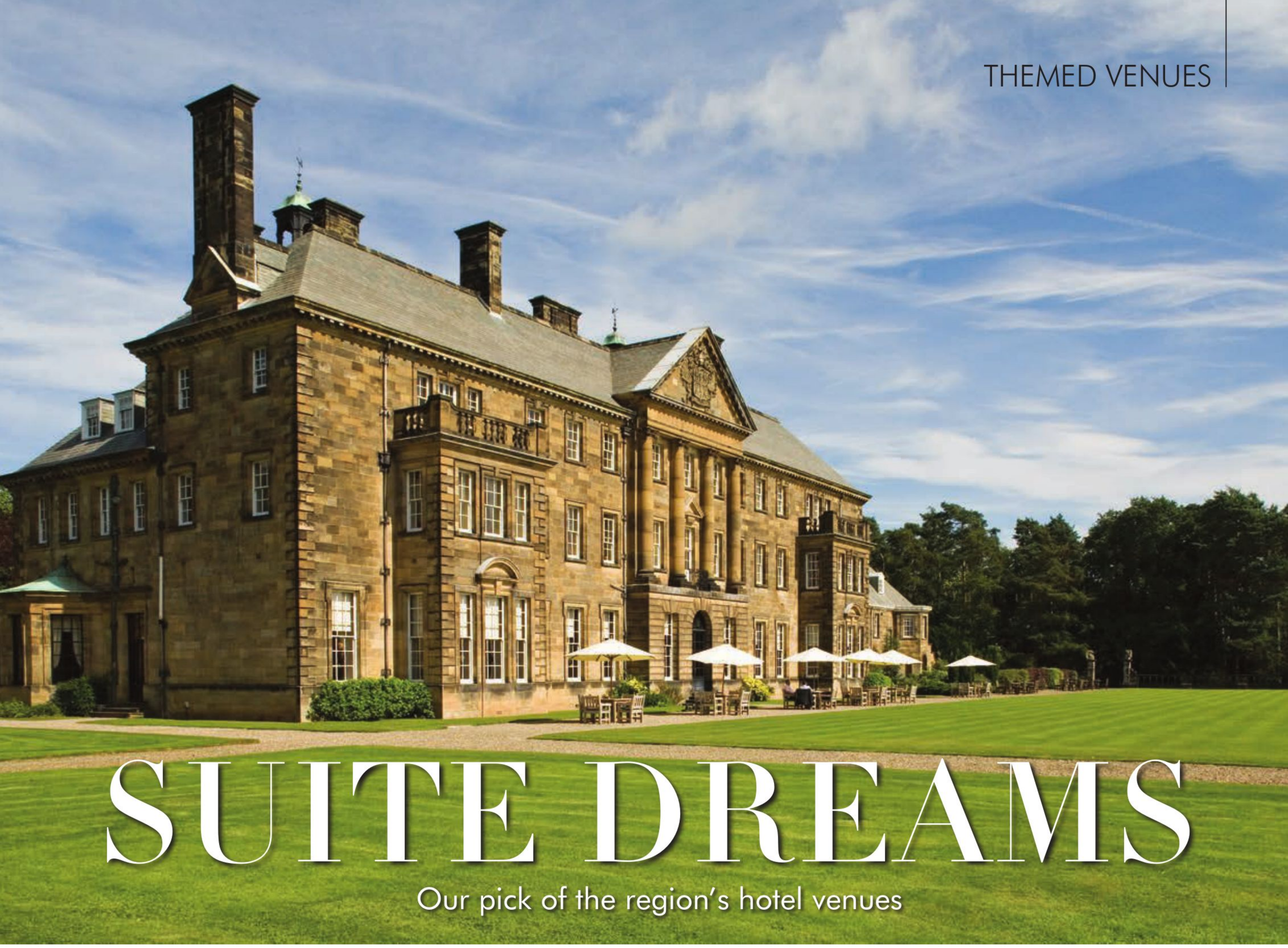

SUITE DREAMS

Our pick of the region's hotel venues

CRATHORNE HALL HOTEL

01642 700 398

handpickedhotels.co.uk/crathornehall/weddings

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT?

Crathorne Hall is a stunning stately home located close to Yarm on the edge of the Yorkshire Moors, and is surrounded by 15 acres of peaceful woodland overlooking the Leven valley. The estate's sweeping driveway leads to this idyllic traditional building, which dates back to 1906. Its tower bells and exquisite stonemasonry showcases its grandeur, and creates an enchanting spot for visitors to marvel at the stunning views.

The interior has been sympathetically restored with a mix of classic and contemporary furnishings and boasts high ceilings, elegant gilt chandeliers, intricate cornicing and marble fireplaces. Visitors here are walking in the footsteps of prime ministers, royalty, actors and musicians.

Guests can stay in one of the hotel's 37 individually designed bedrooms; 17 of which have been fully renovated as part of a £4m restoration of the East Wing.

TIME TO CELEBRATE!

Couples can tie the knot in two spaces. The Presidents Lounge (30 guests) is ideal for intimate gatherings with its first-floor location and Juliet balcony offering far-reaching views. The Edwardian Room (100 guests) is a lighter, bigger option boasting original features.

Post-vow celebrations can take place in The Drawing Room (120 guests). Its traditional country house feel is complemented in summer by French doors opening out on to the lawn, or roaring log fires during the winter. Smaller receptions are held in the Edwardian Room with its private bar and access to the gardens.

WE LOVE...

Happy couples booking exclusive use of the venue receive a free menu tasting, and accommodation in the bridal suite is included in all full-day packages. Preferential rates are offered for anniversary stays with complimentary upgrades given when possible.

HOLIDAY INN LEEDS – BRADFORD

0113 2854 646 | holidayinn.com/leedsbradford

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT?

Set in the quaint village of Tong, in an ivy-clad former vicarage, is this fabulous wedding venue. Suitable for small gatherings to grand affairs, the breathtaking gardens and surrounding countryside provide a wonderful big-day backdrop.

TIME TO CELEBRATE!

The all-important vows take place in one of three newly refurbished spaces for up to 200 loved ones. Couples can then choose to host their post-vow party in one of the function suites, the largest being the Bentley Suite (220 guests), which boasts colour-changing lighting to suit any theme. The Courtyard Suite (100 guests) overlooks the gardens and has its own stone patio area for al fresco drinks receptions.

WE LOVE...

Couples benefit from a free menu tasting, wedding-night accommodation and a discounted first-anniversary stay.

OULTON HALL HOTEL

0113 201 4462 | oultonhallhotel.co.uk

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT?

Couples first see this magnificent 18th-century mansion as they arrive up the sweeping driveway just five miles from Leeds. Surrounded by 300 acres of award-winning private grounds, which were landscaped by renowned designer Humphry Repton, it offers a highly acclaimed 27-hole championship golf course.

Inside, visitors are transported into a world of luxury, with its relaxing spa, AA Rosette award-winning dining, first-class butler service and 152 lavish bedrooms. Steeped in history, the interiors offer a blend of 18th-century features.

TIME TO CELEBRATE!

Couples can host their special day in two indoor rooms, which offer both historic opulence and contemporary elegance. The Repton Suite (70 guests) is the smaller option, while grand celebrations are held in the Oulton Suite (250 guests). For those wishing to get outdoors, al fresco ceremonies can also be accommodated.

WE LOVE...

Couples tying the knot here will get a dedicated wedding coordinator and parties can stay in one of its luxury bedrooms.

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THE PARSONAGE HOTEL & SPA

01904 728 111 | parsonagehotel.co.uk

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT?

Situated just six miles from York, this idyllic venue stands in three acres of beautiful gardens and enchanting woodland. Built in the early 1840s, this wow-factor historic building creates a romantic place for weddings. Inside, couples will find it retains many of its original features, while modern touches provide added luxury.

TIME TO CELEBRATE!

The Castania (110 guests) is where ceremonies are held. The half-conservatory room allows glorious vistas of the grounds. Parties then move to the Crystal Suite (150 guests) to eat, drink and be merry against a backdrop of panoramic views from its two fully glazed walls.

WE LOVE…

When the party's over, couples can retire to their complimentary bridal suite for the night.

YE OLDE BELL HOTEL & SPA

01777 705 121 | yeoldebell-hotel.co.uk

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT?

Surrounded by picturesque countryside, the extensive gardens at Ye Olde Bell Hotel & Spa feature the fairytale Oak Pavilion and contemporary Mediterranean-style Garden Terrace Bar. Dating back to the 17th century, the venue blends classic and contemporary touches for a quintessentially English venue in every season.

The hotel combines traditional features such as oak panelling, open fires and chandeliers with contemporary finishes. There are numerous function spaces, 59 bedrooms, suites and luxury lodges, two dining venues and a luxury multi-million pound spa.

TIME TO CELEBRATE!

All sizes of events are catered for here, from an intimate celebration for two to a grand affair for up to 250 people. Outside, brides- and grooms-to-be can choose from the fairytale Oak Pavilion (30 guests) with its pretty box-hedge aisle or the gardens for bigger outdoor events.

The Bradgate and Wiseton Suites (180 guests) boast ornate moulded ceilings, oak panelling and fifteen twinkling chandeliers. With direct access to the gardens it brings the outdoors in. The Nielsen and Levack Suites (120 guests) are bright elegant spaces, while smaller gatherings will suit the Restaurant Bar 1650 (40 guests) or the very intimate Victoria Suite (14 guests), which is named after the young queen who visited during her reign.

WE LOVE…

Wedding-night accommodation is complimentary for newlyweds and they'll also receive a free 30-minute facial each.

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come *fly* with me

Lindsay and Nick's day was full of aviation-themed details

Images courtesy of Holly Rose Weddings

Lindsay and Nick are childhood sweets, having met at school when they were just 16 years old. "We both have the same interests," says Lindsay. "One of which being aviation, which is where the theme of our wedding came from."

Eight years after they got together, Nick was planning to pop the question. "I've always wanted to go to San Francisco," Lindsay explains. "Nick thought it'd be the perfect place to propose. It was a total surprise to me and there were lots of tears!" The loved-up pair then spent time biking over the Golden Gate Bridge.

Back home, they started planning their dream day for 24th August, 2019, at Raven Hall Country House Hotel in Ravenscar. We caught up with Lindsay to find out more…

SETTING THE SCENE

When it came to choosing a location, they didn't have to look far. "I've been going to Raven Hall since I was a kid," Lindsay tells us. "We both love walking around the area so knew it was the perfect location for us."

Their shared love of aviation led them to both work for an airline, and it also inspired their big-day theme. "I'm cabin crew and Nick is an engineer for an airline," Lindsay explains. "People always joke that we're never in the country!" The aviation theme and sky blue palette ran throughout the day. "We named our tables after airport codes that have meaning to us," Lindsay says. "Of course the top table was SFO (San Francisco). Our table plan was a map of the world." The wonderful place settings where little wooden aircrafts that the pair sprayed sky blue and wrote each guest's name on. They had a brilliant idea when it came to the favours. "We gave amenity kits like you get on a flight," Lindsay says. "They included socks, a toothbrush and paste, lip balm and moisturiser."

They used local suppliers wherever possible. "The flowers by Louise Florist were so beautiful," Lindsay says. "The bouquets incorporated blue hydrangeas, white roses and thistles." The fabulous centrepieces were blue orchids adorned with fairylights, an idea the bride had seen on a trip to Abu Dhabi.

The cake was the pièce de résistance. "We love a sweet treat after a walk, and we always knew we wanted to get our wedding cake from Botham's of Whitby," Lindsay explains. "Elizabeth's creation was better than we could've hoped for. There was an

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aircraft motif and the middle tier had a subtle world map design; the detail was amazing." They finished it off with a cheeky cake topper. "It was Nick's idea to have him sitting in a business-class seat with me serving him champagne," Lindsay laughs.

LOOKING THE PART

The bride looked stunning in the *Yvette* gown by Sophia Tolli. "As soon as I put it on I knew it was *the one*," she says. "The detail on the back was amazing and I loved the length. I felt so beautiful." Lindsay styled it with a beaded veil, a hairpiece and some aircraft hair slides that she had made.

As with many brides, sourcing bridesmaids dresses was a struggle. "I couldn't find the colour I wanted," Lindsay tells us. "When I came across Le Closet De Chanel I was so happy. The multi-way dresses are made to order and great quality. My three best girls looked great." The men all looked dashing in navy three-piece suits with sky blue accessories and buttonholes to coordinate with the bridesmaids.

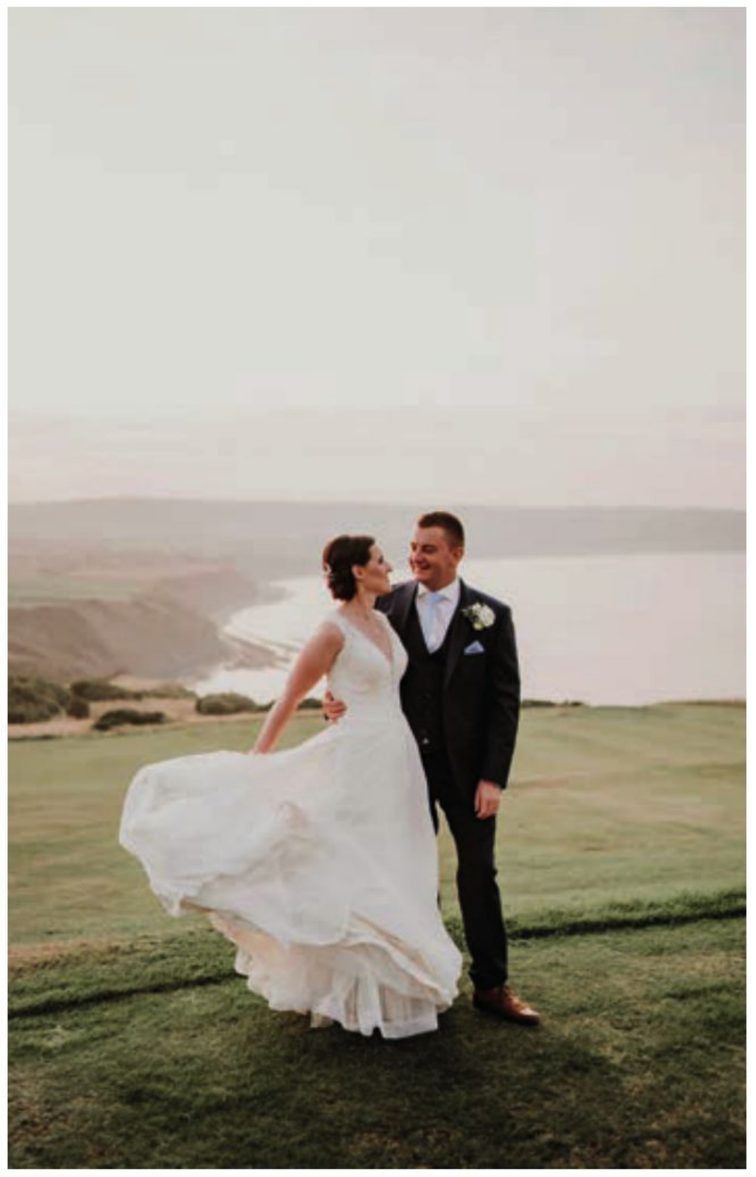
TIME TO CELEBRATE

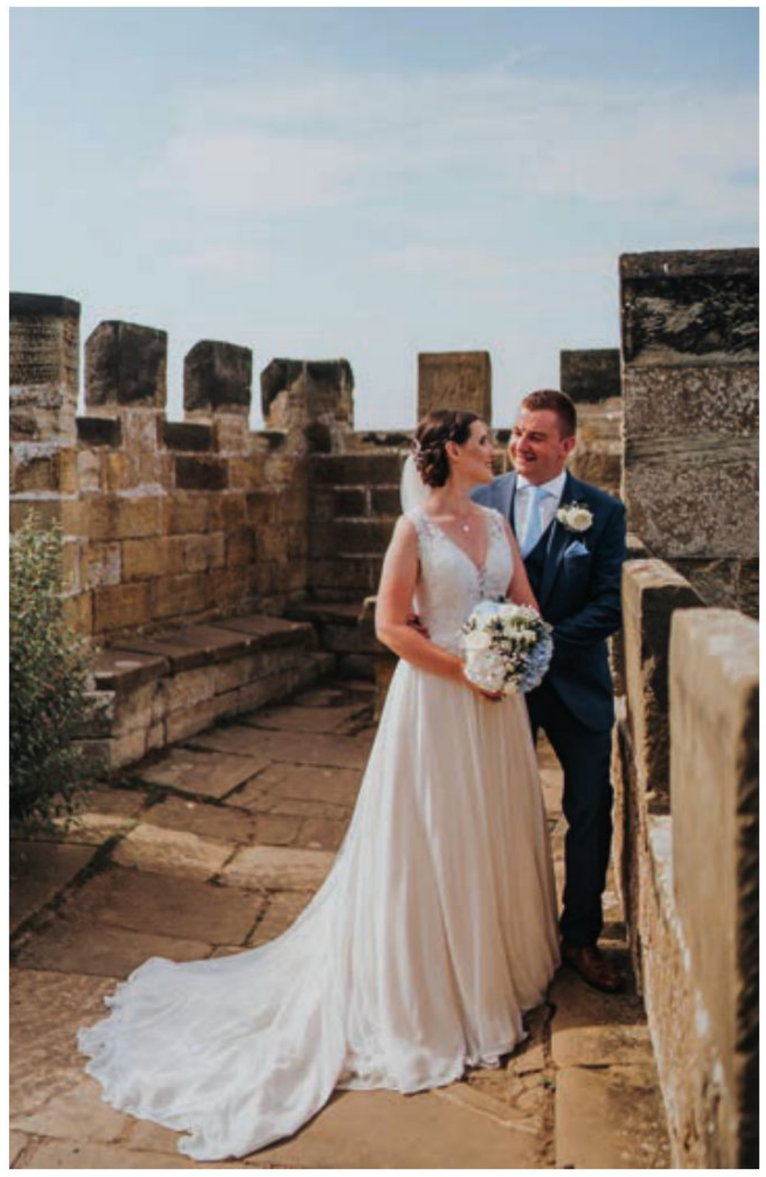
The pair were keen to not overdo the day. "Plenty of food and drink is entertainment enough for most people!" Lindsay says. "The venue's recommended DJ was great and got the party going in the evening." Some close friends of the couple have a business renting out a cookie stand. "It went down a treat and was really novel," Lindsay says. "Our loved ones also got to spend time taking in the stunning views that the setting offers."

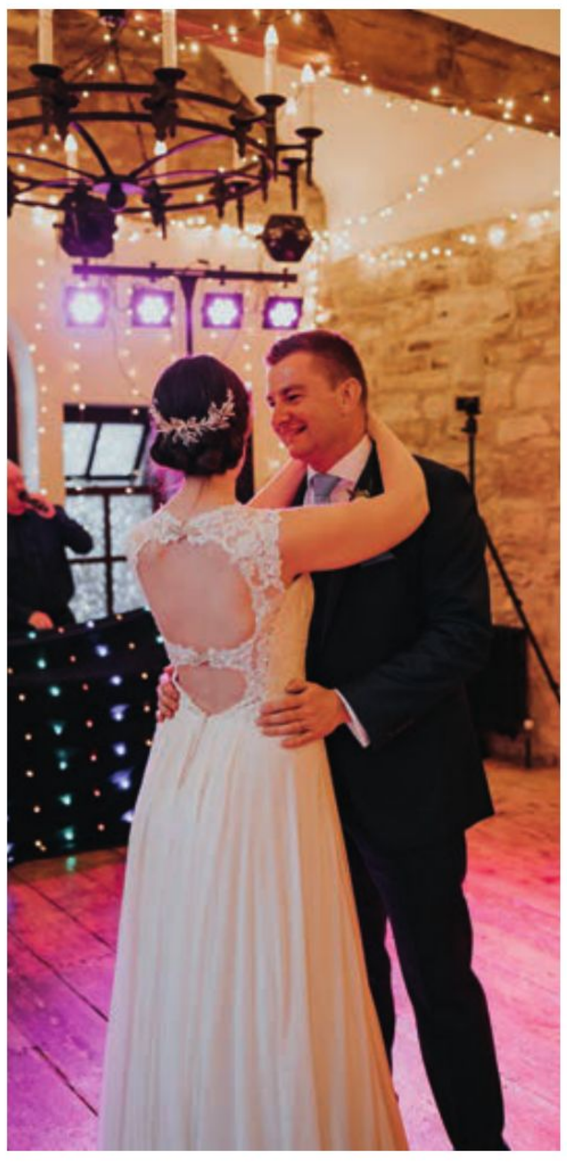
MEMORABLE MOMENTS

The bride is a self-confessed worrier, but in the morning she was so excited. "After 11 years together, it just felt right," she says. "Walking down the aisle and laying eyes on Nick for the first time was a moment that really stood out. Seeing his face when he saw me was the best." Nick loved seeing their vision of the day come to life, and getting to share that with their nearest and dearest.

Nick's top tip:
Once all the planning is done, it's time to relax. You have no influence over how the day goes at that point – so stop worrying and just enjoy it!







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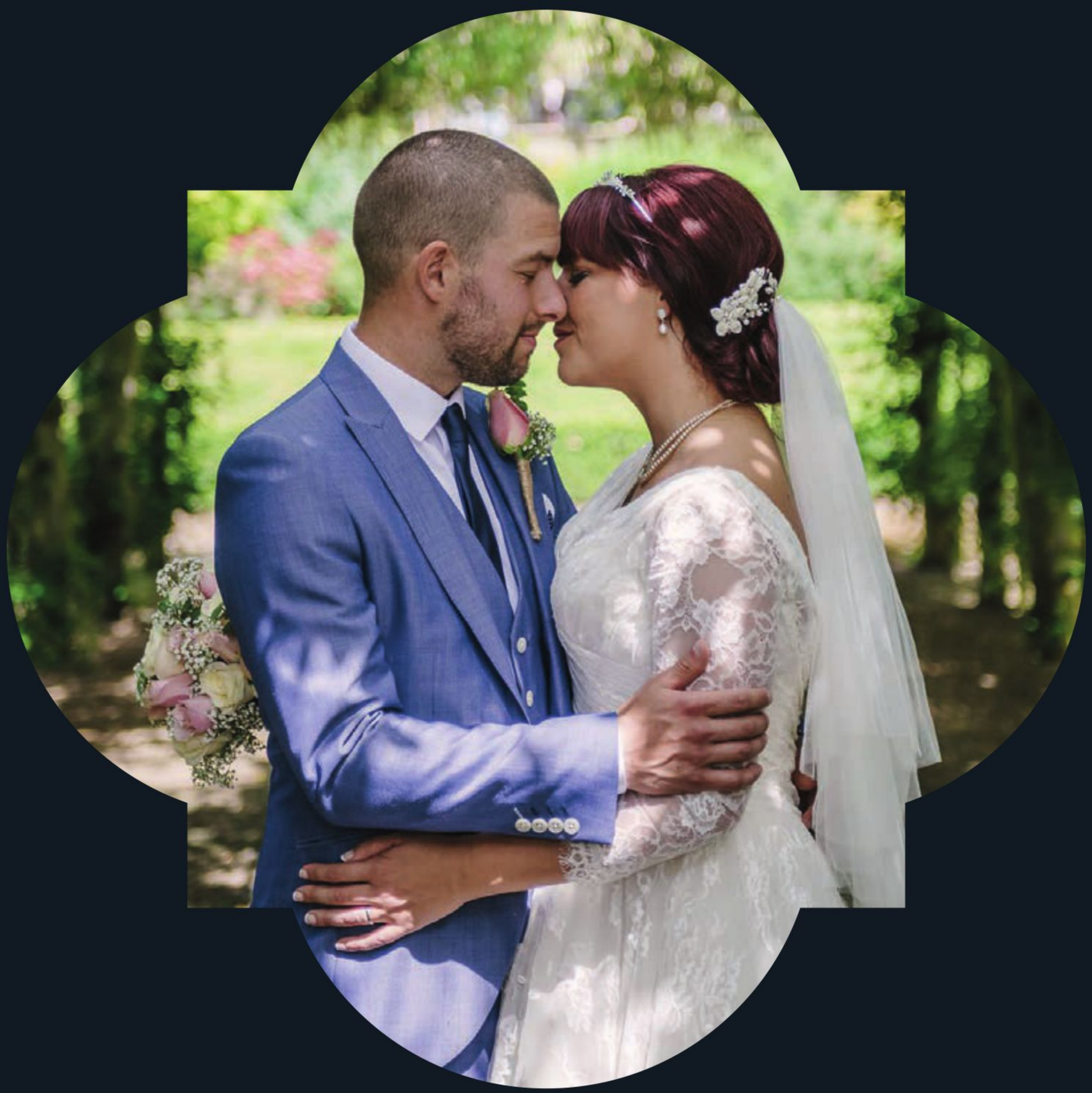

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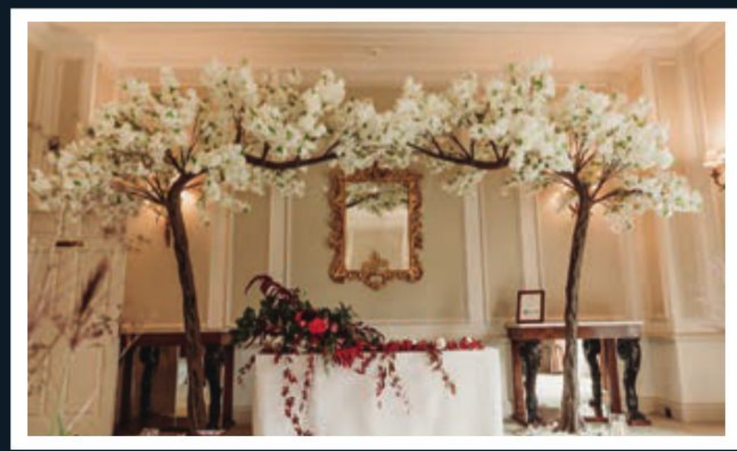

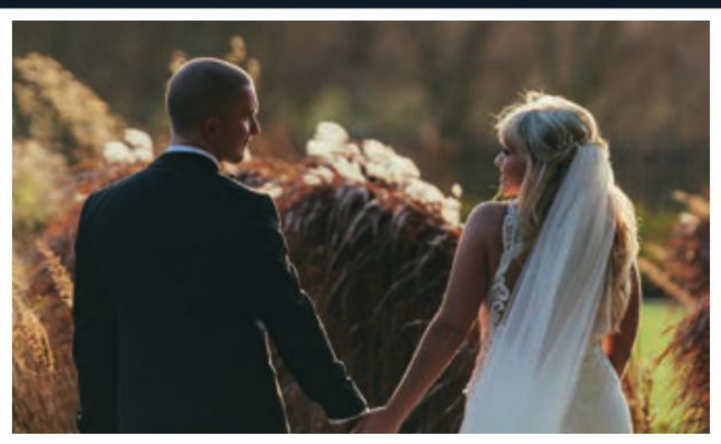

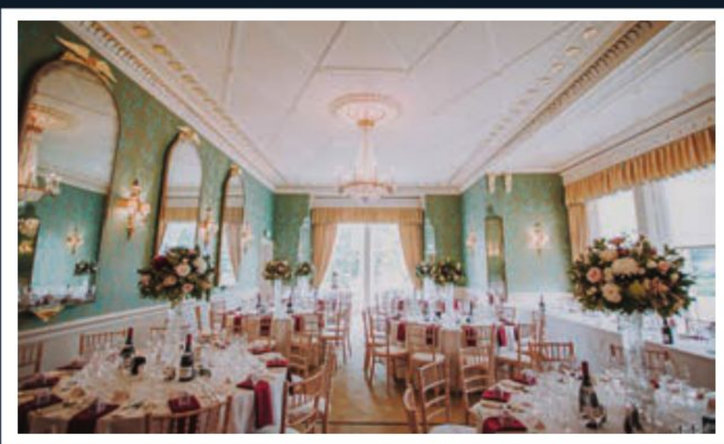

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LASTING *love*

Bolton Castle was the epic backdrop for Piers and Lily's wedding

Images courtesy of Drawn by Light Photography

It was when Piers worked at Bad Apples bar in Leeds that he and Lily locked eyes across the crowded room. "We never got the opportunity to introduce ourselves," Lily says. "Thankfully, a couple of days later we spotted each other at an alternative music club. We instantly made a connection because of our similar personalities, values and sense of humour."

From day one they barely spent any time apart, and a year into their relationship Piers decided it was time to pop the question on a trip to Whitby. "He got down on one knee at the top of Whitby Abbey steps, looking out to sea," Lily remembers. "I said 'yes' through happy tears. It wasn't a complete surprise as he had let slip when he might propose in the early days of our relationship!"

The date was soon set for the 13th July, 2019, at the spectacular Bolton Castle. Lily continues the story…

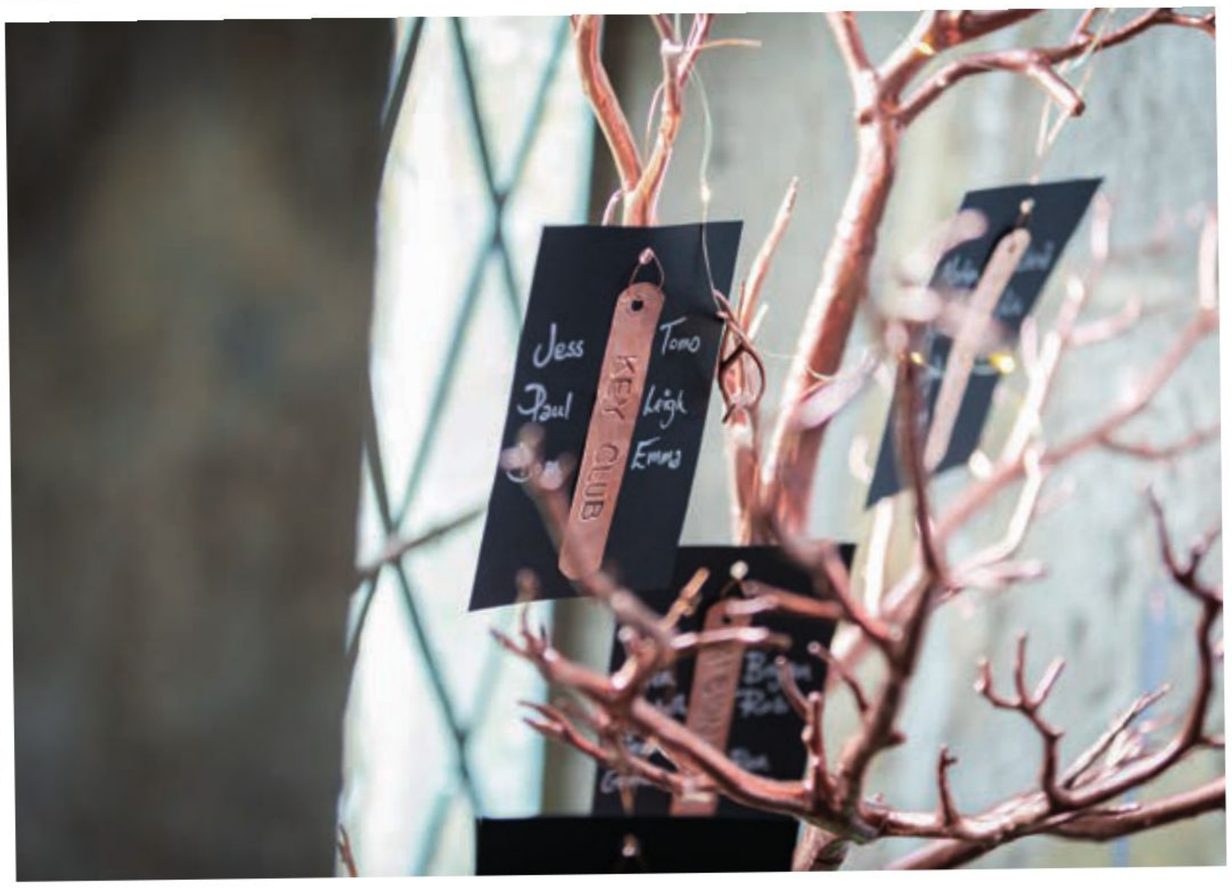
On a previous trip to Bolton Castle we both said what an amazing place it would be to get married. Once we were engaged we thought of it straight away, and decided to attend its wedding fayre. It was perfect for – we loved that the castle was so different and full of history.

We opted for a rustic theme with lots of wild flowers, foliage and a purple and copper palette. The centrepieces were vases brimming with florals alongside a blackberry-scented candle and a copper easel all sat on a log slice, which was supplied by my grandad.

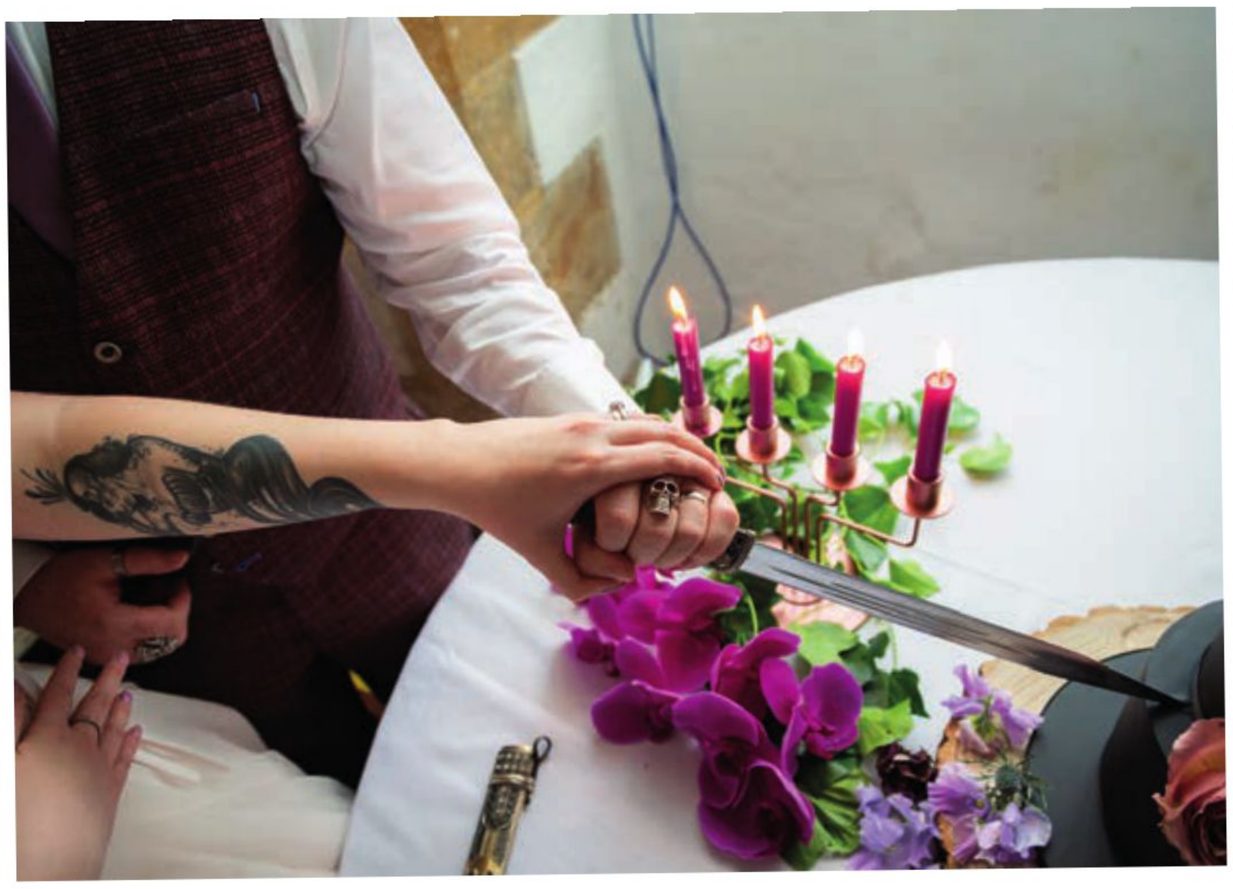
For a personal touch, my talented grandma arranged our bouquets. Manor Garden Flowers did an amazing job with the floral displays at the venue. The focal piece was an 8ft flower arch in the ceremony room in beautiful shades of purple.

Adele at Sweet Charlotte Cakes created our incredible cake. It was three tiers of delicious strawberry, champagne and rose sponge covered in smooth black fondant icing and decorated with copper leaf and wildflowers. We loved that it was so us. We also had a cheese stack in the evening with local Wensleydale cheeses.

For our place settings, we sat rustic cards in corks and my dad hand-calligraphed the names on. We treated our guests to a personalised shot glass – in homage to Piers' love of shots!



The table plan was a copper-sprayed tree with cards hanging from the branches. We named the tables after places that are significant to us, such as our first holiday, where we met and where we got engaged.



On the top table we displayed a set of drinking horns and a sheathed dagger, which we used to cut the cake. The rest of the castle was decorated with candles, ivy, fairylights and special personalised decorations made by family members.

Piers and the groomsmen rocked a three-piece maroon checked Cavani suit with a purple silk tie and a pocket watch. I had a vision of what my bridesmaids would look like, and I found the perfect lilac dress with floral jewel detail.

I wore a halterneck Justin Alexander ballgown from Scarlet Poppy Bridal Boutique. It's not what I had in mind, but it felt so right when I put it on and I loved the blush fabric and vintage style. I accessorised it with a chapel-length veil, which was handmade by Adorn by Ashley and embellished with pink and purple flowers.

We had a violinist called Amy Fields perform at our ceremony, including Can't Help Falling in Love by Elvis Presley for the bridal entrance; it set the scene perfectly. We loved that our guests could then explore the whole grounds before we got the party started with our own playlist in the evening.

We were both a little nervous but mostly just excited to be married. The whole experience was amazing and at times overwhelming – we didn't want it to end! One of my favourite moments was when Piers spun me around during our first dance to Love Walked In by Thunder – my veil nearly flew off!

We couldn't have done it without some wonderful people. My sister did a very special reading during the ceremony, and many of our family members created items for the day, including my customised shoes and jacket from my dad. Special thanks has to go to Lisa at Drawn by Light Photography; she made us feel so at ease and went above and beyond to get the best shots.

End credits

Venue | boltoncastle.co.uk
Photographer | drawnbylightphotography.co.uk
Bride's dress | scarletpoppy.co.uk
Veil | adornbyashley.co.uk
Hair | Leah Gibson at grayssalon.mytreatwell.co.uk
Make-up | lucymatthewsmakeupartist.com
Bridesmaids' dresses | asos.com
Menswear | cavani.co.uk
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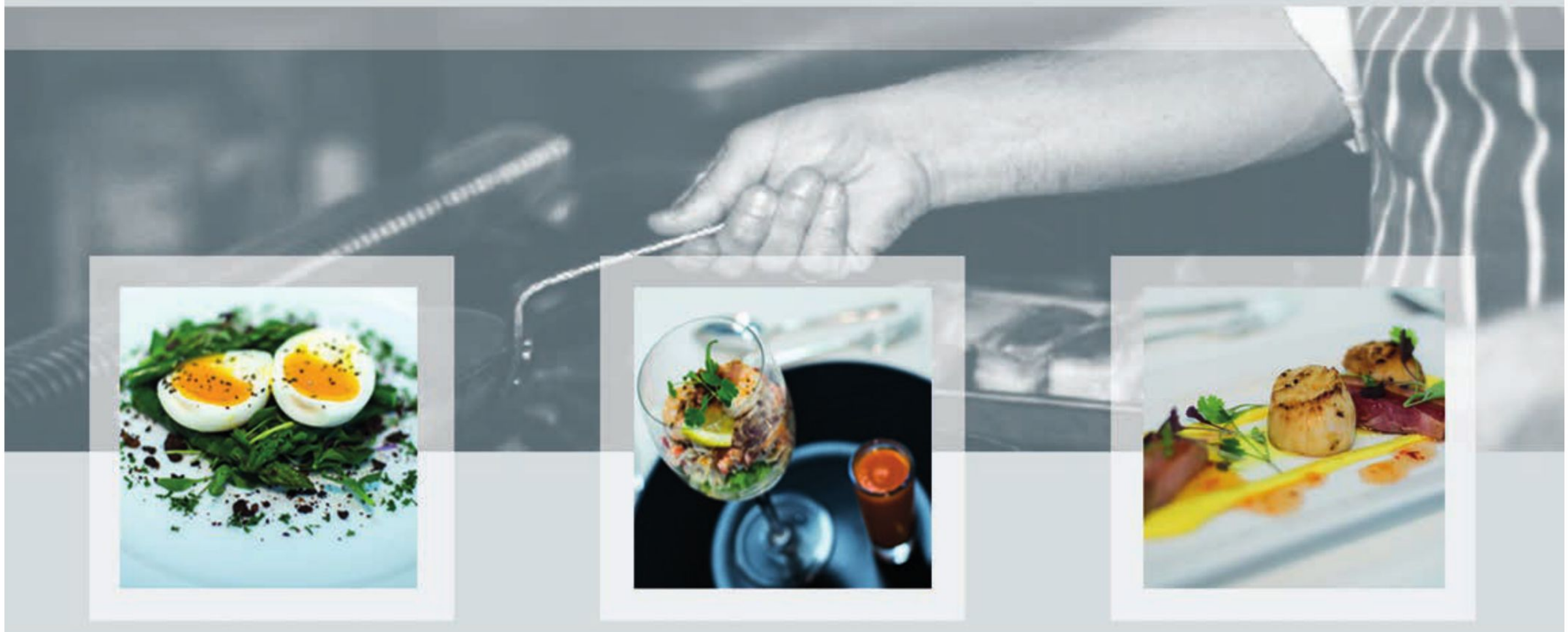

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One fine day

Nicola and Julian's nuptials were brimming with personal touches.

Images courtesy of Photography by Kathryn

A mutual friend had been trying to introduce Nicola and Julian for years, because they were apparently "both as weird as each other". "It was four years before we finally met," Nicola says. "Our love of chemistry and physics kept us chatting that first night, and many nights since then." Within a year, the pair had moved to Guernsey together.

Nicola had asked Julian for years when they would be tying the knot. "It came one day when a friend gave him an auction catalogue and told him he'd find a ring in there," she says. "When he said he'd take a look I nearly fell off my chair!" The pair set the date for 1st June, 2019, with a church ceremony in Sowerby followed by a reception at the fabulous Standedge Tunnel Visitor Centre. Nicola fills us in on the details…

Standedge Tunnel Visitor Centre was the perfect blank canvas. The staff were very flexible, we had exclusive use, the setting is beautiful and we loved that we could arrive by boat!

On the tables, we had simple Kilner mason jars filled with blooms. We had grazing platters for our wedding breakfast so we had to make sure there was plenty of room. There was a centre table, rather than a top table, with a copper candelabra centrepiece. We also hung paper pom poms, fans and fairylights overhead.

The cake was made by an old school friend of mine, Laura. She used to run a cake company and had stopped taking orders, but she agreed to make ours. It was great catching up and designing our three-tier bake with delicious layers of fruit, Victoria sponge and carrot cake. It was decorated in a lace pattern to match my dress and finished with a Lego cake topper.

We didn't have a theme, instead just going with our instincts and what we liked. There was a pink and navy colour scheme, which ran through our beautiful flowers. We sent some pictures and ideas to our florist and requested that Guernsey freesias were included; what she created was better than we could have imagined.

The table plan was a map of the world made up of small hearts, some of which were red to show where we had visited together. There were luggage tags as the table names, which were written by a Guernsey supplier, Adrienne Dawn Calligraphy. It was important to represent Guernsey in the day as it's been our home for 12 years.

I worked at Gimbals Restaurant in Sowerby Bridge when I was younger, and I knew they would provide my wedding catering. There were amazing canapés and a charcuterie platter to start. The main was chicken breast filled with local rosemary halloumi wrapped in Serrano, and the dessert was an indulgent selection of sweet treats. All the ingredients were local, except the Guernsey potatoes that they sourced especially. In the evening, there was a fab burger van from Saddleworth Catering Company.

Adrienne also wrote tags for our favours: homemade sloe gin. Julian and I hand-picked around 6kg of sloes from the Guernsey cliffs helped by two of our bridesmaids.

The bridal car was a white Jaguar Mk2 from All Luv'Dub, it was just like one Julian's dad had when he was growing up. We also hired a 1959 AEC Regent V bus to transport our guests from the church to Marsden railway station. From here, we boarded boats to take us to the visitor centre. The bridal party were on the fantastic Little Blue Boat; the skipper had decorated it in pink and white flowers.

18+

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I was keen to have a British-designed dress, and I fell for *Jessie* by Ronald Joyce while researching. I found out that Louise Perry Bridal had it so I arranged an appointment. I hadn't been very excited by any dresses, but this took my breath away. I added a beaded belt and a finger-length crystal veil. Louise was brilliant, opening outside of normal times for my trips back to Yorkshire.

At the drinks reception, a magician broke the ice while we served canapés, prosecco and a rum berry punch – a recipe we brought back from the Caribbean. During the main meal, we hired Singers in Disguise, who burst into song in front of our unsuspecting guests and performed everything from ABBA to opera! In the evening, our DJ kept the dancefloor full.

Julian, his best man and both our dads wore blue dinner suits from Moss Bros, with Julian wearing a blue tie to stand out. My bridesmaids live in Guernsey, Yorkshire and Spain so it was proving difficult to shop together. In the end, we found navy V-neck styles in taffeta and they fitted beautifully.

We were so happy from start to finish - I don't think we stopped smiling once. All of our suppliers were amazing, particularly Bev at Standedge Visitor Centre and our photographer, Kathryn. We were extremely apprehensive about having our photo taken, but she quickly made us at ease and she really captured the day.

Nicola's top tip:

Organise the planning in blocks. Give yourself a set amount of time to book each aspect.

END CREDITS

Venue | canalrivertrust.org.uk
Photographer | photographybykathryn.com
Bride's dress and accessories | louiseperrybridal.co.uk
Hair and make-up | chryschapman.com
Bridesmaids' dresses | jjshouse.co.uk
Menswear | moss.co.uk
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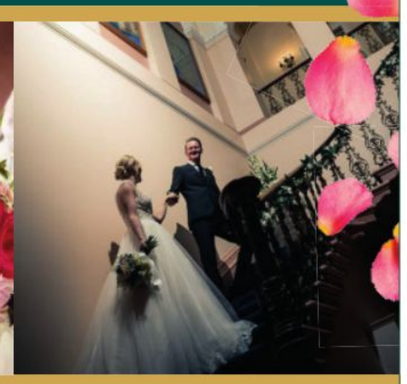

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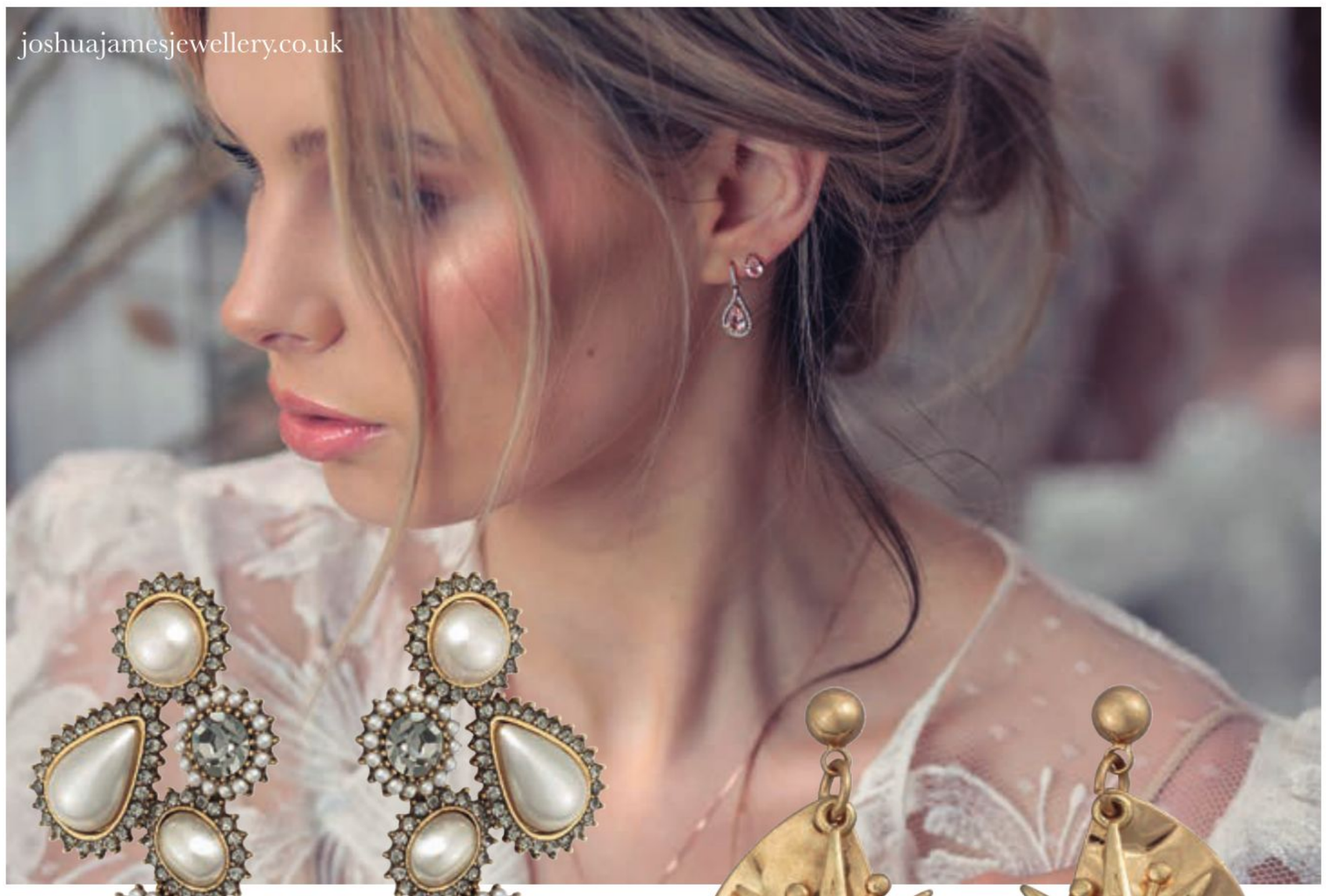

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HISTORY MEETS *luxury*

Combining heritage with modern luxe, this stunning shoot is full of romantic details

Images courtesy of Natalie Hamilton Photography

The Merchant Taylor's Hall in York pairs beautifully with the gorgeous duck egg blue colour scheme and luxurious gold accents of this collaborative shoot. "I took inspiration from the setting," says Jen Sawdon-Mckay of My Pretties UK. "The florals were key. We had statement pieces to fill the room and provide depth and texture. The cake, shoes and linen all coordinated wonderfully and we added some metallic and sparkly touches to elevate the design."

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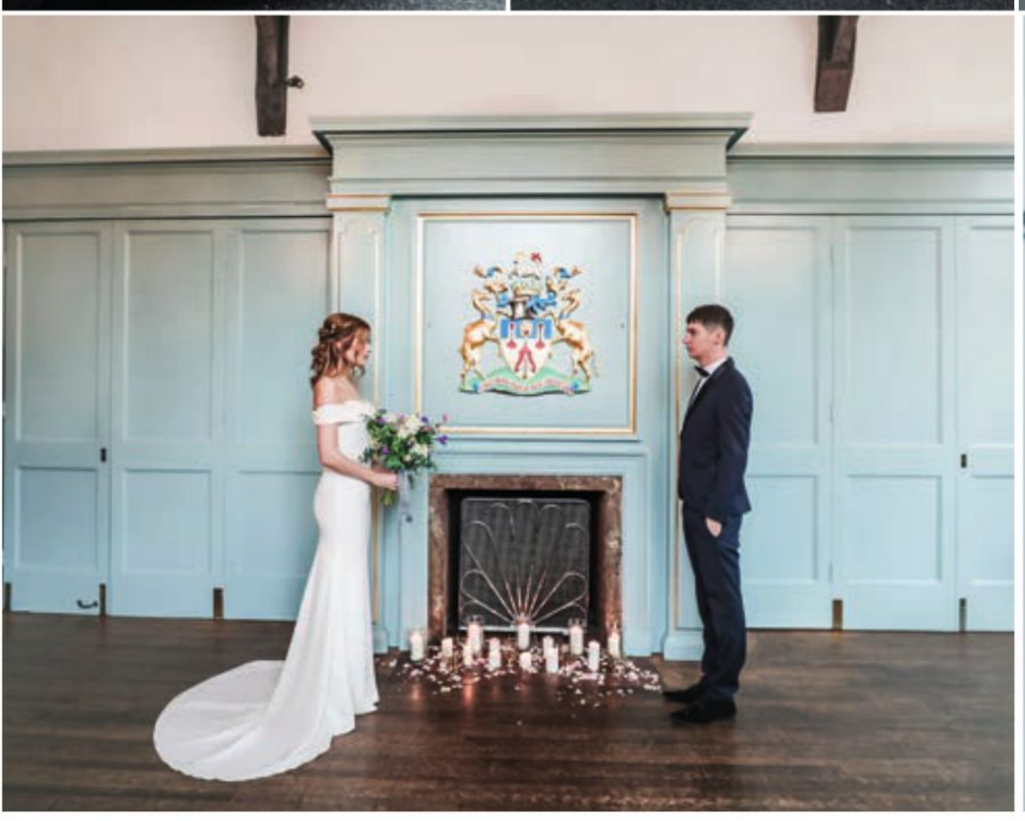

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS SHOOT

Venue | merchant-taylors-york.org | **Design, planning and styling** | myprettiesuk.com
Photography | nataliehamiltonphotography.com | **Cake** | wheretheribbonends.com
Flowers | fleuradamo.co.uk | **Stationery** | graystarling.com | **Bridalwear** | dottybridal.co.uk
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Shoes by Dune London, pink dress by Phase Eight and ivory dress by Warehouse.

HIGH STREET HOT LIST

Fashion favourites Warehouse has announced the launch of an exclusive bridal edit for the new season. The 19-piece collection offers a range of silhouettes in soft chiffon and satin fabrics using a muted colour palette of baby pink, navy, and ivory. They feature simple yet chic details, with vintage-inspired dresses, floral prints, fluted sleeves and back details. Prices range from £79 to £89. To shop, visit warehouse.co.uk warehouseuk

Phase Eight has revealed a new capsule bridal collection consisting of luxury designs with affordable price tags all under £500. There's a nod to the glamorous era of the 1920s with an ivory fringed dress, and this pretty blush tulle style, plus coordinating hats and fascinators. To shop, visit phase-eight.com phaseeight

Shoe experts Dune London unveil the new 20-piece footwear collection alongside an exclusive range of matching clutch bags. Brides will love the jewel trims, ribbon ankle ties and sparkling details. Prices start from £130 for shoes and from £60 for bags. To shop, visit dunelondon.com dune_london

SAY 'YES' TO THE DRESS

Contemporary fashion brand KITRI has launched its debut bridal collection, a nine-piece selection of fun, feminine dresses and jumpsuits. Prices start from £195 for this *Fontana* style, and range up to £245. The pieces feature draped hems, exaggerated sleeves and cascading ruffles. There's choices for an engagement party or pre-wedding dinner too, and bridesmaids will also love the fashionable styles.

Designer, founder and creative director of the brand Haeni Kim says, "We received requests for playful, wearable and affordable bridalwear from our customers since the launch of the brand so I'm very excited about our capsule bridal collection. We have designed a selection of dresses and jumpsuits that will be perfect for many occasions surrounding a modern wedding. It's such an honour to be a part of someone's wedding and we can't wait to see how our customers will wear them."

To shop, visit kitristudio.com kitristudio

FASHION *focus*

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

EDITOR'S PICK

This dusky pink ribbon and lace bodysuit is from the new Muse by Coco de Mer collection and is the perfect pick for your wedding night and honeymoon. Prices range from £20 for a thong to £120 for a slip, and pieces are available in sizes 30D-F to 36B-F. To shop, visit coco-de-mer.com cocodemeruk

Sisterhood

Kate Halfpenny, the talented designer behind the luxury Halfpenny London bridal brand has launched Sister, a bridesmaid collection with prices ranging from £70 to £295. Multiple styles are available in soft fabrics and three colourways – pink, pewter and navy. Kate says, "The Sister collection has something for everyone – from my signature separates to dresses and even a jumpsuit. They've all been designed to wear again and again, styled in your own way." To shop, visit halfpennylondon.com halfpennylondon

Editor's choice

Dress your little ones in the latest styles from French designer childrenswear brand Marie-Chantal.

This blue floral printed dress called *Eve* is the perfect pick for a spring wedding, and others include pretty pastels in gingham and tweed.

To shop, visit mariechantal.co.uk mariechantalchildren

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suzanneneville.com

Fun and frivolous

These flirty styles are setting the trends for 2020

Long sleeves

adriannapapell.com

Halterneck

catherineparrybridal.com

Oversized bow

alanhannah.co.uk

Short and sassy

justinalexander.com

Embellished back detail

clairepettibone.com

Vintage-inspired sleeves

kitristudio.com

Short sleeves

elbethgillis.com

Bib-front

katyakatya.co.uk

Slip dress

warehouse.co.uk

Shirt-style jumpsuit

kitristudio.com

Feathers

demetrios.com

Plunge neckline

jesuspeiro.com

Chic jumpsuit

charlottebalbier.com

Fringing

phase-eight.com

Elegant cape

jennypackham.com

Tulle detail

kelseyrose.co.uk

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We would love to hear from you and let you see our venue for yourself. Let this be the place where you say I do!

01484 488 848 | info@stortheshall.co.uk | stortheshall.co.uk

These elegant styles can be worn as they are, or teamed with pretty shrugs or statement chokers for maximum impact

Madelyn dress with collar by elbethgillis.com

CHIC AND *strapless*

Aerial by charlottebalbier.com

Anais by clairepettibone.com

Style no 014 by demetrios.com

Margot by Kelly Faetanini at elliesanderson.co.uk

Bianca by jennypackham.com

Fern by alanhannah.co.uk

Style no 058 by jesuspeiro.com

Rose by whistles.com

IN PURSUIT OF WELLNESS

STILL London, the non-toxic, cruelty-free, vegan and environmentally friendly nail studio, has now launched a regenerating and protecting hand balm. With marine algae extract, lupine peptides, olive oil derived squalane, shea butter, cocoa butter and soya wax this potent formula regenerates, protects, moisturises and firms the skin.

There's also a new cuticle oil available where grape seed and evening primrose oil work seamlessly with a Norwegian algae extract, vitamin E and tea tree to asorb quickly and heal the skin naturally.

The hand balm is priced at £23 and the cuticle oil at £18. Both are available from still-london.com

Glow-givers

Blending natural extracts and cutting-edge science, Scientia Skincare utilises no less than 23 oils sourced from all around the world, including morning seed oil from Uganda, and wild carrot oil from France, which deliver maximum skin health while boosting wellbeing. The first exciting products to launch from this brand are the Dawn and Dusk Elixirs, formulated to give you your daily and nightly dose of radiance.

Priced at £32 each from scientiabeauty.com

WELL LIT

This highly-pigmented, three-in-one highlighter creates a perfectly radiant glow that will take you from ceremony to celebrations. This super-versatile micro-fine powder is easy to apply to cheeks, brow bones and décolletage for a quick all-over radiance. You can play it safe with a natural shimmer or make a statement by creating a multi-dimensional strobing effect.

This convenient make-up bag hero in Sahara is actually an ombre of Kevyn Aucoin's three best-selling highlighters, Candlelight, Starlight, and Sunlight. In this case, three is most definitely not a crowd!

Available from spacenk.com, priced at £30.

Beauty BUZZ

Beauty editor Kelly Andrews shares her latest beauty must-haves for the bride-to-be

Crystal clear

If hours of traipsing around wedding shows and agonising over budgets has left you in need of a bit of R&R, this will come as music to your ears. LLIO's Crystoil helps with those little moments in life where you can finally enjoy some you-time, aiding sleep, boosting energy and enhancing the mood. You can invoke Crystoil's power in two ways: shake the bottle and add a few droplets to a bath, or massage all over before stepping into a warm bath or shower. The lush passionflower, apricot and rosehip oils make for deliciously soft nourished skin.

LLIO will be donating £1 of every sale to Winston's Wish, a charity giving hope to grieving children. Priced at £45, check out llio.love

A ROSY GLOW

Looking to achieve that natural dewy flush of colour for your wedding day? The folk at Beautaniq Beauty have just the thing. Introducing the Butter Cheek & Lip Balm. This cream blusher blends seamlessly into cheeks using nothing more than the warmth of your fingertips, and doubles up as an effortless lip colour. Crafted with 90% natural plant-based oils to nourish, condition and hydrate the skin, it simultaneously bestows a gorgeous, creamy radiance. Available at beautaniqbeauty.com it's priced at £12.50.

Sustainability, solved

Disposable face wipes are a thing of the past with the sustainable, vegan-friendly and cruelty-free Face Halo. These microfibre pads remove your make-up and lightly exfoliate the skin in just seconds. Face Halo works with water helping the clever HaloTech fibres, which are 100 times finer than human hair, to get to work on removing even the most stubborn make-up. Reusable, the Face Halo can be machine washed up to 200 times, meaning it's a cost-effective way of looking after your skin and it helps the environment. Around these parts we call that a win-win!

The Face Halo Original is priced at £17.99 and is available from Beauty Bay, Boots, Selfridges and Harrods. Check out facehalo.com

STRESSED SKIN SOLUTION

Cannabooster Detox from French holistic skincare brand Ho Karan (meaning "I love you" in Breton) is a clarifying, brightening and energising serum – a real skin saviour. Rich in potent terpenes, it helps to detoxify, clarify and create a formidable shield against the harmful effects of pollution. It's gentle on stressed skin, hydrating, nourishing and protecting.

As its name implies it contains the trending plant extract CBD, which has calming, anti-inflammatory and sebum balancing effects. So unsurprisingly this wonder-ingredient is being championed as the latest wellness hero.

Find out more at hokaran.com

FAREWELL SPLIT ENDS!

Let's be honest, a dry and damaged barnet is not the look for your wedding day, so, now's the time to banish split ends for good. Check out BondiBoost's Rapid Repair range. Start your haircare routine with Rapid Repair Shampoo (£22.50). Formulated to repair split ends, reduce breakage and seal cuticles, it delivers a boost of essential oils rich in antioxidants, vitamins and amino acids. Follow with Rapid Repair Conditioner (£22.50), which improves signs of damage. Then, finish by applying 1-2 pumps of the Rapid Repair Serum (£22.50) for softness and shine. Hey presto – damaged hair is a thing of the past. Easy. Available at boots.com

COLOUR WITH CARE

Founded by French sisters, and beauty experts, Hamida and Yasmine Smatti, L'Atelier Green is a breathable and bio-sourced polish that cares for your nails. After helping countless beauty fans to repair nails damaged by acrylics, gel manicures and toxin-filled varnishes, they saw first-hand the need for a product that not only gave the desired colour, shine and long-lasting effect, but that also nurtured nails and cuticles.

The debut Naked Nails collection boasts breathable properties, which help to bring your nails back to full health. Enriched with high-performance, organic and active ingredients, the lacquers stimulate nail growth and repair damage without sacrificing glossiness and longevity.

Priced from £15.99, see the website lateliergreen.com

Step it up

If you simply don't have time for a complicated multi-step skincare regime, help is at hand. Designed to streamline your routine in a fast-moving world, Frances Prescott's multitasking natural skincare will have your complexion big-day ready in no time. With the Tri-Balm (£46) and Tri-Spritz (£45) all you need are two simple three-in-one steps.

The luxurious facial balm cleanses, exfoliates and moisturises in one solid stick bursting with botanical oils. Meanwhile, the spritz works to aid cellular repair, protect against pollution and set make-up.

For further information see francesprescott.com

BEAUTY SLEEP

The must-have beauty accessory for flawless skin and hair is a pillowcase, but not just any. The Gingerlily Beauty Box contains a 100% silk pillowcase for the ultimate in luxury that allows you to reap beauty benefits while you sleep. Soft and seamless, the A-grade mulberry silk adjusts to the temperature of your body and is naturally hypoallergenic, ideal if you suffer with allergies or have sensitive skin. Thanks to its high protein content, this fabric doesn't absorb moisture, so it helps to prevent wrinkles, while keeping skin hydrated and hair glossy.

Available in silver grey, nude, ivory and white, they're priced at £59 each and available from gingerlily.co.uk

Fashion and Beauty Q&A

Our local pros solve your problems

IN SEARCH OF *THE ONE*

What can I expect from my first bridal shop appointment?

Firstly, this is a really exciting time, so enjoy every minute! We don't ask you to bring anything with you to your appointment except an open mind.

When you and your party come into the boutique, you'll be met by one of our expert consultants who'll talk to you about your wedding, venue and what you have in mind for your perfect gown. Armed with this information, we can start choosing a few dresses to get you started.

It's important to remember that what you have in mind may not be what you end up with, so it's worth trying a variety of styles. You are in control of the appointment; we can be involved as much or as little as you like and we always follow your lead.

Philippa Lloyd | Cristello Couture by Lisa Marie | cristellocouture.co.uk

KEEPING IT CLASSIC

My husband has no idea what to wear for our wedding. How do we make sure he looks sharp?

I'd recommend going for a timeless look. Lounge suits and morning tails will never date and you'll look back on your photos in years to come and still love it.

Colour-wise, greys and bright blues are popular. Many grooms will choose to highlight a shade from either the bridesmaids' dresses or the flowers to complement the day. I always suggest the groom looks a little different to the rest of his party. After all, brides stand out so why shouldn't a groom? Something simple like an ivory or white tie rather than one in the colour scheme works well. Currently, our most requested hue for accessories is dusky pink. This works wonderfully with French blue tails for a classy, understated vibe.

In our stores, we have plenty of stock, so we can show you how to tie neckwear and how garments should fit, leaving you feeling amazing.

Emma Tennant | Frank Bird | frankbird.co.uk

GET THE LOOK

I love the hairstyle of the model in your shoot last issue. How was this achieved?

For this style, I wanted to maintain the model's hair length and give a soft look. I used:

- ghd Root Lift Spray
- ghd Curl Hold Spray
- ghd Hairdryer
- ghd Platinum+ Styler

I applied both spray products, which have heat protection built in, before the initial blow dry. I twisted sections of hair working up and down to the root until all the hair was dry.

Next up, I sectioned the hair and placed the styler at the root at a diagonal. With one full turn I then glided it down the piece. Changing direction with alternating sections gave the hair texture and movement for a touchable look. I went back over the ends for a straighter feel and to add length. We then tipped the head upside down and massaged the roots.

To finish off, I gently took the hair away from the face at the front and secured with bobby pins, allowing strands to fall out naturally. The curls at the back were then teased, creating a great base for a veil and accessories to sit securely in.

Sarah Lawrence | Sarah Lawrence Hairdressing | @sarah_lawrence_hairdressing

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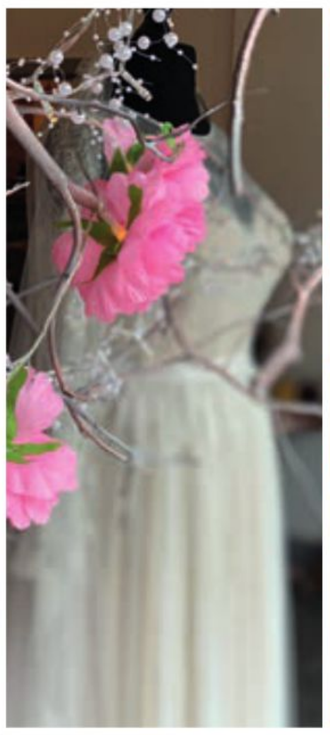
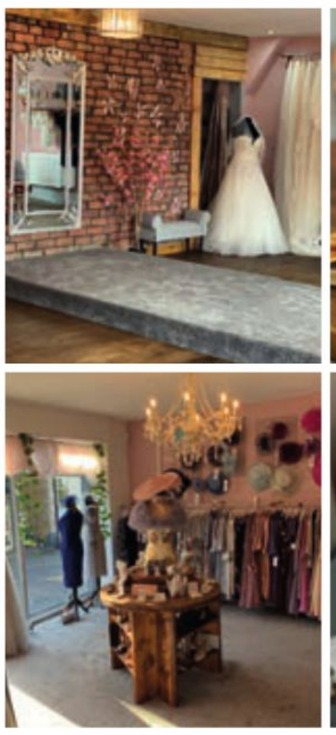
COUTURE

by Lisa Marie

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LEEDS BREWERY

MODERN *romance*

Highlighting the latest trends, this styled shoot has everything for the contemporary couple

Images courtesy of Lianne Gray Photography

This intimate shoot was designed with a stylish, masculine feel. Think tablescapes with gold, white and grey accents, lush florals, exquisite cakes and bespoke stationery. The men wore complementing luxe suiting with crisp white shirts and Liberty-print ties.

A creative team of wedding industry professionals at the top of their game produced this incredible collection of images to inspire the modern couple.

DYSON
&
GREG
A LA CARTE
THE DETAILS
R.S.V.P
1

REGIONAL SHOOT

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS SHOOT:

Location | Chapelgarth Estate
Planner and head stylist | pamelladunn.co.uk
Photography | liannegrayphotography.com
Cake | wheretheribbonends.com
Flowers | wildflowersuk.co.uk
Stylist | myprettiesuk.com
Accessories | catkinjane.co.uk
Embroidered napkins | extraspecialtouch.co.uk
Stationery | graystarling.com
Personalised hangers | akitoavalanche.com

HOT TOPIC

Our experts solve your wedding dilemmas

PERFECTLY PLANNED

Q My partner and I travel a lot for work and we're finding it impossible to find time for wedding planning. My friend suggested hiring a planner, but is it worth it?

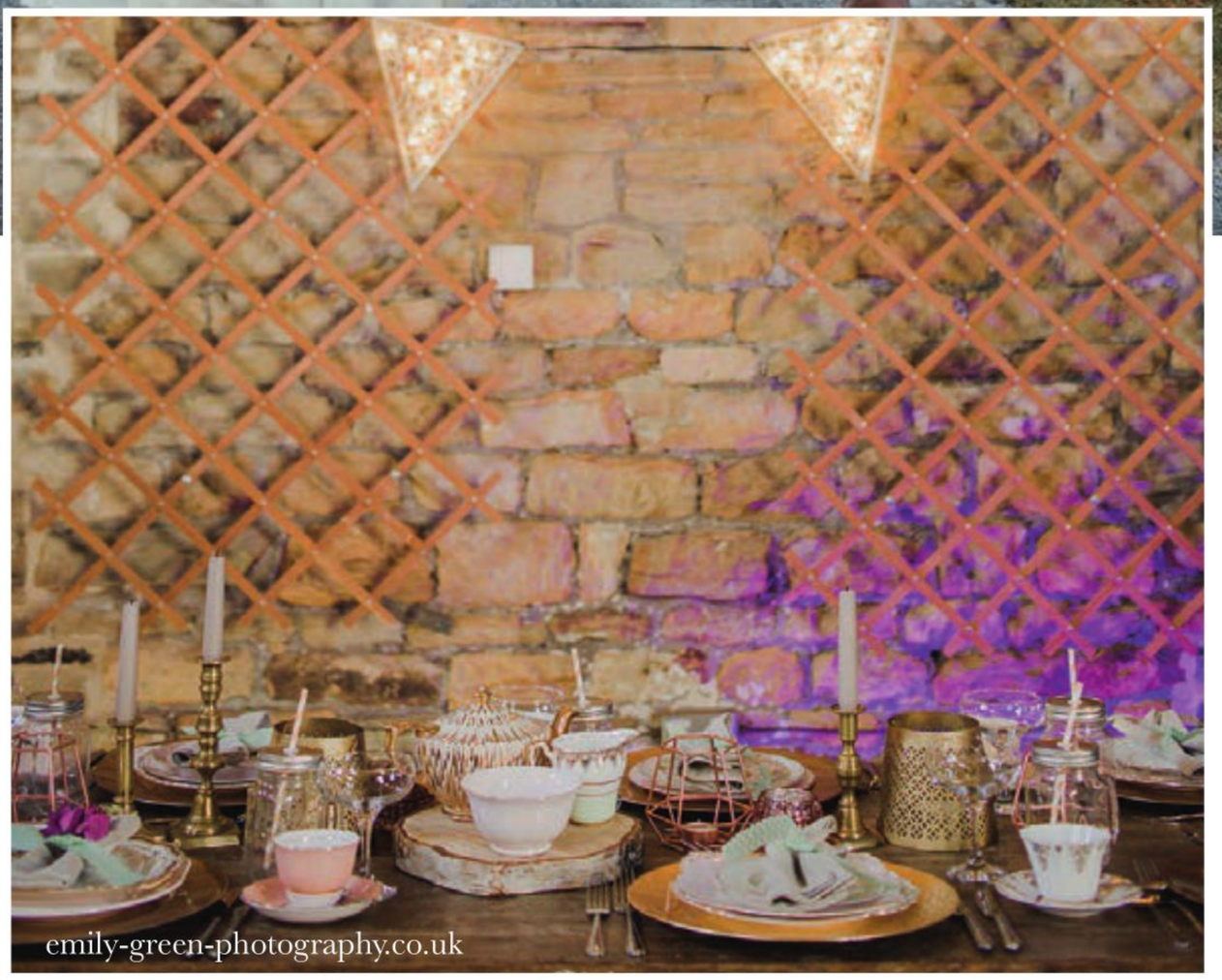
With an overwhelming amount to plan and a busy schedule on the day itself, wed-min can be a daunting prospect. As wedding planners, our main role is to be there for you and ease the pressure. We'll be on hand throughout the journey, offering as much or as little assistance as needed to help you stress less and achieve success!

Full planning services take care of the whole process – from securing your venue to helping you into your dream dress on the day. Coordination services provide assistance on the day itself, ensuring everything goes to plan. Partial and bespoke packages cover anything in between.

While wedding are expensive, planners don't have to be. Prices vary on location, your budget and the services provided. In Yorkshire, you can expect to pay £1,500 upwards for full planning and £450 to £1,000 for coordination. If you're worried about over-spending, some planners offer financial management and have access to supplier discounts. This is something that we offer as standard at Hart Country Weddings. Considering 70 per cent of couples overspend or don't budget at all, this is an important aspect to consider.

Hiring a planner is a personal choice, but you invest a lot in your wedding, and professional support can ensure a stress-free day.

Chloé Hought | Hart Country Weddings
hartyorkshire.co.uk



emily-green-photography.co.uk

LIGHT IT UP

Q We've recently been back to view our barn venue and it seemed quite dark. How do we bring a bit of light and atmosphere to it?

There's something about exposed brickwork and wooden beams that really set the scene for a wedding. By adding the subtle warm white glow of fairylights to the beams, you can bring your venue to life. Try colour washes of light to brighten those dark corners and tie in with the theme of your day.

Bunting is traditionally known for decorating village fetes, and we think this ties in wonderfully with your setting. Adding a little sparkle to it will create a charming feature.

Atmosphere on the day is of the utmost importance and shouldn't be overlooked. You can have the most incredible venue, but if it's not illuminated sufficiently, it can feel dark and lifeless. Our range of lighting can be tailored to your space to bring warmth and fun.

Stephanie Aldred | Luminest | @luminest_ltd

Jo Greenfield Photography

UNDER CANVAS

Q There are so many different types of tent to get married in – we're totally confused! Can you give us a rundown of what's available?

When looking for a structure to host your wedding in, you're spoiled for choice. Although the style varies, they have one common feature: they allow you to let your creativity run wild!

- ❤ *Marquees*. Clear span, framed, sailcloth… the list goes on! If you're after a quintessentially elegant backdrop, take a look at our traditional pole options. The Petal Pole and Celeste are perfect choices for a touch of grandeur.
- ❤ *Tipis*. These have become a very popular option. Based on the classic Scandinavian structures, they suit a laid-back festival vibe. They're cone shaped and can be joined together to create the space you need.
- ❤ *Stretch tent*. This is a modern style where stretchy fabric is supported by poles underneath. You can choose to have the sides pegged down or raised up. With the flexibility of moving poles around under the fabric, you can create a striking shape.
- ❤ *Yurts*. We may be biased towards this option, but we're sure you can see why. With a circular shape, domed roof and charming wooden lattice walls, yurts provide a cosy atmosphere and a great party space. Add a wood-burning stove for ambience or go for clear sides to bring the outside in.

Lotty Stapleton | Yorkshire Yurts
yorkshireyurts.co.uk

PARTY ON

Q My other half just wants to have a playlist for our wedding – how do I convince him that live is best?

Playlists can be great, but live music brings so much more to your day. No one forgets a wedding where a great band performs. Whether it's your gran dancing to a song she recognises from her own special day, the happy couple swaying to their first dance or the whole party singing their hearts out to a song they all know, it's a live band that brings the magic together.

We play soul music; it has a timeless quality that works brilliantly for weddings, and the only way to get the emotion from it is to play live. The brass section has the wow factor while the tight drums and rhythm section create a natural sound that surpasses any laptop and speaker. Our singer, Lisanse, creates a rapport with the audience that a playlist can't get anywhere near.

Floor-fillers like *Soul Man* get everyone on their feet, while *Let's Stay Together* will have everyone arm-in-arm. A live band creates a life event that no one will forget.

Rick Davis | Soul Patrol | soulpatrol.org.uk

FLORAL FANCIES

Q How can we keep costs down for our flowers?

Great quality flowers can really make your day. Here are my top five ways to get the best value from them…

- ❤ Use your flowers at your ceremony and wedding breakfast. Try moving your ceremony table arrangement to the top table, or use jam jars for pew ends that can then be doubled up as centrepieces.
- ❤ Choose flowers that are in season. Due to the global flower trade it's possible to get many flowers at any time of year, but this is costly for you and the environment. Choosing seasonal British-grown blooms are the best quality and won't cost the earth.

John Johnston Photography

- ❤ Use bouquets for centrepieces. I often supply vases to go on the tables so the bride and bridesmaids can just pop their bouquets in to help decorate the room. It also means the flowers get a much-needed drink after being out of water for a few hours.
- ❤ Have your bouquet turned into art. Use a preservation service and have your bouquet preserved and reconstructed in a frame so you can enjoy it for years to come.
- ❤ Gift your flowers. If you have a statement archway or backdrop, ask your florist to use the blooms for posies as gifts for your friends and family.

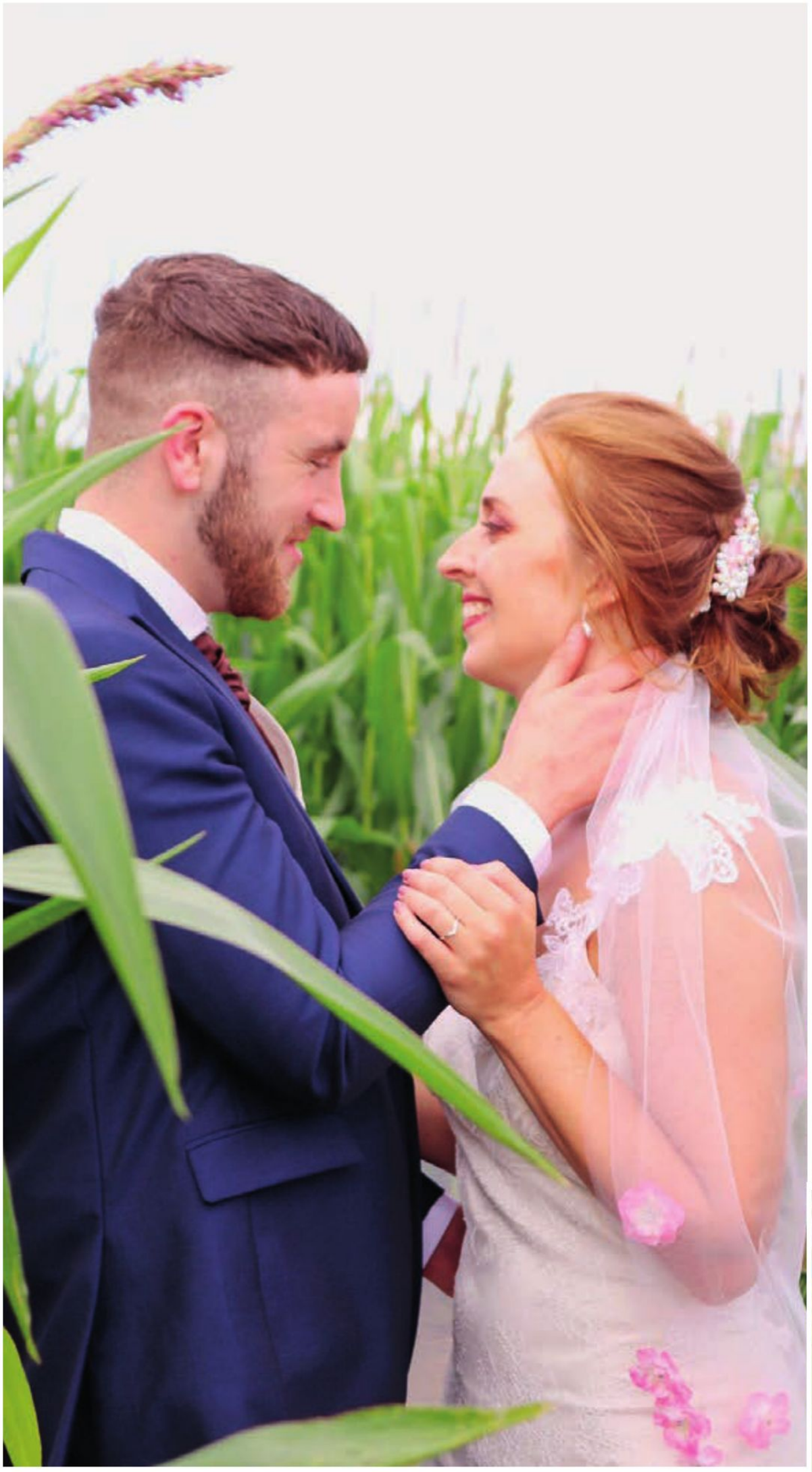
Gillian Neild | Where Bees Meet | wherebeesmeet.co.uk

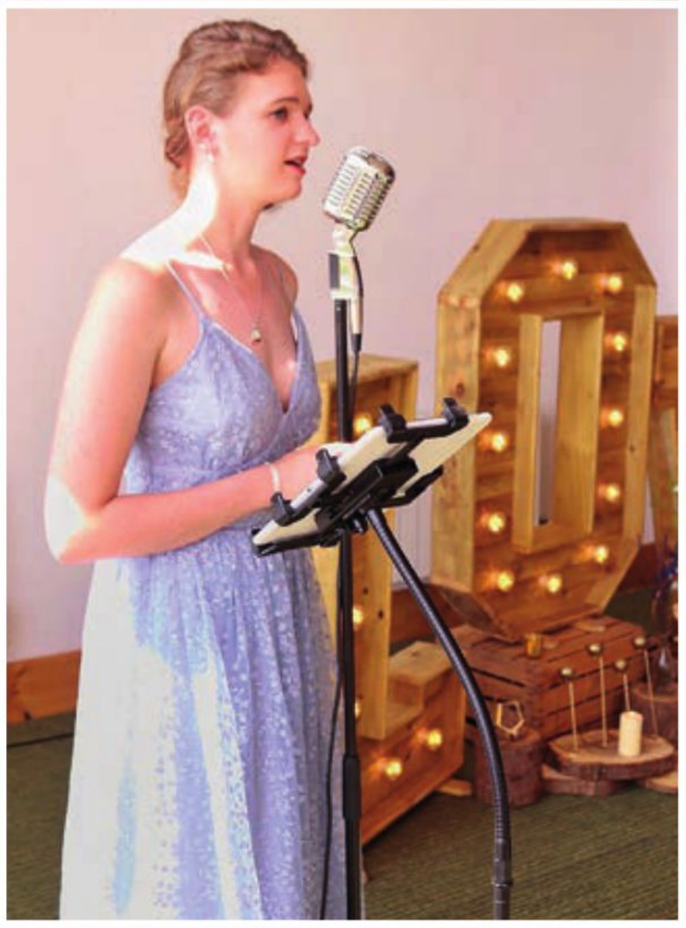
HOME ON THE FARM

This styled shoot takes inspiration from its rural Yorkshire surroundings

Images courtesy of Cole Photography

We love the springtime vibe of this super-pretty shoot. With a palette of browns, greens and pinks with soft styling touches, it echoes the gorgeous countryside setting of Farmer Copleys perfectly. Providing inspiration for those looking to have a rural wedding, you'll love the natural elements alongside a welcoming, homely vibe. Enjoy!





CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS SHOOT:

Venue | farmercopleys.co.uk
Photography | @colephotography
Shoot coordinator | tiltedtripodweddings.co.uk
Cake | mrsbscakery.co.uk
Flowers | southelmsallflorist.co.uk
Stationery | bigdayprint.co.uk
Bridalwear | bridalreloved.co.uk/wakefield
Jewellery | starboxjewellery.com
Hair and make-up | mazzloxton.com
Hair accessories | @beady.i.design
Veil | @miniquinniaw
Menswear | ashworthandbird.com
Musician | heather-watson.uk
Venue styling | howardsevents.com
Celebrant | helenjubbceremonies.co.uk
Models | @beccalindley7 | Tobias Casey

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Rotana Hotels & Resorts has partnered with County Wedding Magazines to offer one lucky couple a luxurious five-night honeymoon at Salalah Rotana Resort in Oman.

Set against a beautiful backdrop of lush vegetation, rolling mountains, golden sands and crystal-clear waters of the Indian Ocean, the five-star resort provides a tranquil setting that's ideal for those looking to unwind.

Whilst staying in one of the resort's Deluxe Ocean View rooms, the lucky couple can wake up with spectacular views across the water and enjoy coffee in the sun from their very own private terrace or balcony. Complimentary half-board dining will ensure the winners are spoilt for choice at both breakfast and dinner at Saffron restaurant.

As well as relaxing on the private golden beach, the newlyweds will also be treated to a couple's spa massage at Zen the Spa, the perfect way to unwind after a hard day spent in the sun.

Salalah Rotana Resort is ideally located in the Salalah Beach destination – one of the most breath-taking natural settings in the Sultanate, between spectacular mountains, freshwater springs and tropical scenery, where wildlife and frankincense trees can be marveled.

The waterfront resort's 422 rooms and suites are built around waterways, whisking guests away to a coastal utopia. The resort prides itself on providing five-star opulence synonymous with the Rotana brand, infused with traditional Omani hospitality. With four restaurants, the resort offers the perfect mélange of East-meets-West hospitality.

With its state-of-the-art facilities, couples can keep fit at Bodylines Fitness & Wellness Club, take a dip in the swimming pool or relax and rejuvenate at Zen the spa at Rotana.

Salalah Rotana Resort

THE PRIZE

- ❤ Five-night stay
- ❤ Half-board basis
- ❤ One couple's spa massage
- ❤ Return airport transfers in Oman

HOW TO ENTER

Which ocean does the Salalah Rotana Hotel overlook?

Enter online at youryorkshire.wedding

The closing date is 5th June, 2020. Terms and conditions apply. Please see our website for details.

TANKERSLEY MANOR

TANKERSLEY MANOR HOTEL & SPA

Tankersley Manor Hotel & Spa is a magical, elegant setting with spectacular scenery of the Peak District & Yorkshire Dales. This 17th century manor house with its stone facade, combined with a modern hotel is truly a picture-perfect wedding venue

We're here for you

We pride ourselves on making sure you are the centre of attention & we understand this is one of the most important days of your life, you can trust our experienced, dedicated wedding team to make sure that the day you have always dreamed of becomes a reality. Whether you're planning an intimate gathering for a handful of people or a grand celebration, your big day will be in safe hands with our hugely experienced wedding coordinators who can guide you through all aspects of your day, detailing our packages, recommending suppliers & advising on the perfect extra touches to make your special day perfect.

Room to celebrate

Large receptions & ceremonies for up to 280 guests can be held in the spacious Tankersley Suite with its separate reception area & private terraced garden areas. The Pennine Suite is ideal for smaller celebrations for up to 100 guests, boasting a private garden & patio lounge bar. Our unique Crook Barn with wooden beams & exposed stone walls creates a romantic atmosphere to compliment your day & is apt for both ceremonies or intimate receptions. When the celebrations are over, you & your guests can retire to one of our 98 luxury bedrooms or suites with access to the full facilities available throughout the hotel.

Perfect packages

No two weddings are the same at Tankersley Manor & we pride ourselves on offering a completely bespoke service, tailored to your specific requirements. Whatever you're looking for, we will provide a totally unique wedding perfect for you; an elegant extravaganza, a beautifully simple ceremony or a bespoke wedding breakfast. If you're looking for a wedding package, we've specially designed a range of offers to simplify the process of organising a wedding. With packages available from just £2,149 all you need to do is choose a date that suits you.

We'd love to hear from you...
www.tankersleymanorhotel.com
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01226 744 700

PICTURE-PERFECT PARADISE

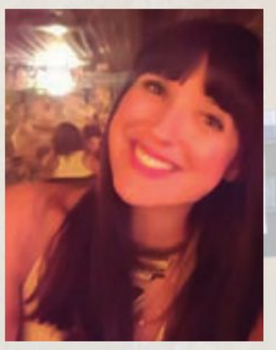
The private Maldivian-owned boutique island resort of Baros has won the title of World's Most Romantic Resort for the seventh consecutive time at the annual World Travel Awards. Voted for by industry professionals and travellers from across the globe, it certifies its places as one of the top honeymoon destinations. General manager Ibrahim Shijah says, "This award maintains Baros' status as a Maldivian legend and furthers the significant impact of the resort within the international luxury market around the world."

To highlight its romantic offerings, the resort has launched its Romantic Moments package. Including a private candlelit beach dinner, a couple's massage and a spectacular sunset cruise, it makes the ultimate honeymoon retreat. Visit baros.com

A WILD MINI-MOON

You can journey across South America, Asia and Africa at Kent's authentic safari park Port Lympne Hotel & Reserve. We love that guests can now enjoy some peace and tranquility under the stars in The Bubble, a 180-degree panoramic lodge with stunning views across the 600-acre reserve. Couples can also take their romance to new heights with a once-in-a-lifetime hot-air balloon ride over Port Lympne and the surrounding countryside. After a day exploring the reserve, why not enjoy a romantic dinner at its Moroccan Courtyard or Bear Lodge Restaurant before heading back to your quirky accommodation. For more information, head to aspinallfoundation.org

HONEYMOON

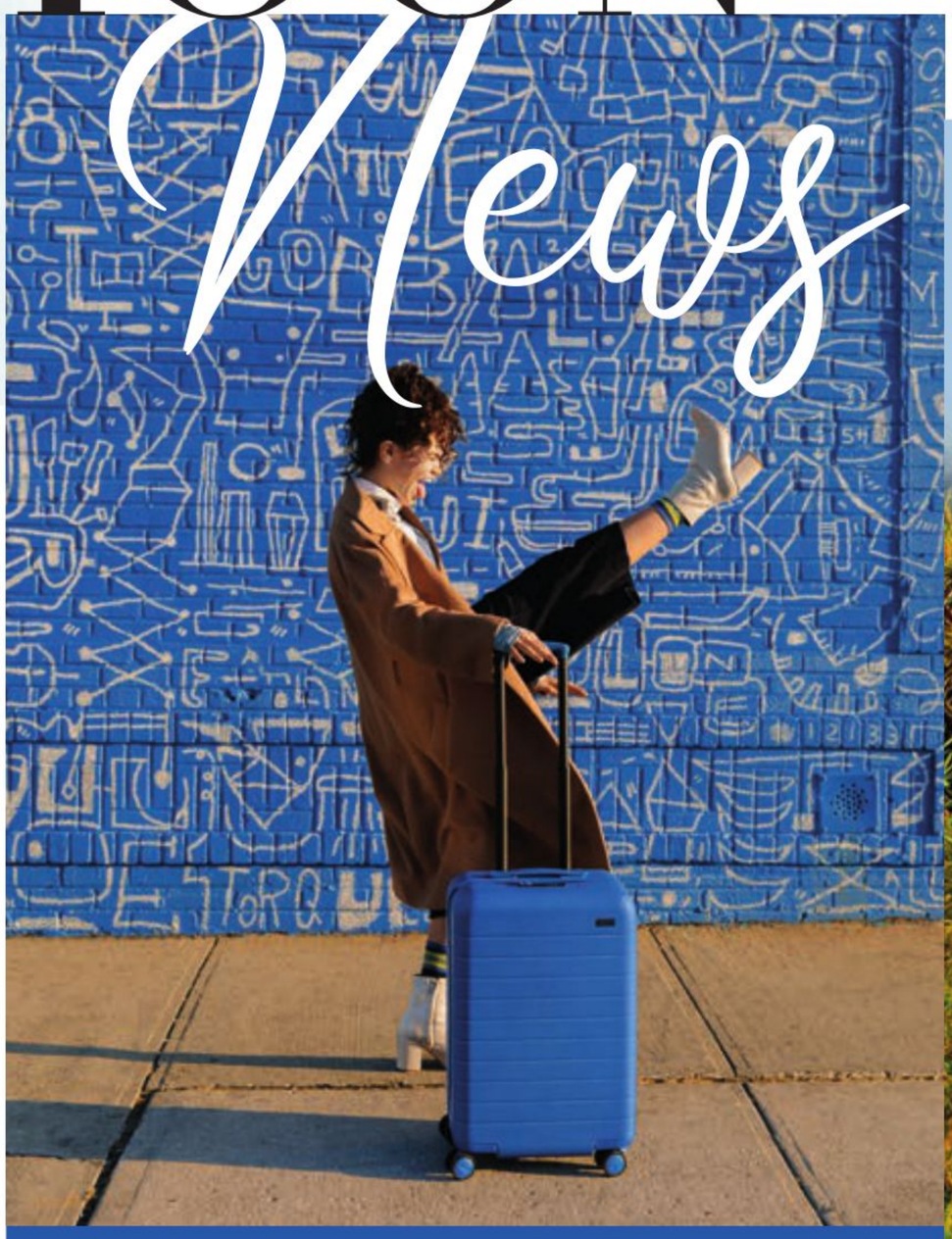


Travel editor Hannah Faulder reveals her top honeymoon destination picks and travel essentials

HOT HOTEL OPENING FOR 2020

I love a short-haul flight, so MarBella Collection's MarBella Elix on mainland Greece is a 2020 hotel opening I'm very excited about. The third hotel to join the portfolio and the first outside of Corfu, it will be perched above the beautiful Karavostasi Beach in the Parga region, looking west towards Corfu and Paxos. Couples arriving after the June 2020 launch will be able to marvel at the outstanding natural beauty, the inviting golden coastline and crystal-clear waters.

Within an hour's drive of Preveza Airport, the hotel can also arrange boat transfers from Corfu, which is ideal for those looking to twin with the MarBella Collection's two properties on the Ionian island. Book your honeymoon here, and you can expect luxurious accommodation, incredible scenery, exhilarating activities and delicious dining. Check out marbellacollection.gr



News

A classic case

Anyone else loving the 2020 Pantone Colour of the Year Classic Blue? It's evocative of vast skies and deep blue waters so it's ideal for travelling, and Away have hit the nail on the head with its limited edition Colour of the Year Collection. See the range at awaytravel.com

WINE TIME

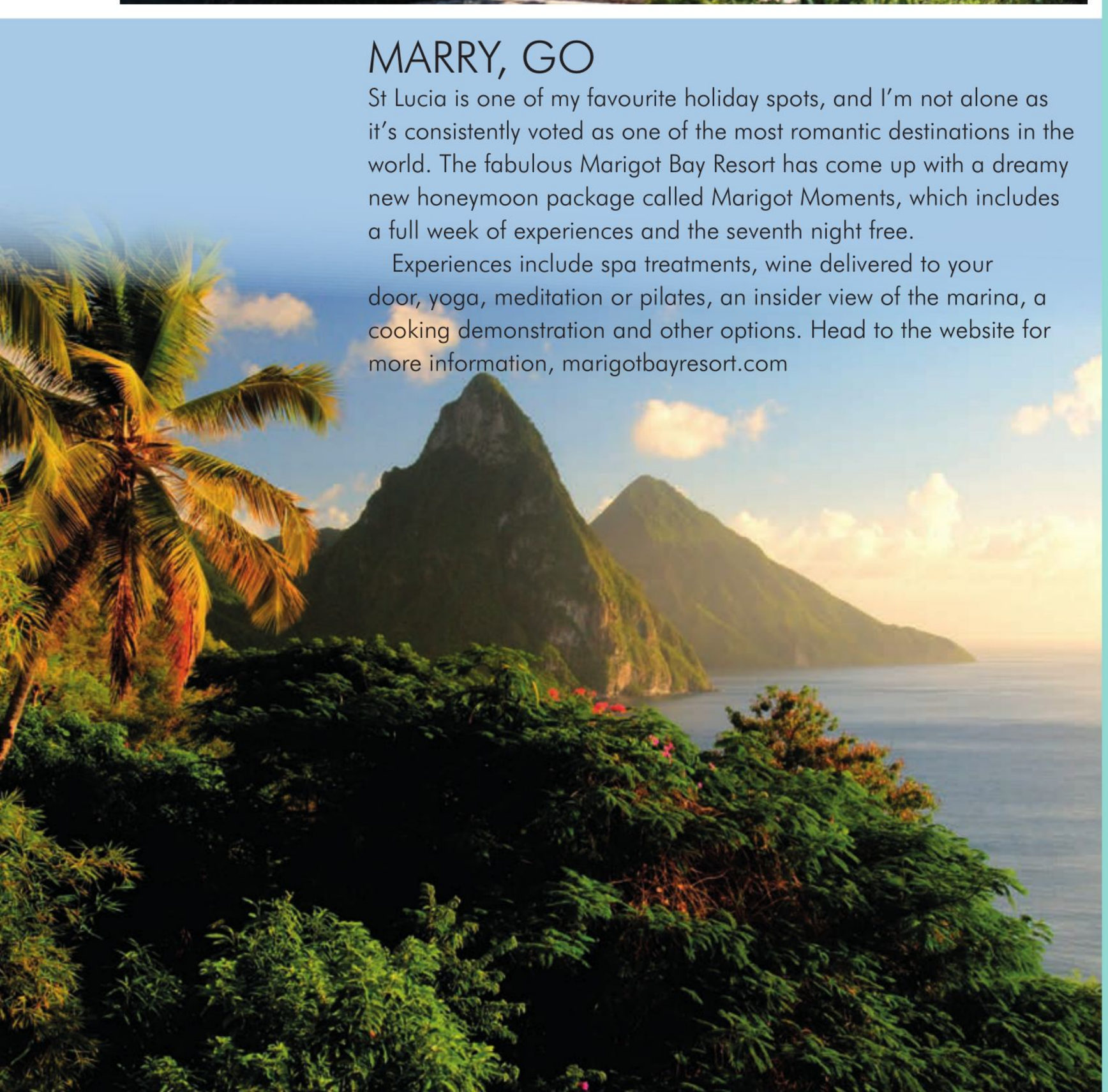
Legacy wine estate Boschendal in South Africa's Cape Winelands introduced the country's first tented wine experience in March 2020. Wine-loving honeymooners can stay in one of seven luxury serviced tents in the heart of the 4,500-acre working estate and vineyard, offering a one-of-a-kind perspective on its staggering landscape.

The property is dedicated to conserving its natural biodiversity and guests have the opportunity to become a part of the landscape that cultivates the exquisite produce found in its restaurants and wine cellar. To find out more, visit boschendal.com

MARRY, GO

St Lucia is one of my favourite holiday spots, and I'm not alone as it's consistently voted as one of the most romantic destinations in the world. The fabulous Marigot Bay Resort has come up with a dreamy new honeymoon package called Marigot Moments, which includes a full week of experiences and the seventh night free.

Experiences include spa treatments, wine delivered to your door, yoga, meditation or pilates, an insider view of the marina, a cooking demonstration and other options. Head to the website for more information, marigotbayresort.com



KEEP ON MOVING

With the Olympics just around the corner, you might be getting in the sporty mood. If you and your partner are more likely to be running on the beach than snoozing on it, then these active honeymoon picks are for you…

❤ Mountain biking in Mauritius. The Mauritius Tour Beachcomber 2020 is held 30th April to 2nd May and consists of four stages over a total distance of 195km. The challenging route allows cyclists to soak in their stunning surroundings. Book at beachcombertours.uk

❤ Running in Victoria Falls. The Victoria Falls Marathon in Zimbabwe is definitely a bucket-list event. Taking place in July, participants will be running alongside incredible scenery, amazing wildlife and one of the seven natural wonders of the world. Book at africaalbidatourism.com

❤ Diving in Fiji. Sign up for the THIRDHOME Adventure's Jean-Michel Cousteau's Fiji Island Hideaway Adventure in September to spend a week on a private island with guided diving and snorkelling alongside the world-famous oceanographic explorer and his expert marine biologist. Book at adventures.thirdhome.com

❤ Wild swimming in the Seychelles. Eager to try the wild swimming trend but the cold UK water's not for you? Dip your toes in at the five-star Hilton Seychelles Northolme Resort & Spa and swim or snorkel along the 650-metre coral trail. Book at seychelles.hilton.com

❤ Stay active at sea. The launch of Blue World Voyages in 2021 will see the world's first active lifestyle cruise take to the Mediterranean with two decks dedicated to fitness, sports and wellness. There will also be a seawater pool, which will be lowered into the ocean so guests can swim alongside the ship. Book at blueworldvoyages.com

MOROCCAN *magic*

Hannah Faulder discovers that whatever you want from your honeymoon, you can find it at Mazagan Beach and Golf Resort in Morocco

If, like me and my husband, you want to spend your holiday ticking off activities but your partner wants to lounge by the pool, then Mazagan Beach and Golf Resort in Morocco might just be your ideal honeymoon destination. Year-round sun: tick. Action-packed activities: tick. Fun with the kids: tick. Luxury: tick – there's not much this place doesn't offer. And it's not by accident. Everything is meticulously planned and designed to cater to your every need within its 250 hectares of paradise.

A snappy three-hour flight, plus a one-hour transfer from Casablanca Airport, and you'll find yourself winding down Mazagan's grand driveway and seeing the resort emerging from its lush grounds in all of its decadent Moorish glory. As the only destination of its kind in Morocco, you might just find yourself rubbing shoulders with royalty and celebrities – I'm basically BFFs with Dougie from McFly now.

You can expect to find traditional Moroccan influences alongside contemporary luxe – think ornately carved doors, colourful lanterns, textured rugs and mosaic tiles. There are 13 restaurants and bars, a huge spa, the most glamorous gym imaginable, an 18-hole golf course and North Africa's biggest casino.

STAY

It's always a little disorienting arriving somewhere after dark, and the stylish but seemingly endless corridors of Mazagan heightened the confusion. I didn't need to worry; within a couple of minutes, a friendly chap with a walkie-talkie (who had clearly been sent to find the lost Englishwoman with too much luggage) was guiding me to my room. This was the level of service I came to expect here. Once inside, I was met with the most enormous marshmallowy bed, a spacious bathroom and floor-to-ceiling windows – in

the morning, these revealed incredible views across gardens and the secluded 9km beach beyond. I was told that if you're awake early enough (I wasn't), you can watch the resort's herd of rescue horses take their morning gallop across the deserted sands. Beautiful (I imagine).

Within the walls of Mazagan, you feel untouched by the outside world. The feeling of serenity is in every corner of the resort, which is especially incredible considering there are 500 rooms here. Sometimes I could walk around for 10 minutes and not bump into another soul.

EXPERIENCE

This place goes all out when it comes to experiences and activities. I'll confess that I'm a total wuss, so looking at my itinerary and seeing quad-biking, zip-lining and horse-riding did send me into a mild panic. However, I'm pleased to report I stepped out of my comfort zone – and I'm so glad I did! First up, I was introduced to the sassy Caramel, my noble steed for the hour. We rode along the practically deserted beach in the sunshine with the sound of the waves lapping on to the shore – what an incredible moment and an absolute must-do for honeymooners.

Next up, we jumped on some quad bikes and whizzed along the beach in hot pursuit of our guide, who took us to see an incredible shipwreck protruding from the water. He was also our personal photographer, getting snaps that made my group look like the most badass girl band of all time! After this, I had caught the action bug, and flinging myself down a zip line at high speed through the trees was the next logical step.

Bringing things back to my normal pace, we wandered through the idyllic grounds to the spa, where, in a moment of madness, I decided against the planned full-body massage and instead opted for the hammam. The authentic Moroccan bathing ritual was certainly an experience! First off, you sit in an incredibly hot steam room where a lady washes you down with eucalyptus oil. Next, she showers you and lays you on a huge marble plinth and scrubs your skin with a mitt, which is akin to sandpaper. Then you're showered again, smothered in a mud mask, wrapped in a towel and left to bake on the plinth. The end result: seriously smooth skin! I felt like a newborn baby, and I've been recommending a – frankly bizarre – hammam to anyone who'll listen.

EAT

Foodies will love the choice of 13 restaurants and bars here. There are two huge buffets offering everything you could possibly want alongside high-end eateries that specialise in different cuisines. For breakfast, it's worth heading to Olives and sitting by the pool, where fresh food, soft music and elaborately served mint tea all add to the chilled-out vibe.

One evening, we opted for the elegant Sel de Mer, which serves the finest seafood. Fellow veggies, don't despair! They whipped me up a yummy quinoa stack and vegetable pasta. I'd also recommend the rustic charm of La Cave for warming French fare.

LOVE

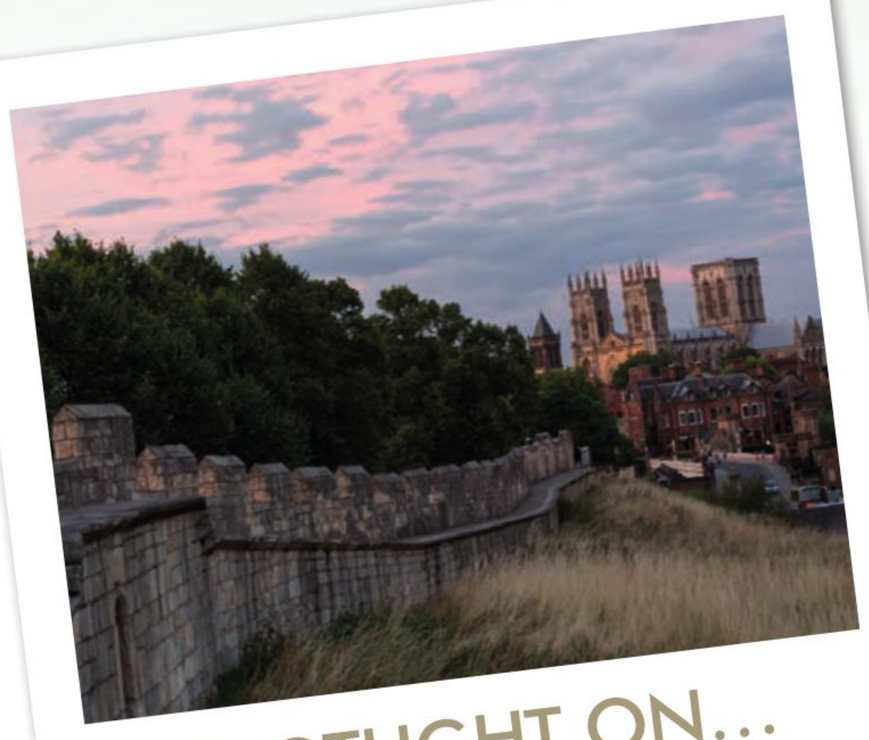
The final evening was spent looking out at the setting sun, cocktail in hand, watching the golden rays twinkle across the waves. It was a perfectly romantic time to reflect on a trip that offered everything honeymooners could want: adventure, luxury and unadulterated romance in equal measure.

For more information, and to book your stay, visit mazaganbeachresort.com

NEXT ISSUE

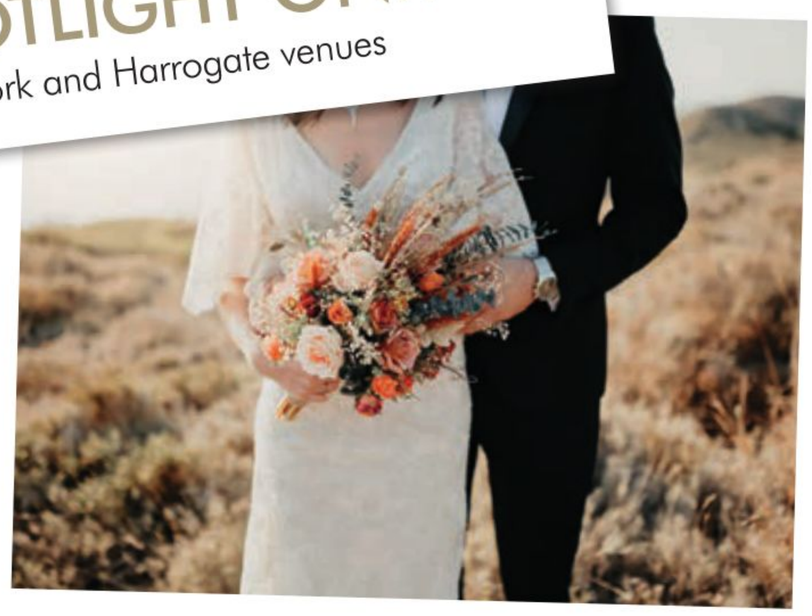
MAY/JUNE 2020

ON SALE: 8th May, 2020



SPOTLIGHT ON...

York and Harrogate venues



FLORAL ABUNDANCE

Bountiful big-day blooms

TO DINE FOR

The region's best foodie picks

RUFFLES AND LAYERS

Beautifully playful gowns

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Sign up for a year's subscription to *Your Yorkshire Wedding* and not only will you save money on the cover price, you'll also receive a pair of earrings worth £24*.
We've teamed up with Matthew Calvin to give County Wedding Magazine readers the chance to claim a pair of Allied Square Studs in sterling silver – worth £24 – when you take out a year's subscription.

These gorgeous Allied Square Studs, in sterling silver, gold and rose gold plate, use a special hand-finishing technique using different tools and hand-textured lines. These square studs are part of a tradition of the studio's pieces which are delicate enough to be layered up with other pieces from its collections, or will make an elegant statement piece by itself – perfect for your bridal look!

Matthew Calvin has become synonymous for contemporary jewellery design. Each piece is individually handmade to the highest standard with great attention to detail and finishing. All jewellery is complemented with clean and minimalist packaging that makes for the perfect gift for your bridal party!

Matthew Calvin also creates bespoke pieces, designed for his customers' most special life moments.

Visit matthewcalvin.com to view all the collections or to book a consultation for creating your own bespoke pieces.

All you need to do to claim your gift is take out a year's subscription to *Your Yorkshire Wedding*.*

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