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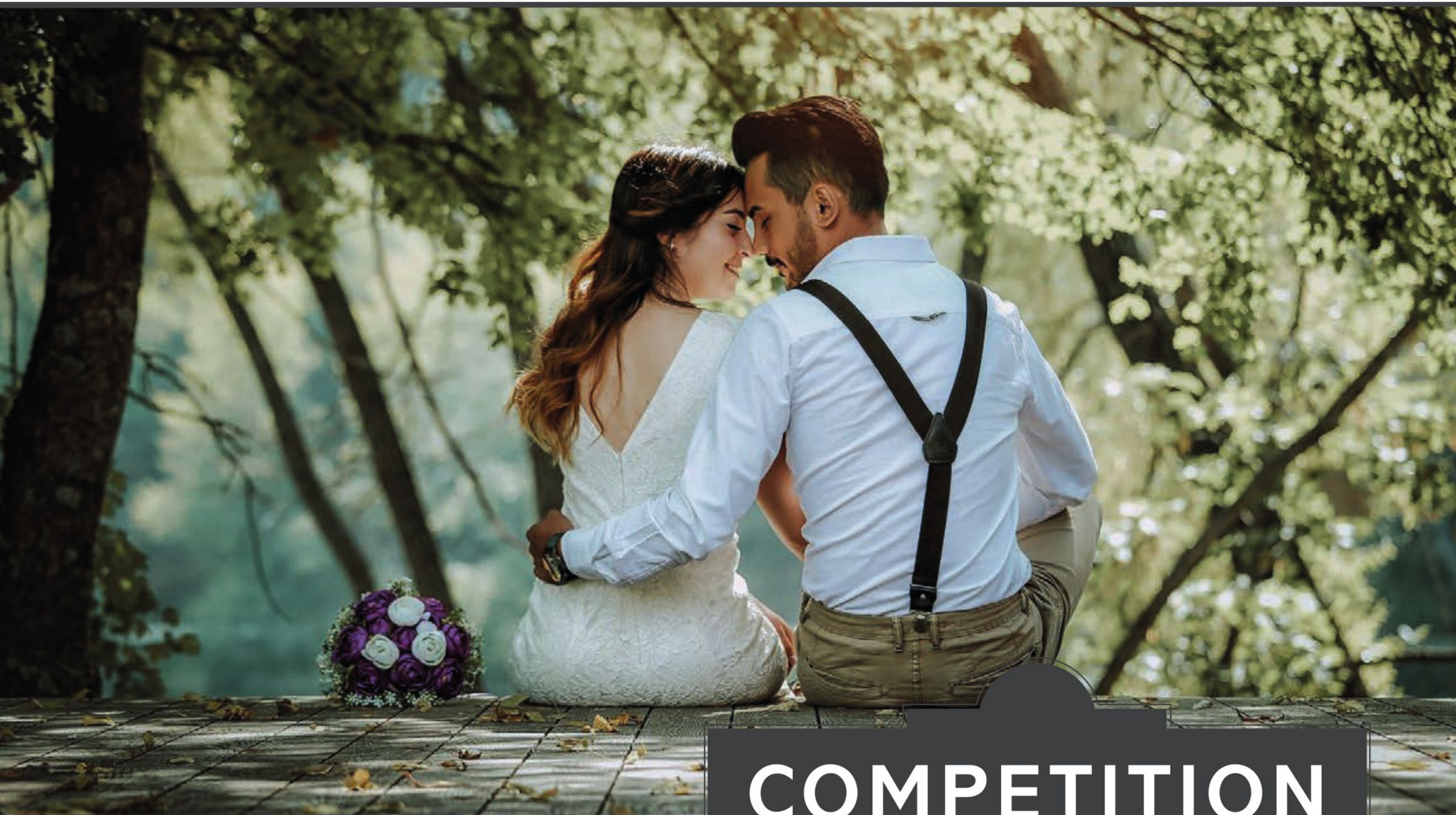
AUG/SEPT 2020



HONEYMOONS, BEAUTY, GROOMS, EXPERT ADVICE, FREEBIES AND MORE

Nº42

KEGWORTH HOUSE



No42 Kegworth House is a privately owned, family run mid-18th Century Georgian Townhouse, purchased by its new owners in 2016, and has undertaken an extensive refurbishment programme. When you book your wedding with us the property is exclusively yours, so that we can ensure you are at the centre of your Special Day.

This beautiful, newly accredited 4 Star Gold Award Winning Boutique venue nestles within the heart of Kegworth market village, running close to the River Trent and River Soar, within easy reach to East Midlands Airport, Nottingham, Derby and Loughborough should your guests need to travel from far and wide.

- 11 UNIQUE AND INDIVIDUALLY DESIGNED EN-SUITE BEDROOM • GUEST LOUNGE AND BAR • ORANGERY • PRIVATE WALLED GARDEN •

We offer EXCLUSIVE USE to make your day truly yours, for 50 Day Wedding guests & 80 Evening Wedding guests.

COMPETITION

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— 1ST PRIZE —

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- Three course Wedding Breakfast for 50 guests
- A Glass of Wine per person with your Wedding Breakfast for 50 guests
- A Toast Drink for 50 guests
- Brides Bouquet & 2 Bridesmaids Bouquets
- Three-Tier Wedding Cake
- Evening Buffet for 80 guests
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- Use of Cake Stand & Knife

— RUNNER UP PRIZES —

1ST RUNNER UP

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2ND RUNNER UP

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HOW TO ENTER:

Visit our website to purchase a ticket ONLY £5.00 per entry

The Competition will close on the **20th March 2021** in Celebration of National Proposal Day, with the Winner Announced on the **28th March 2021**

Telephone: 01509 672575 • Email: sales@kegworthhouse.co.uk • www.kegworthhouse.co.uk

NO42 KEGWORTH HOUSE, KEGWORTH DE74 2DA



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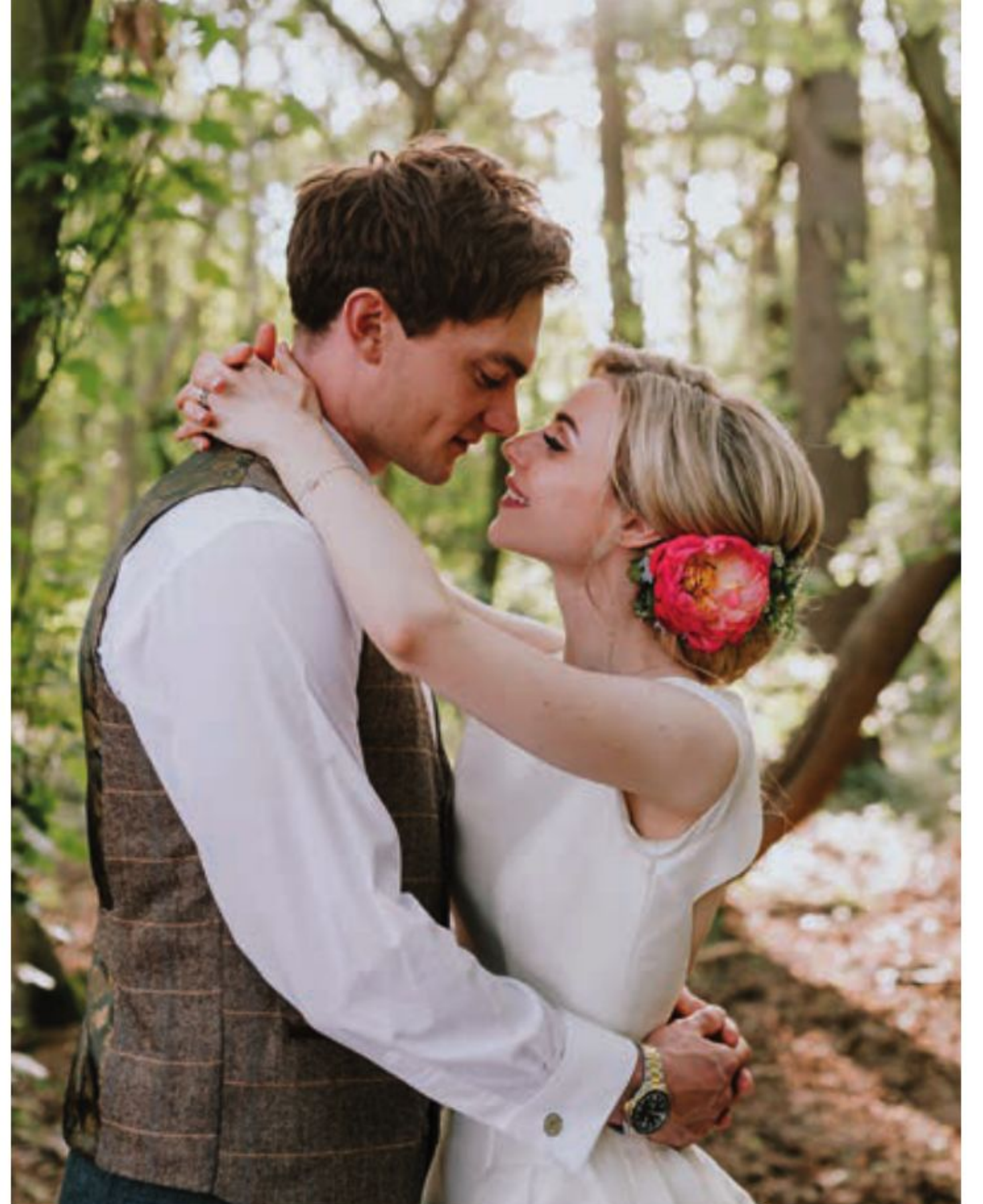
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Win a luxurious minimoon to Tuscany, Italy worth £1,500



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Image courtesy of Twig and Vine Photography, check out www.twigandvine.photography

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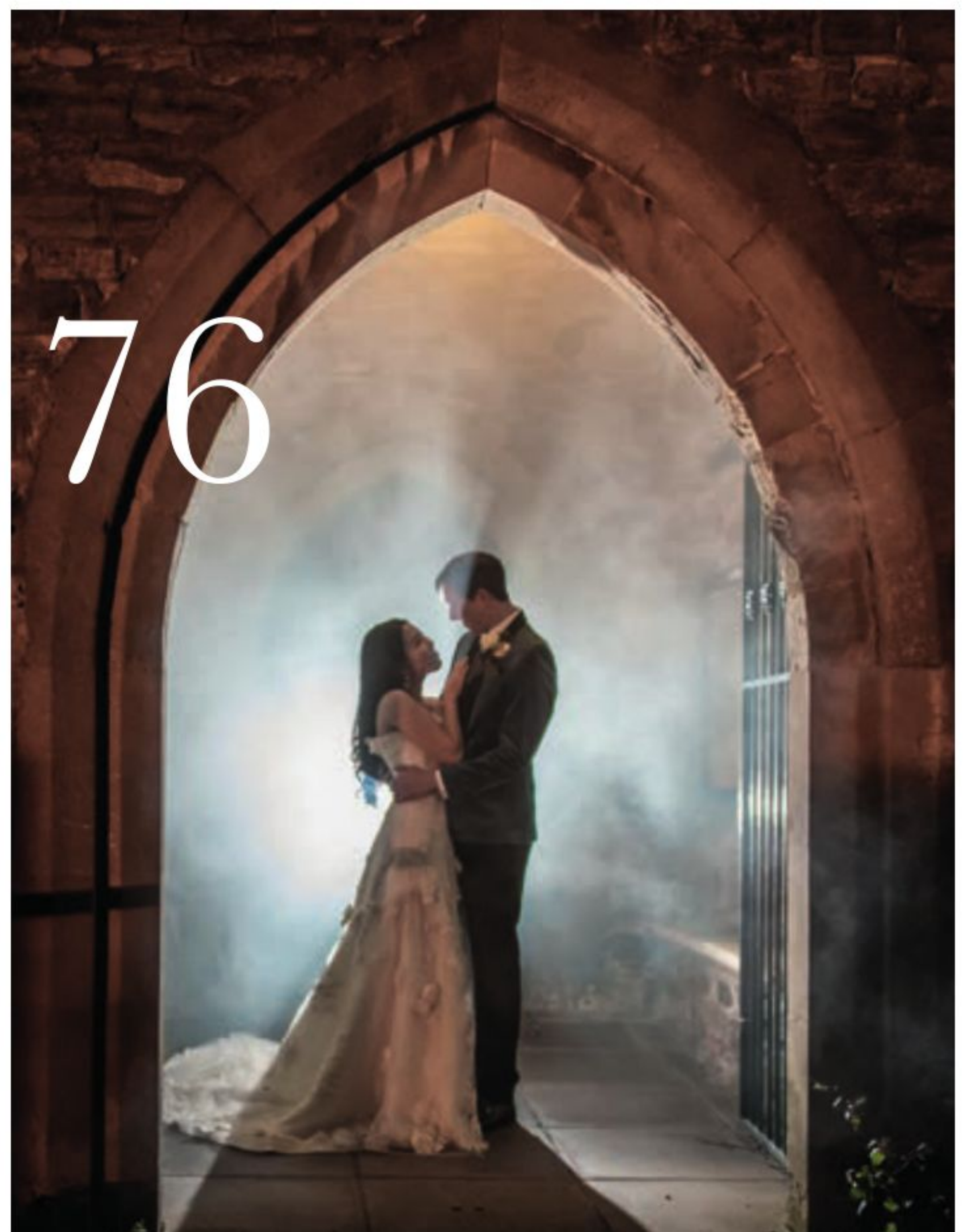
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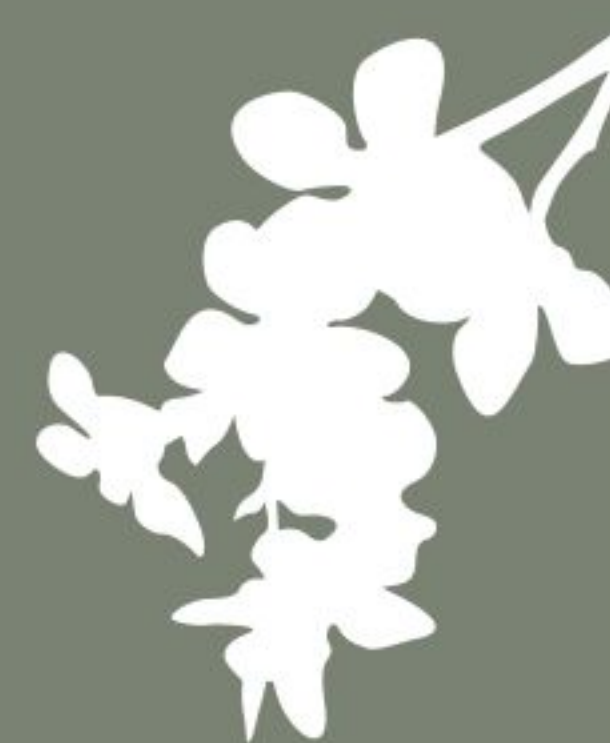


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Let the planning begin!



The last few months have been hard for us all. The uncertainties and challenges we've had to face have been so unpredictable, and for anyone who's postponed their wedding – I'm sending you a virtual hug. I'm amazed how even in the hardest times, community spirit shines

through and sheds some light on a very dark time. The positivity and support I've seen from couples and suppliers has been truly incredible and can be witnessed throughout this issue – I couldn't be prouder of us all.

Things are starting to look up, and for those planning your wedding, this issue is packed full of talented suppliers and big-day inspiration to make the planning process much more manageable.

Make sure to check out our photography feature where you will find picture perfect shots and learn about the people behind the most spectacular wedding bakes in our cake feature.

We've looked high and low for the top venues throughout the East Midlands, so if you're at the beginning of your wedding journey, make sure to check it out.

That's all from me, now sit back, relax and celebrate anything and everything wedding!

Olivia x

Olivia Gibson, Editor



Who doesn't love a good offer? Head to page 13 where we have a few waiting for you!



This shoot is bursting with inspiration for any wedding day on page 45.

I'm obsessed with Hannah and Richard's wedding on page 35, just look at that dress!



www.twigandvine.photography



www.ekpictures.com

Turn to page 73 for some expert advice when it comes to finding the perfect headwear.



Check out these big-day bakes on page 48.

This couple look so happy and in love on page 22!



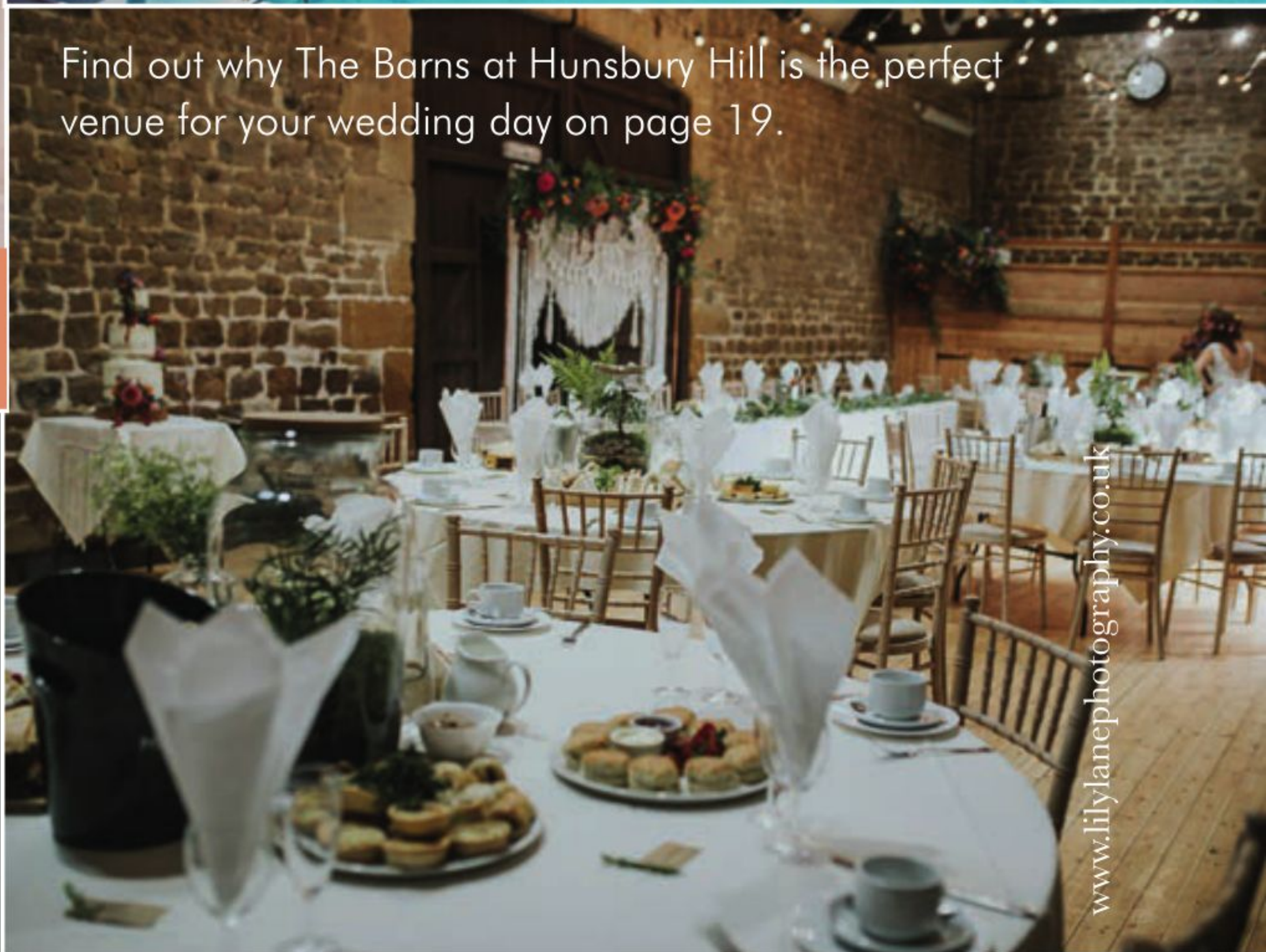
www.captcha.co.uk

EDITOR'S LETTER

A luxurious minimoon to Tuscany, Italy worth £1,500 page 85.



Find out why The Barns at Hunsbury Hill is the perfect venue for your wedding day on page 19.



www.lilylane photography.co.uk

Discover preloved dresses that have been lovingly restored on page 10.



Brampton Grange

Old world charm meets contemporary, with our stunning converted barns & elegant & romantic English Country House, all set in 25 acres of lavish countryside.

Team BG are the best!!! From our first visit to see the venue right up to taking our last sip of prosecco, the BG team were fab-u-lous!! - Keven & Fiona - Oct 2018



Visit our secret page for latest offers
www.bramptongrange.co.uk/secretpage/

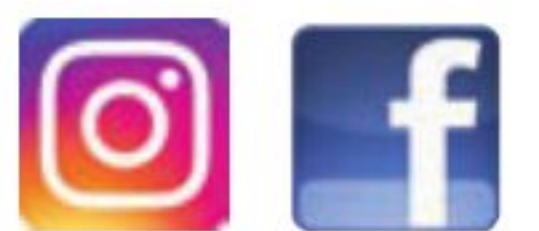
Wedding Fair
11am - 3pm

Sunday 18th October 2020

* date depending on COVID-19 guidelines

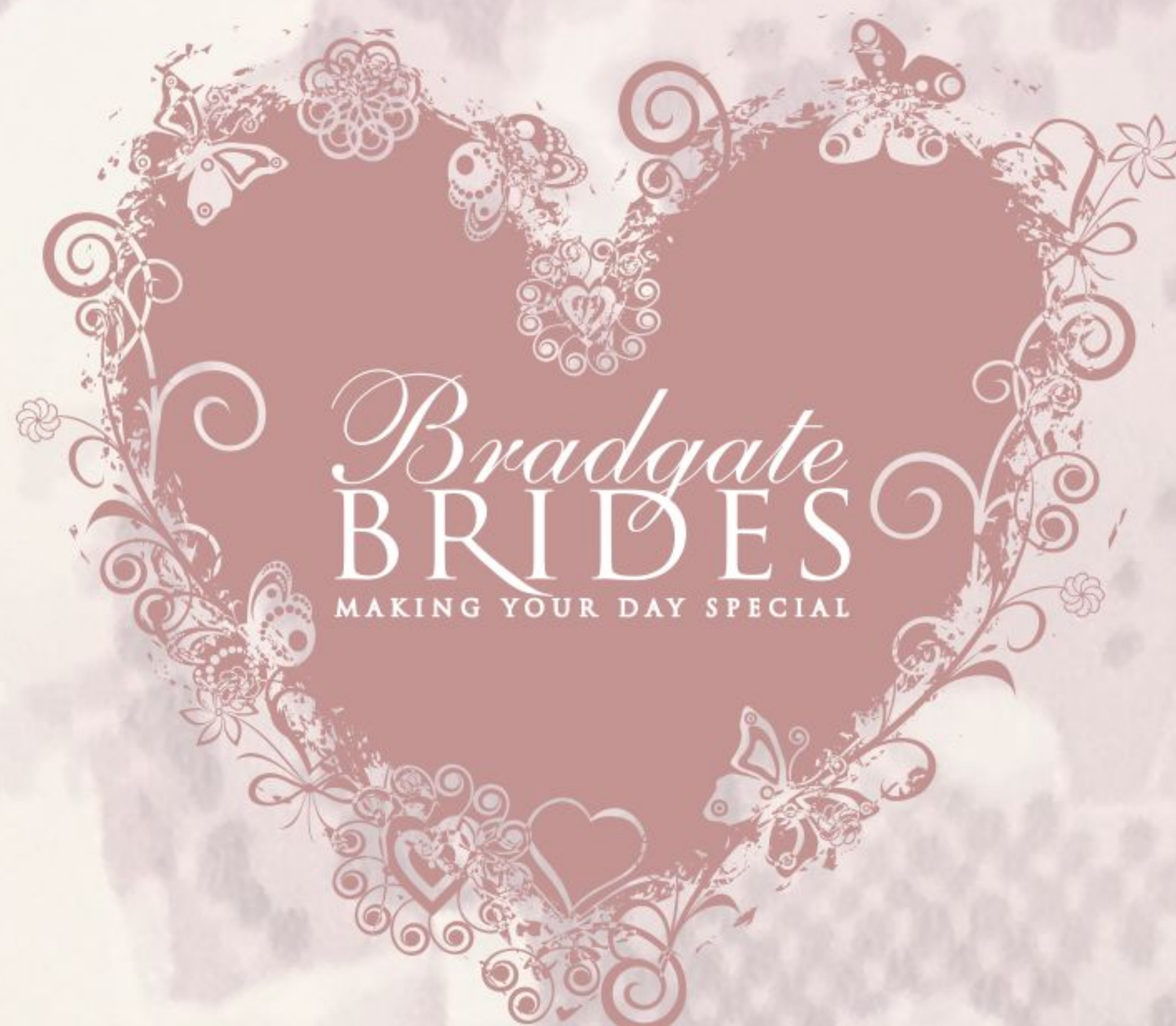
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Come and Feel safe knowing that you are in the hands of experts.

View our website www.bradgatebrides.co.uk for full details/opening times and gown images.

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A PERFECT DAY

Holmewood Hall understands the importance of providing assurance and certainty to newly engaged couples who are looking for their perfect wedding venue during this turbulent period. So, with this in mind, all remaining 2020 dates now come with a COVID-19 promise.

Sales Director Laura Styles says: "Should the government legislation surrounding the coronavirus prevent your wedding from going ahead, we will transfer your date into 2021 with no transfer fee. We also understand the economic uncertainty that some newly engaged couples are facing. Therefore, we're now offering excellent value Winter Wedding Packages for 60 guests for just £7,000 on all our remaining 2020 dates."

Couples are now able to arrange a 3D virtual tour of the venue from the comfort and safety of their own home. Call Delia, the sales manager, on 07776 686 386 or by email (info@holmewood-hall.co.uk) for more details about this.

Since March 2020, this premises has continued to support couples that have been affected by the pandemic to allow them to have the wedding of their dreams at a later date.

Find out more
www.holmewood-hall.co.uk

Nearlywed NEWS

All the latest from around the region



SAY 'I DO'

Quorn Grange Hotel is delighted to open its doors to couples once more following the COVID-19 pandemic. Since lockdown commenced in March, the team has been beaver away in the background working hard, maintaining the immaculate grounds and decorating the stunning interior safely. Changes have been made to the procedures and management and to complement the wedding and event team, the hotel has appointed a new general manager, so exciting endeavours for the future are underway. Georgia Wilkinson at Quorn Grange Hotel says: "We understand it has been a difficult time for couples planning their wedding. There has been so much uncertainty, but we're taking steps to ensure weddings can go ahead safely."

"We're offering an exclusive free wedding taster meal for the happy couple as well as a free night's stay in our gorgeous Honeymoon Suite on the night of the wedding."

The venue has also made a virtual tour of the entire grounds for lovebirds to see the spaces and to make sure the venue's perfect.

For more information visit www.quorngrangehotel.co.uk and find the tour here:

<https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=1rzHgk4bBut>

PICTURE PERFECT

KT Photography aims to create real, story-telling imagery for any big day, and that's why the company has created the ultimate package. For a limited time, nearlyweds can have a full day wedding photography, which includes bridal prep to the first dance, a second shooter from ceremony to first dance, an engagement photoshoot, 1 x A4 frame and 1 x A3 frame, personalised wooden USB and a viewing video of the wedding images, all at a cost of £800 with a saving of £535. This applies to any remaining 2021 to 2022 dates.

New this summer is the RETRO-CAM, a medium format-style photo booth, available for hire with a 20 per cent discount to all *Your East Midlands Wedding* magazine readers!

Enquire now at hello@kt-photo.com or visit www.kt-photo.com





www.michaelrileyphotography.com

STYLED TO PERFECTION

Based in the East Midlands, Medici Design Weddings is a venue styling company with an award-winning interior design background, readers of *Your East Midlands Wedding* magazine are now able to benefit from an incredible 20 per cent off any complete package booked before 30th September, 2020 – deposit applies. The team specialises in whole package hire and the designs give an integrated look and feel, ensuring a seamless aesthetic to any ceremony or reception. The package options include a base price for up to 30 people, with a per head price thereafter.

Alternatively, the company also offer stand-alone furniture and décor hire, including tables, chairs, canopies, tabletop décor and added extras such as tableware packs, on a per-unit hire basis.

In addition to weddings, the business is now able to offer an events service, making the items available to hire for all kinds of celebrations such as parties, birthdays, private and corporate events. Find out more: www.medicidesign.com



FASHION-FORWARD

DressPlace is one of the largest bridal boutiques and special occasions boutiques in the UK stocking a vast range of designers, and are now offering 20 per cent discount off any prom dress purchased in August – choose from gorgeous bridesmaid dresses for every budget and style. The business knows how distressing it has been during the pandemic with many events being postponed.

The company provides exceptional personal service by expert staff who will help brides choose a wedding dress, mother-of-the-bride outfit, or evening dresses with confidence and peace of mind. Just arrived from America is the fabulous Bill Levkoff collection to add to the ones from Richard Designs and Ella & Me.

Book your appointment at www.dressplace.co.uk or call 01159 246 368.



SAY YES TO THE DRESS

Things are getting super exciting at Flamingo Bridal; the boutique is about ready to open its doors – in a fully renovated vintage caravan called Penelope, which reflects the team's belief in rediscovering the beauty in old or discarded items. All of the company's vintage and preloved dresses have been handpicked and lovingly restored to their former glory – working sustainably doesn't mean compromise. Brides-to-be can expect a fun, informal and fully personalised experience; giving brides complete exclusivity and an opportunity to try on as many dresses as they like with two guests. Not to mention the full attention of Katy and Steph who are there to help with styling, fitting and, most importantly, sorting out music! The team can't wait to help brides find their perfect dress!

For appointments, visit the website www.flamingobridal.co.uk or contact the team directly at hello@flamingobridal.co.uk.

Pick of the bunch

Palm & Peony Flowers is a specialist wedding florist based in Leicester and is excited to give the *Your East Midlands Wedding* magazine readers some special offers! Get 10 free buttonholes when couples spend more than £500, a free bridesmaid bouquet and five buttonholes when they spend more than £750 or a bridal bouquet for free when more than £1,000 has been spent.

The business is also excited to be able to offer some great deals to couples that have been affected by COVID-19. For key workers or those who's wedding has had to be moved due to the pandemic, the team are offering a 10 per cent discount (on top of the above offers) off their wedding flowers.

To take advantage of any of these offers, fill out the contact form on www.palmandpeonyflowers.co.uk/contact and quote YEMW Magazine. Palm & Peony Flowers will then organise a consultation to discuss the big day – terms and conditions apply.



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SETTING THE TONE

When couples are looking for the perfect entertainer, it's important they find a supplier who they can trust and know will deliver on the special day.

Located in Derbyshire, Amp & Decks - Wedding DJs & Events is a multi-award-winning wedding DJ with state-of-the-art lighting, sound systems and video screens. The company's currently offering 10 per cent off any wedding package when couples quote *Your East Midlands Wedding* magazine before 24th September. With help from the team, lovebirds can transform a venue with the latest lighting technology and effects such as illuminated love letters, mood lighting, starlit backdrops, dancefloors, and so much more! Please note, all hire equipment is tested before it leaves the unit for the next wedding or event.

Find out more: www.djderbyshire.co.uk

Freebies & OFFERS

Take advantage of these gorgeous giveaways and fab offers

A PERFECT pair

Leading British watch label Tayroc present an elegant range of timepieces for today's discerning consumer. This stunning collection features quartz and chronograph watches that use Japanese Miyota movements, designed with high precision 316L stainless steel as standard throughout the range. Simple, modern and contemporary design is paramount within the collection and with meticulous horologist expertise, there is a style for every special occasion.

Highly established in the jewellery industry for its first-rate, premium mens, ladies and unisex timepieces. The collection also showcases sapphire coated lenses, hand-beaten leather interchangeable straps (which can be purchased separately), all complemented by Tayroc's dedicated attention to detail and cutting-edge designs.

Check out www.tayroc.com

County Wedding Magazines has teamed up with Tayroc to offer readers the chance to win a pair of beautifully designed watches for the newlyweds worth approximately

£200 – what's more, we have two sets up for grabs!

Terms and conditions apply, for your chance to win enter via our website.



STYLED TO PERFECTION

Based in the East Midlands, Stories of Style specialises in event styling and floral design and is known for originality and exceptional customer service. With a passion for beautiful floral work and bespoke creations, the company will create stunning backdrops for any special occasion anywhere in the UK and are experts in textures, colours, shapes and lighting. The business is currently offering 20 per cent off venue styling if couples quote *Your East Midlands Wedding* magazine before 30th September.

Or, if a full styling and floral package is booked, newlyweds will receive a bridal bouquet of their choice for free!

Find out more: www.storiesofstyle.co.uk

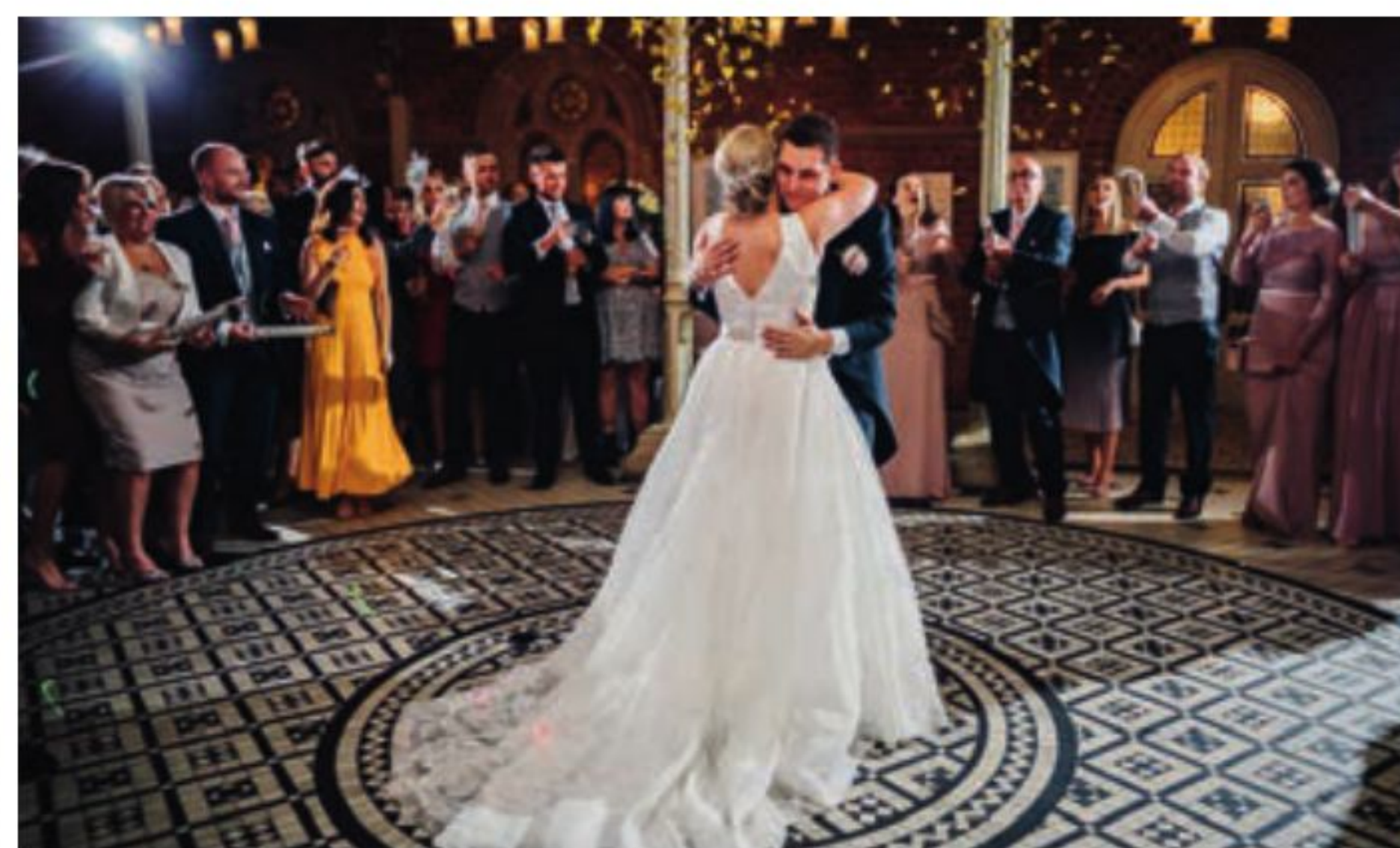
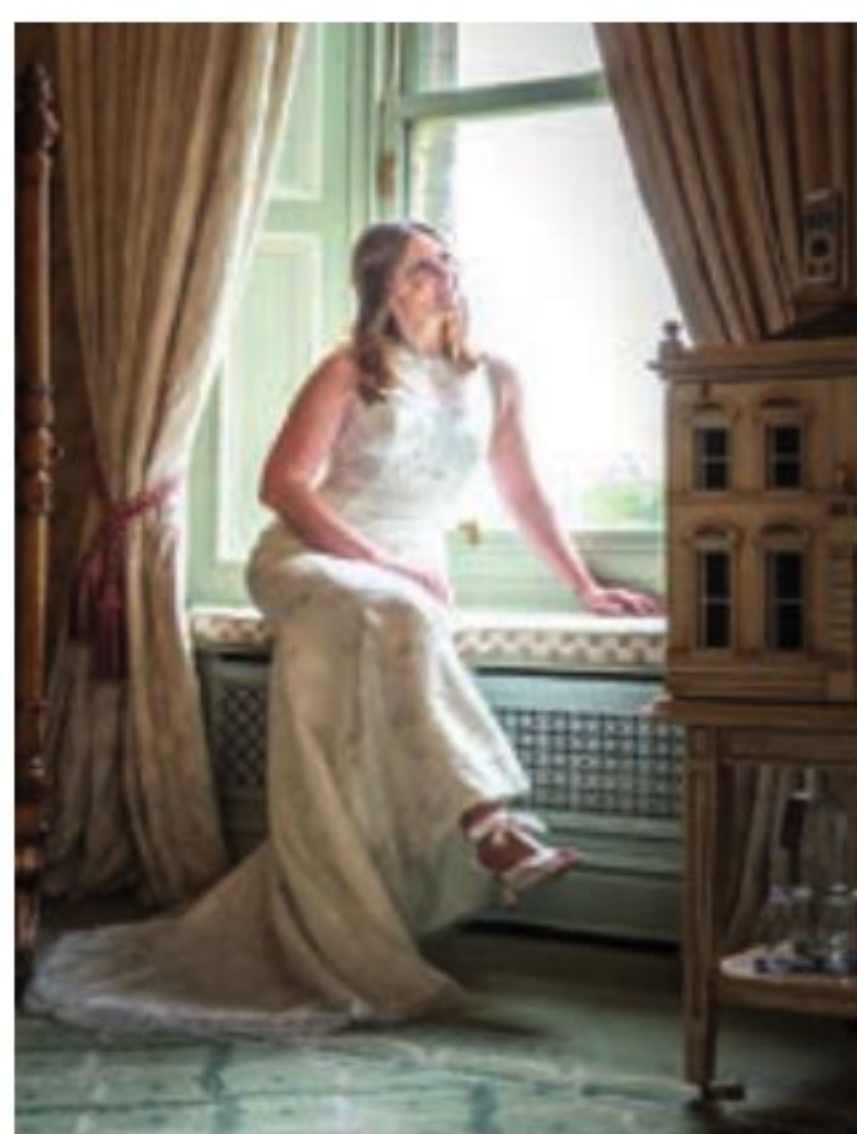
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Closing date is 2nd October 2020., unless stated otherwise.



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www.kilworthhouse.co.uk



I want to thank you so much for all the input you and your team gave to make my wedding day so wonderful. Everybody was so helpful, organised and fitted in with the day. Without your lead and help throughout the whole process, it would not have been as fantastic as it was. Everyone commented on how wonderful everything was. I was at ease all day. We are now thinking of plans for our first anniversary. Having a party back at Quorn Grange is something we are thinking about. Thanks again for everything. Your team are amazing.

Mr & Mrs- May 2019

Just wanted to say a massive thank-you to you. We had the most amazing day yesterday. From the first meeting with you until the big day you have been fantastic. I'm a bit of a panicker but you made it run like clockwork and fulfilled everything I wanted. The food, the room.. everything.. was beautiful. Could I please ask you to pass on my thanks to every single member of staff who were equally fantastic. Thank you again for everything.

Mr & Mrs- May 2019



We are Leicestershire's premier wedding venue and we are here to help you to make your special day truly exceptional, whether you choose to be inside or outside when you get married. Let us help you to organise a civil ceremony or wedding that is as unique as you and your partner – to share with your family and friends, creating memories that will last forever.

Beautifully refurbished for 2019, including banqueting facilities for up to 180 guests and 65 attractive bedrooms.

Licensed for indoor and outdoor ceremonies, have your choice of the Gazebo, Oak Panel Room or Goodacre Suite. With attentive staff and inspired menus, Quorn Grange Hotel provides very high standards of guest hospitality and accommodation.

For further details call 01509 412167
or visit www.quorngrangehotel.co.uk

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GOING LOCAL

Wed in Lincoln and around

HEMSWELL COURT

01427 668 508 | www.hemswellcourt.com

Hemswell Court is an elegant Georgian-style building which has two large function rooms with an impressive collection of antique furniture and décor. One boasts a spacious bar area and a dancefloor while the other overlooks the beautiful tranquil gardens.

The venue is approached through a beautiful tree-lined avenue, and prestigious ex-RAF officer's mess stands proudly in superb and spacious grounds with an array of plants, trees and flowers. The façade of the premises with its Georgian sash windows looks out onto the turning circle and bandstand with the seasonal wisteria playing host to a grand entrance.

The elegant private drawing room for civil marriages can seat up to 85 guests, offering high-ceilings and is decorated with neutral tones and a garden view. This room has privacy blinds for a candlelit ambience should it be required. For larger civil marriages, the Primrose Room can seat up to 120 guests, this room offers a traditional open fireplace for those cooler days and an original hardwood floor. Outside, the grounds can seat 10

to 150 guests, with the bandstand being used for the bride and groom to exchange their vows.

The private dining room is perfect for small intimate receptions and can seat 32 guests on the gorgeous extendable dark wood tables surrounded by antique chairs. The light and airy Primrose Room, with additional chandeliers this can seat up to 120 guests for a reception. The Ballroom incorporates a spacious bar area that will seat up to 150 guests. For evening receptions, the venue has the capacity to go up to 200 with the additional use of the in-house disco and dancefloor.

The venue has 25 en suite 5* AA rated bedrooms, which includes a full Lincolnshire breakfast the following morning, there's even a private, secure car park for all guests.

We love...

Lovebirds will have exclusivity of the premises from the moment they arrive until their departure on the following day.



BARDNEY HALL

01652 638 188 | www.bardneyhall.co.uk

Bardney Hall is an impressive Queen Anne mansion house nestled within extensive manicured grounds, located in the charming market town of Barton-upon-Humber, North Lincolnshire. The grounds and exterior provide a plethora of photo opportunities for one of the most important days of a couple's lives and the venue's exclusively theirs for the entire weekend.

The quintessentially English gardens are filled with an abundance of specimens giving interest and colour throughout the year, bordered with immaculate topiary and mature trees. There are even garden games, including croquet and boules, for all guests to enjoy.

The hall is beautifully decorated and is a fantastic place for couples to spend the entire weekend with their loved ones. The function room is licensed for ceremonies up to 50 guests and is classically decorated in neutral colours and adorned with large

mirrors. The area gets transformed into a reception space for 40 guests. If a larger space is desired, the beautiful marquee is available for up to 90 people in the day and 100 in the evening – legal documents are signed in the function room.

The hall has retained many exceptional architectural features, and it still displays the opulent grandeur of a bygone age, but with all the comforts of the modern era. The downstairs has a sitting room with grand piano, breakfast room, function room, bar and games room with table football, ping pong and snooker.

We love...

Upstairs boasts five individually designed bedrooms each with a private bathroom, and the bridal suite has a spa bath and steam room.



www.georgimabee.com



<http://teedanielsphotography.com>

IRNHAM HALL

01476 550 244 | www.irnhamhall.co.uk

One of South Lincolnshire's best-kept secrets, Irnham Hall is an enchanting, privately owned and romantic stately home, built between 1380 and 1510. Through the inviting gates and down the drive, couples will find the stunning architecture of the hall itself. Take guests on a journey of discovery through gardens and hedge arches and into the magic calmness of the Walled Garden.

The grounds are beautiful and boast flowerbeds, undulating lawns and a pond, and is nestled in the lovely rolling countryside and farmland. The estate sits at the centre of Irnham Village, a picturesque Stamford Stone village.

The venue is an elegant, Grade I listed stately home with fabulous spaces for ceremonies including the Great Hall (100 guests), the Orangery (120), the outdoor pavilion (150) or St Andrews Church, which is on the grounds. The wonderful airy

and bright summer house is perfect for the main reception meal; a vaulted beamed ceiling allows plenty of light and muted grey floors and white walls with floor-to-ceiling windows. The room will seat up to 130 on round tables, and there is a separate bar area and plenty of room to dance the night away with 200 loved ones.

Leila and Jamie Benton Jones head the weddings at Irnham Hall and are always on hand to help with any questions, and there's extra staff to help run your day smoothly. The team even have recommended suppliers such as caterers, photographers and florists and DJs.

We love...

The Brides Cottage is included for one night when booking a wedding here.



THE WEDDINGS AT BRACKENBOROUGH

01507609169 | www.weddingsatbrackenhurst.co.uk

Situated on the edge of the Lincolnshire Wolds in acres of beautiful landscape sits The Brackenborough, an idyllic spot perfect for any wedding celebrations.

Licensed for civil ceremonies, there are three different locations to make a grand entrance, two of which are situated outdoors amidst the beautifully landscaped grounds.

Whichever option is picked, the team will ensure this part of the day runs just as smoothly as the rest of it. Music requests, seating plans and anything else required can all be taken care of with ease. Enjoy the wedding breakfast with nearest and dearest in the Tennyson Suite – overlooking the grounds – but not overlooked by anyone else. Various packages all have an exceptional range of menu options and are freshly prepared

by the AA Rosette-awarded kitchen team, all accompanied by whichever drinks package lovebirds opt for.

As the evening kicks in, the resident DJ will get the party started. With ample space for live music and entertainment too, couples' imagination can run riot as the sun goes down! As well as music, guests will also enjoy more delicious food to keep everyone going – with packages and options to suit all tastes and budgets.

We love...

From arrival drinks right through to waving off the final stragglers; this venue has all of the facilities, style and space couples need to have the best day possible.

ALSO CHECK OUT...

WASHINGBOROUGH HALL

Located in Lincolnshire, Washingborough Hall is a beautiful Grade II listed Georgian manor house hotel, which is bursting full of character and elegant features. From the minute couples book the venue, the team will be on hand to help every step of the way. Find out more: www.washingboroughhall.com

PETWOOD HOTEL LIMITED

Full of character and charm, Petwood Hotel is not just one of the best hotels in Lincolnshire, but a wonderful place to get married at any time of the year. Catering for both larger or more intimate weddings – this venue has something for every couple. The award-winning gardens of Petwood Hotel make the perfect backdrop for wedding photography. From the splendour of the Long Walk and colourful Rhododendron tunnels to the peaceful sanctuary of the walled garden and temple of Atalanta, every corner boasts a picture-perfect view.

Find out more: www.petwood.co.uk

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Situated on a beautiful historical setting, Newstead Priory is the perfect wedding venue to say 'I do' with more than 15 years of experience in holding these special events – the company knows what's vital to make a wedding day extra special. The stunning Grade I listed building is set in 20 acres of picturesque ground, which is the perfect backdrop for wedding photography.

Find out more: www.newsteadpriory.co.uk

STUBTON HALL

Stubton Hall is surrounded by 23 acres of parkland and set in a quiet corner of Lincolnshire, looking out over a small lake, majestic trees and fields. The south side has an enormous terrace and a long, canal-shaped fountain. The view from the Orangery changes with the seasons as it opens to Stubton's ample lawns and many trees.

The 19th-century country house provides a stunning backdrop for photos – the main block of the Hall was designed by Sir Jeffry Wyatville, architect to George IV in 1814.

Find out more: www.stubtonhall.co.uk



The Barns AT HUNSBURY HILL

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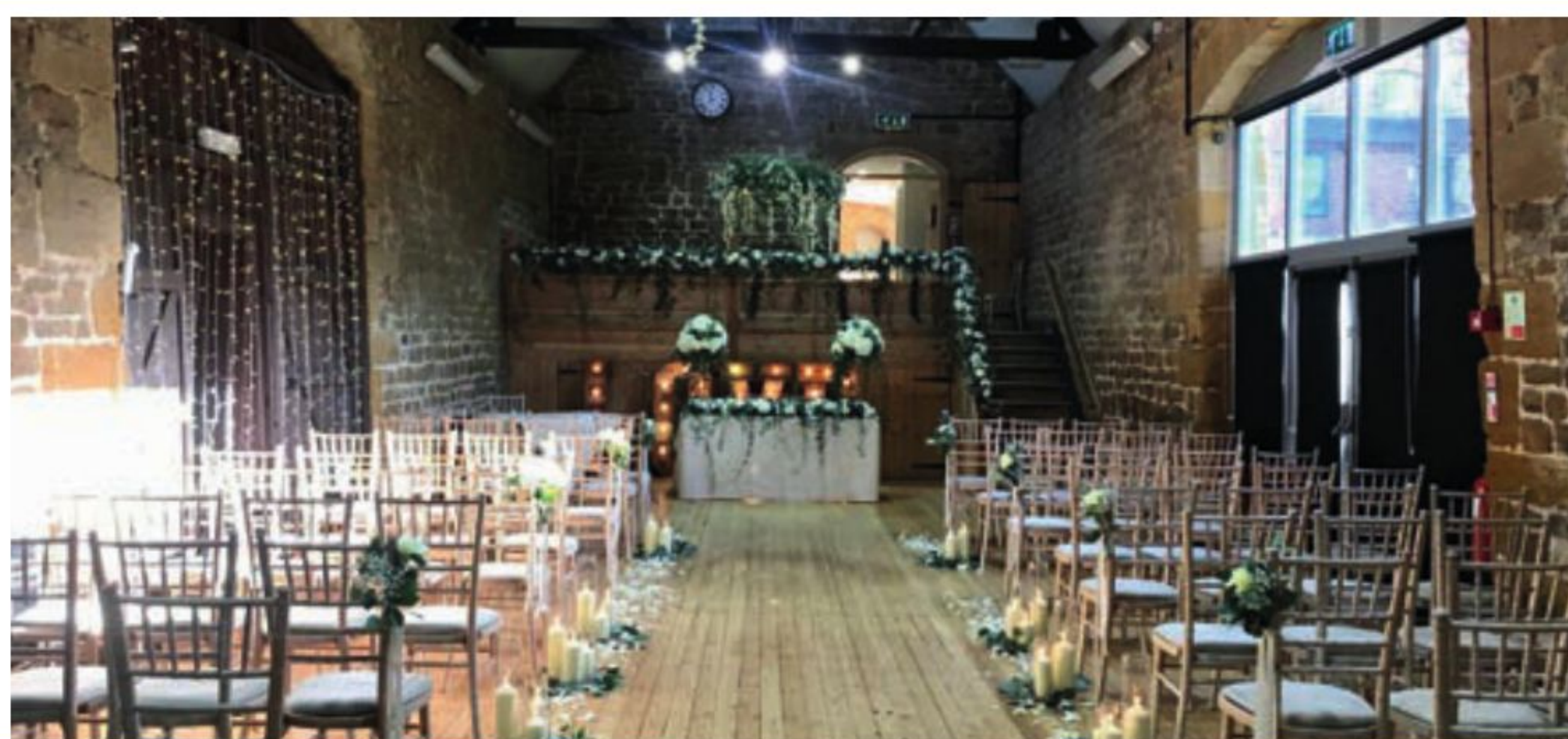
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Come and view this hidden jewel: The Barns at Hunsbury Hill

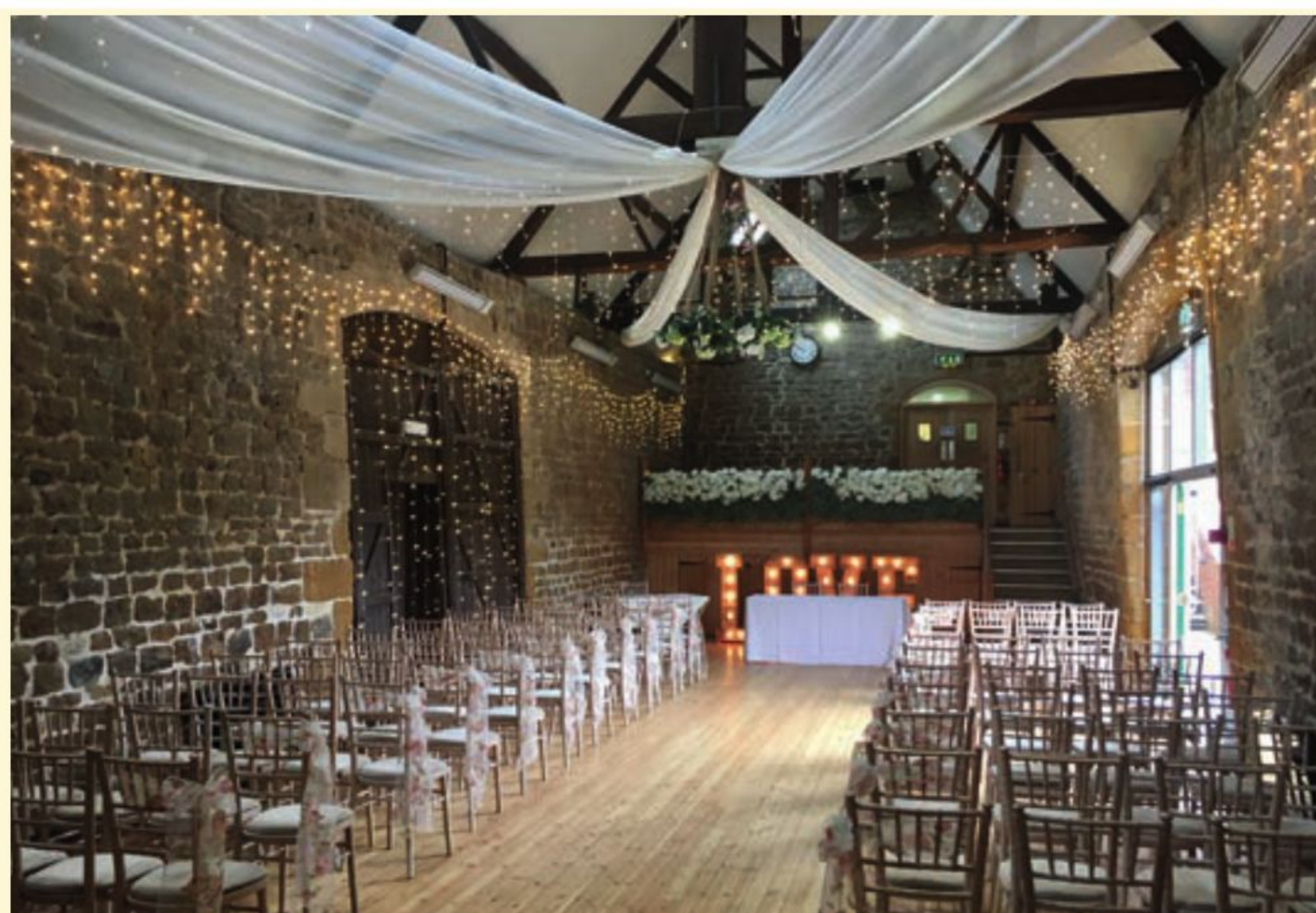
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Beautiful BARNs

Say 'I do' in a rustic haven



THE BARNS AT HUNSBURY HILL

01604 702 444 | www.hunsburyhillcentre.co.uk

Situated in 13 acres of land, The Barns at Hunsbury Hill is located within woodlands and traditional English-styled gardens. Couples are surrounded by beautiful buildings, which are full of history, such as the old Farmhouse and a variety of barns – making the venue a truly hidden gem.

The premises has been lovingly restored to embrace the history of the building and features beautifully exposed original stonework and wooden beams, which adds to the intimate rustic charm. This outstanding barn can be further enhanced by the couple's own choice of colours and décor.

The venue has a spectacular octagonal grassed courtyard

which takes centre stage with the Farmhouse, two barns, the larger High Barn and the smaller, more intimate Low Barn, animal sheds and a bar area. Not only does the courtyard provide a great flow to any event, but also acts as a shelter enabling the use of the outside space as much as possible to offer a typical summer English event.

Ceremonies take place in the restored High Barn with exposed stonework, and wooden beams which can hold 85 guests. This space will then get transformed into an evening reception for 180 loved ones.

We love...

The venue provides a food taster evening as part of the wedding package and currently has offers available on winter weddings 2021, and midweek weddings 2021.



CROCKWELL FARM

01327 361 358 | www.crockwellfarm.co.uk

Crockwell Farm is situated in stunning rural surroundings in the South Northamptonshire countryside amongst beautiful gardens. There's an orchard with a pavilion for outside ceremonies and lots of beautiful spots for reception drinks and photographs, as well as a pretty wooden veranda for evening entertainment.

The interiors at the venue feature a beautiful original stone barn that can host ceremonies for up to 86 guests alongside the newly

refurbished rustic bar with oak timbers and a cosy fireplace. The bar leads through to the starlit marquee; a stunning dining space for up to 200 guests and adjoining hidden dancefloor.

Ceremonies can also take place in the marquee or outside in the Orchard Pavillion for 200 loved ones, while the wedding breakfast is generally held in the marquee and adjoining rustic bar.

We love...

Crockwell Farm offers exclusive use over three days and the honeymoon cottage is included free of charge for two nights.



KEYTHORPE MANOR

01162 598 100

www.keythorpemanor.com

Located in the rolling hills of Leicestershire, lovebirds will arrive at the mile-long driveway and find the secluded grounds of Keythorpe Manor, which is surrounded by age-old trees. There are multiple spaces that are perfect for stunning photo opportunities, including the stone steps in the formal gardens which are ideal for group shots.

With the option of either the chic, conservatory-style marquee or the converted Oak Barn and Stables, Keythorpe Manor is ideal for either extravagant social and

corporate events, or intimate wedding receptions and ceremonies.

The conservatory-style marquee can be partitioned to create a smaller civil ceremony room, its ivory and white colour palette creates an exquisite backdrop for a large or small civil ceremony. The Oak Barn has the perfect balance of rustic charm and modern elegance; the sizeable traditional doors are where the aisle walkway begins, and the glass doors open on to a terrace area, where photos take place. The restored historic barn, with natural elements of wood and exposed original brick, was originally a hay barn as part of the stables and is now an intimate venue for ceremonies and

partnerships. The ceiling is adorned with wooden beams, up-lighters and is centered with a large wrought iron chandelier, which creates a spectacular setting.

Both spaces have adjoining patio areas that overlook stunning panoramic views of the countryside. The neutral interiors allow clients to customise their events. For receptions, the Oak Barn holds up to 150 guests while the marquee holds 400.

We love...

The venue now offers clients the option to come and celebrate their first anniversary to reminisce about their special day!



www.ewpphotography.com



www.emmadphotography.com

BRAMPTON GRANGE

01604 844 717 | www.bramptongrange.co.uk

Brampton Grange is a fabulous period property that's perfect for weddings. The country house is exquisite; dating back to the 18th-century it exudes character and charm but has also been lovingly restored by an Italian architect and is filled with modern touches.

This venue's history is varied, with the estate once belonging to the Spencer family of the Althorp Estate, but has been privately owned for the past 15 years. With more than 400 years of history, there are many period features within Brampton Grange House while the interior of the venue offers a modern and contemporary decorated barn.

The venue stands out with its sand-coloured natural stone, imposing arched porch framing the front door and attractive bay windows, not forgetting the sweeping driveway. The house is striking, instantly inviting and provides a fantastic backdrop for wedding photographs.

Combining the grandeur of a country house and the rustic charm of a delightful barn location, this stunning venue offers

the best of both worlds for couples' special day. The grounds are glorious with extensive manicured lawns, a traditional courtyard and romantic walled garden – all of which have many hidden spots that are perfect for photos.

The main entrance of the venue is a stunning orangery with original exposed brickwork. The orangery leads on to a courtyard and the main barns, all with high-ceilings, timber-beams and stunning chandeliers.

Anyone wishing to hold a wedding at Brampton Grange can choose either the Verona barn, which works well for intimate ceremonies or the Venice barn, with its floor-to-ceiling drapes and fairy lights. This is ideal for bigger numbers. Both are licensed for civil ceremonies, and there's only one wedding per day.

We love...

The Florence Barn is a superb space typically used for the wedding breakfast and evening entertainment. Spacious and sophisticated, it's contemporary in style and boasts a glass balcony overlooking the dancefloor. Guests can sit back, relax and enjoy some drinks.



credit to both images www.matthoraphotography.com

HAZEL GAP BARN

01623 708500 | www.crippsandco.com

Nestled in Nottinghamshire, Hazel Gap Barn was converted by Cripps & Co, a family-run business with more than 25-year experience restoring barns and creating the perfect wedding spaces. The beautiful red brick wedding barn is flanked by two unusual watch towers, which create a dramatic entrance for guests.

With its traditional oak timber and elegant arches, the main barn is the ideal location for a ceremony with a capacity of 150. The area features a large fireplace, fairy lights and giant candelabra, which bathe the space in light and create a romantic atmosphere. The room is

transformed and decorated for dancing after dinner.

Receptions are held in the Oak Room and courtyard for 150 for a wedding breakfast and 250 in the evening. This light-filled room has views over the gardens and woodland on one side and a bar that spills out onto the courtyard.

Surrounded by the barn buildings, the courtyard is a sheltered and peaceful space with a fountain, trees, seating and planters. At night the yard is lit up with fairy lights, fire pits and lanterns.

We love...

The premises offers regular Feast Nights for couples to sample a range of the most popular dishes.



www.aaroncollettphotography.co.uk



www.nataliejweddings.com



www.hannahhallphotography.co.uk

DODMOOR HOUSE

weddings@dodmoorhouse.co.uk

www.dodmoorhouse.co.uk

Located in four acres of beautiful land, Dodmoor House is a converted Grade II listed barn with original features such as the wooden beams and exposed brick walls with romantic touches. All three barns are positioned around the courtyard – the hub of every wedding – covered with hundreds of fairy lights.

The landscaped grounds include seasonal plants and flowers meaning colour all year round for photos. The lawn is the star in the summer with a giant oak tree offering much-needed shade, and the premises are situated next to a country lane, which

provides a lovely walk for couples to have photos. The secret garden down on the lawn has a brick wall lined with rose bushes and a feature mirror and doorway.

Ceremonies of up to 100 guests take place in the Courtyard Barn, which offers five large glass doors that can be left open in hot weather, making the service almost feel like it's taking place outside. There are original wooden beams and the light-up pallet wall at the end of the aisle, which offers an ideal backdrop to say 'I do'.

Smaller ceremonies up to 60 guests can take place in the Catesby Barn with a double-height ceiling with two iron candelabras, which can be decorated with foliage to add more drama. This area is also where the wedding breakfast

takes place. Here guests can be seated on traditional round tables, which seat up to 58 guests or long trestles tables, which bring a more informal feel to the barn that can seat up to 80 guests. The mezzanine, which overlooks the ground floor, can seat a further 16.

The Courtyard Barn lends itself perfectly for smaller wedding breakfasts up to 58 guests on round tables or one large banqueting table, where up to 44 guests can all sit together for an intimate and inclusive meal.

We love...

In the evening, the party takes place in the Catesby Barn, with the modern Mezzanine Bar coming alive!



Love IS ALL AROUND

Robert and Wendy's
beautiful day featured
tones of ivory and cerise
Images courtesy of
Captcha Photography



After working for the same employer, Robert and Wendy first met after he challenged her to identify a rogue piece of metal contamination. From that moment, the pair would occasionally bump into each other and after a while, realised their compatibility. Wendy says, “We were both separated from our partners at the time and found it easy to talk and support each other through the difficult times we were both experiencing.”

She adds: “My feelings for Robert started as a friendship, but over the weeks I realised that I wanted to spend more and more time with him – just doing mundane things like shopping together. One day we were driving through Derbyshire, the sun was shining, and the song *Everywhere* from Fleetwood Mac was playing on the stereo. We were both singing (very badly) at the top of our voices and that was the moment when I knew he was the one.”

For Robert, he knew she was perfect for him while in Norfolk when he started missing Wendy, once he got back, he confessed his feelings.

During a meal out at the World Service restaurant in Nottingham on Wendy’s birthday, he popped the question. Wendy says: “When we arrived, he wouldn’t let the waitress take his jacket, which I thought was a little strange. After a lovely meal, we went into the lounge area for an after-dinner drink. We sat at a table tucked away in a secluded corner, which had a reserved sign on it. Then Robert went down on one knee and took a box out of his pocket and asked me to marry him; I couldn’t say ‘yes’ at first because I was too busy wiping away the tears. I did nod, though.”

She adds: “I thought Robert would never want to get married again; we were fine as we were, so when he popped the question I was totally surprised, and very proud that I would be Mrs Wendy Phillips.”

SETTING THE SCENE

Robert and Wendy picked St Mary’s Church, East Leake for their ceremony as Robert preferred to exchange vows there. He says: “Although we have both been married before, the vicar Rev Tim Parker said he had no problem in marrying us, we just had to be resident in the parish for at least three months.”

After having Sutton Bonington Hall recommended to them as a wedding venue, the pair contacted the team. The hall’s old-world charm, peaceful and serene caught their attention and the owners were very charming and professional.

Robert comments: “Things were starting to fall into place. Numbers of guests restricted us as we wanted everyone to be in the conservatory for the wedding breakfast. So, we had six tables for guests and a sweetheart table for us.”

The centrepieces matched the colour scheme of ivory and cerise as well as the cake, which consisted of three tiers. The flavours included chocolate and orange ganache, lemon and elderflower, and fruit as the top tier.

As Robert doesn’t eat meat, and some of the guests had dietary requirements, they needed to have two options for each course of the wedding breakfast. To keep the little ones happy, (including the six grandchildren between them), a sweet table was used, which was a big hit with guests. The couple also had a wish tree for friends and family to write messages or general words of wisdom.

On the day, the pair hired a Rolls Royce Phantom VII from Lymn Luxury Vehicle Hire – this created the perfect backdrop for the images.

LOOKING THE PART

When it came to finding the perfect dress, the bride-to-be picked a full-length ivory lace gown with a short train by Maggie Sottero, which featured a scalloped neckline, capped sleeves, and a stunning sheer back. As soon as she tried it on, she knew it was *the one*. She says: “I decided not to have a veil as the back of the dress was sheer, and I wanted to display that. I chose a simple, elegant hair clip that would secure my half updo.”

Robert wore a mid-blue Sawyers & Hendricks three-piece suit supplied by Slaters Menswear in Nottingham, with a contrasting ivory jacquard waistcoat, pink floral tie with matching handkerchief. The best men, Wendy’s son and Robert’s son, both wore the same suit and accessories except the waistcoat to





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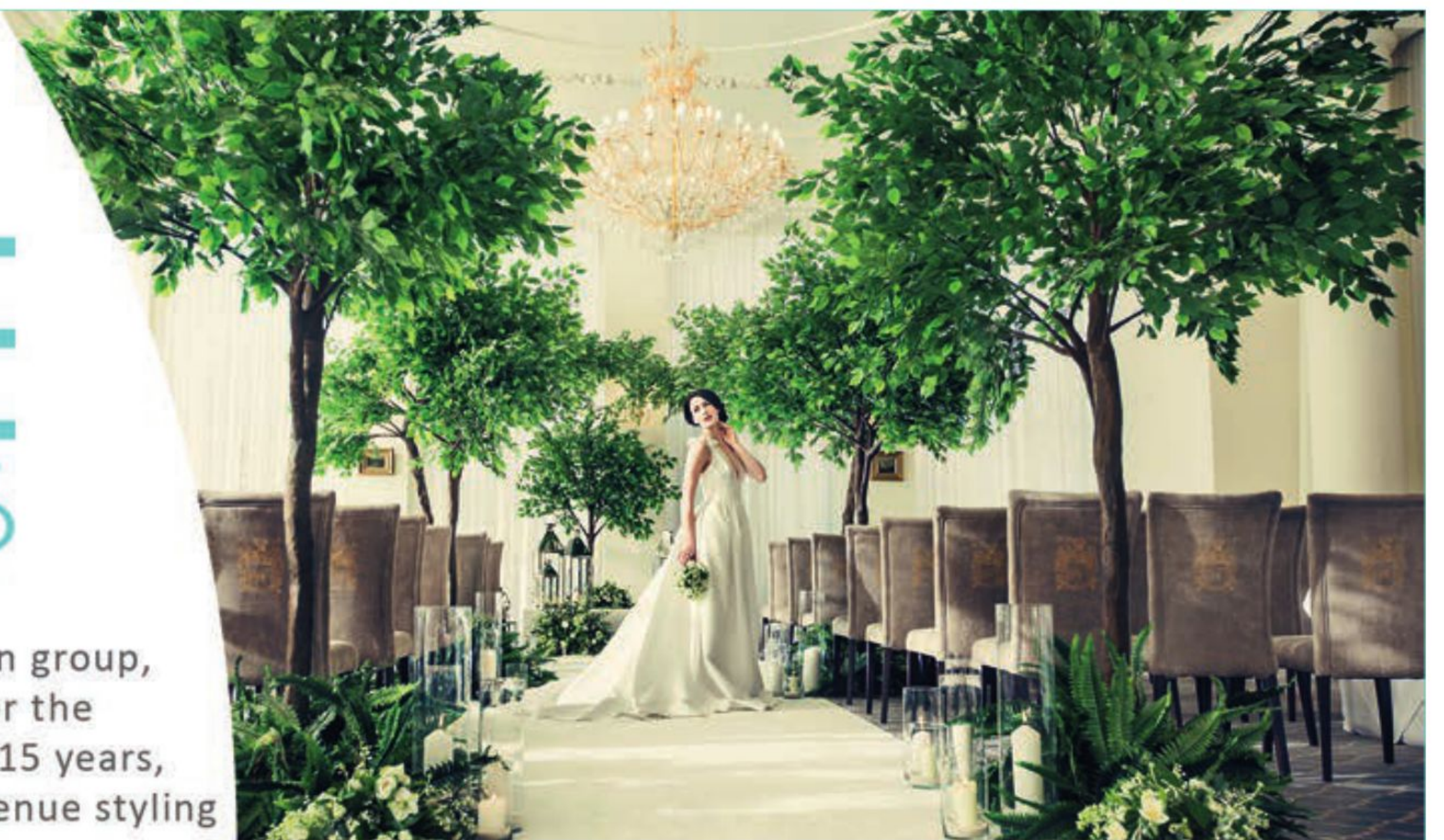
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allow Robert to stand out.

The pair's two granddaughters were bridesmaids and wore multi-coloured dresses with a cerise pink sash while the pageboys (their four grandsons), wore mid-blue shorts with a matching waistcoat and white short-sleeved shirts.

MEMORABLE MOMENTS

The day itself happened to be the hottest one of the year, but that didn't stop the pair having the best day. Wendy says: "Neither of us was nervous, which was reflected in the photographs as Hayley our photographer managed to get some amazing pictures. As we are both slightly more mature in age, we took the day in our stride and made the most of it." Wendy's son Tom gave her away with the couple enjoying a perfect service – their photographer managed to get some wonderful shots. Wendy adds: "I know how difficult it can be to get little ones to sit still for any length of time, so I didn't get stressed out when the children started wandering around the church during the service. One of the bridesmaids, Etta, decided she wanted to sit on my knee at one point, and Bear, the youngest pageboy played hide and seek behind the alter with one of the clergymen."

TIME TO CELEBRATE

To keep guests entertained, the couple booked a singing waiter. Robert says: "At a given moment, which only Wendy and I knew about, he made his entrance by pretending to trip up and drop a tray full of cutlery on the floor, he certainly got everyone's attention with all the noise. He then pulled a microphone from his apron, cue music, and started singing Robbie Williams *Let Me Entertain You*, what a start! He got everyone dancing, singing and even playing air-guitar!"

The day consisted of so many beautiful moments, but the main part that really stood out to Robert was seeing Wendy in her beautiful wedding dress and being surrounded by loved ones. He says: "Seeing all of our friends and family seated in the church was special. As Tim, the vicar said beforehand 'pause and take your time as you'll never see this view again'."

A lovely touch from the day was when the lovebirds entered the room for the wedding breakfast to *Vader March* from *Star Wars*. Wendy comments: "After the wedding and reception, we booked a taxi to take us to Breedon Hall where we spent our wedding night, on the way we diverted to The Star Inn at West Leake and walked into the pub still with our wedding outfits on."

She adds: "Another funny moment was during the wedding breakfast, Etta and Luna swapped shoes with Bear, so we have a fabulous photo of him wearing pink sparkly shoes. He got his own back when he refused to take them off."

The couple were so happy with their photographer, Wendy says: "Hayley captured the day perfectly, she was amazing! Charlotte at Portfolio Events was also great; nothing was too much trouble. She certainly made sure the day went as smoothly as possible."

HONEYMOON

To celebrate the new chapter in their lives, the pair jetted off to the beautiful island of Kefalonia in Greece for two weeks. It had been an easy decision for the pair had already visited five times.



ROBERT AND WENDY'S LITTLE WHITE BOOK

Venue, www.suttonboningtonhall.com | **Photographer**, www.captcha.co.uk | **Brides' dress and accessories**, www.beautifulbridesmidlands.co.uk | **Hair**, www.facebook.com/mirrorshairdressing | **Bridesmaids' dresses**, www.boots.com | **Groom's suit**, www.slaters.co.uk/store-locator/slaters-nottingham | **Cake**, www.gardnercakes.co.uk | **Flowers**, www.facebook.com/googiesflowers | **Transport**, www.lymn.co.uk/vehicles/home-index | **Entertainment**, www.silverservicesingers.com | **Catering**, Portfolio events - 01604 215 606

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The majestic gates into the walled garden act as a perfect backdrop to family photographs and as the evening sets on the day – the fairy lights only add to the magic in the walled garden.



Contact Leila Benton-Jones on
01476 550 244 / leilabentonjones@gmail.com
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Liam first caught sight of Yewon at a bar in South Korea and was captivated by her beauty. After a brief conversation, they exchanged numbers, and the next night went for a date. Liam liked Yewon's faith and beauty, and she thought that he had a great sense of humour! Liam says: "I knew she was perfect for me at a New Year's Eve party when we watched the fireworks explode, we held each other's hand and looked into each other's eyes. I wanted this year to be a big one for us two, for us to grow in love, and to develop a lovely and serious relationship."

Liam proposed in the Hangang park, outside Sebitseom, which happened to be the same location that the pair started their relationship. He insisted on a picnic, even though it was a rainy day which raised Yewon's suspicions! Here Liam shares details about their special day...

TRUE love

Celebrations were all around at Liam and Yewon's wedding

Images courtesy of Derek McAllister Photography

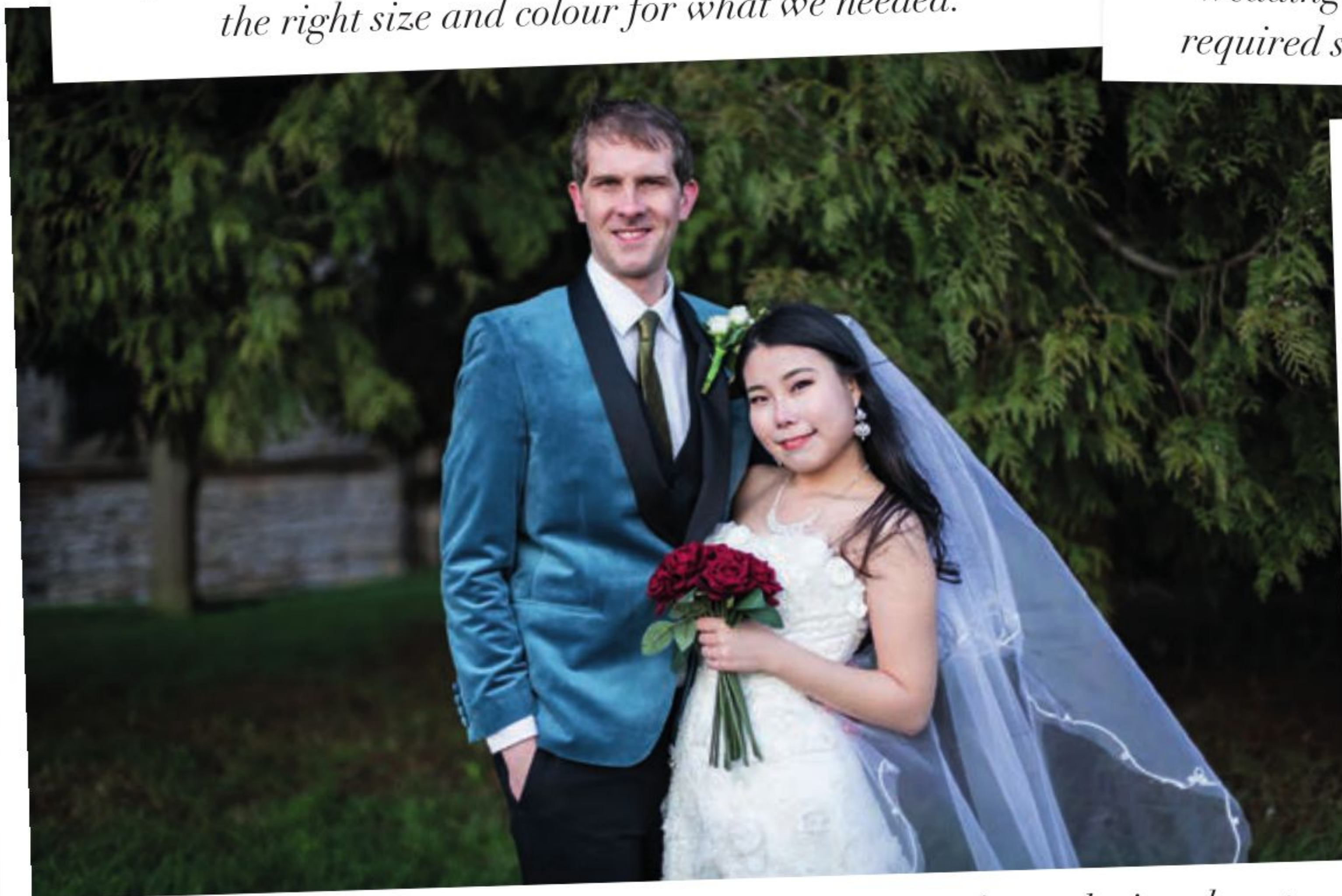




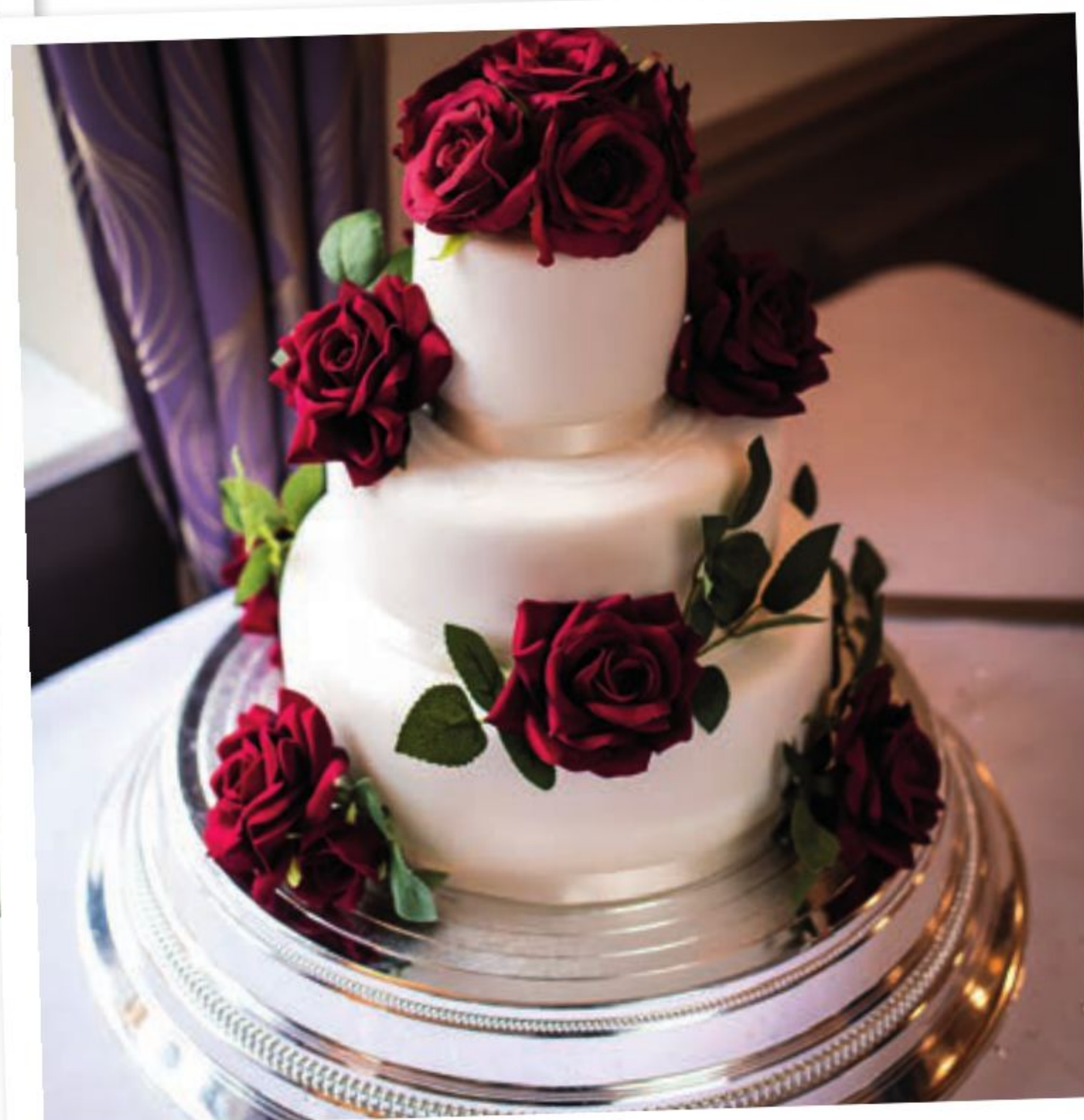
Bridgford Hall, West Bridgford Registration Office was available at short notice, it was a lovely colour. As for The Cottage Hotel, we liked the room – it was just the right size and colour for what we needed.



We kept the whole day very simple because the Korean wedding was planned for later. The main things that required some decoration were the cake and table plan.



Our table plan was based on Korean cities, as a way of introducing them to the guests – educational as well as beautiful! We clipped small photos into crocodile clips for our centrepieces.



We got our cake from Marks & Spencer, it was three layers and had royal icing – Yewon lovingly decorated it with roses.



We had artificial flowers on our day.



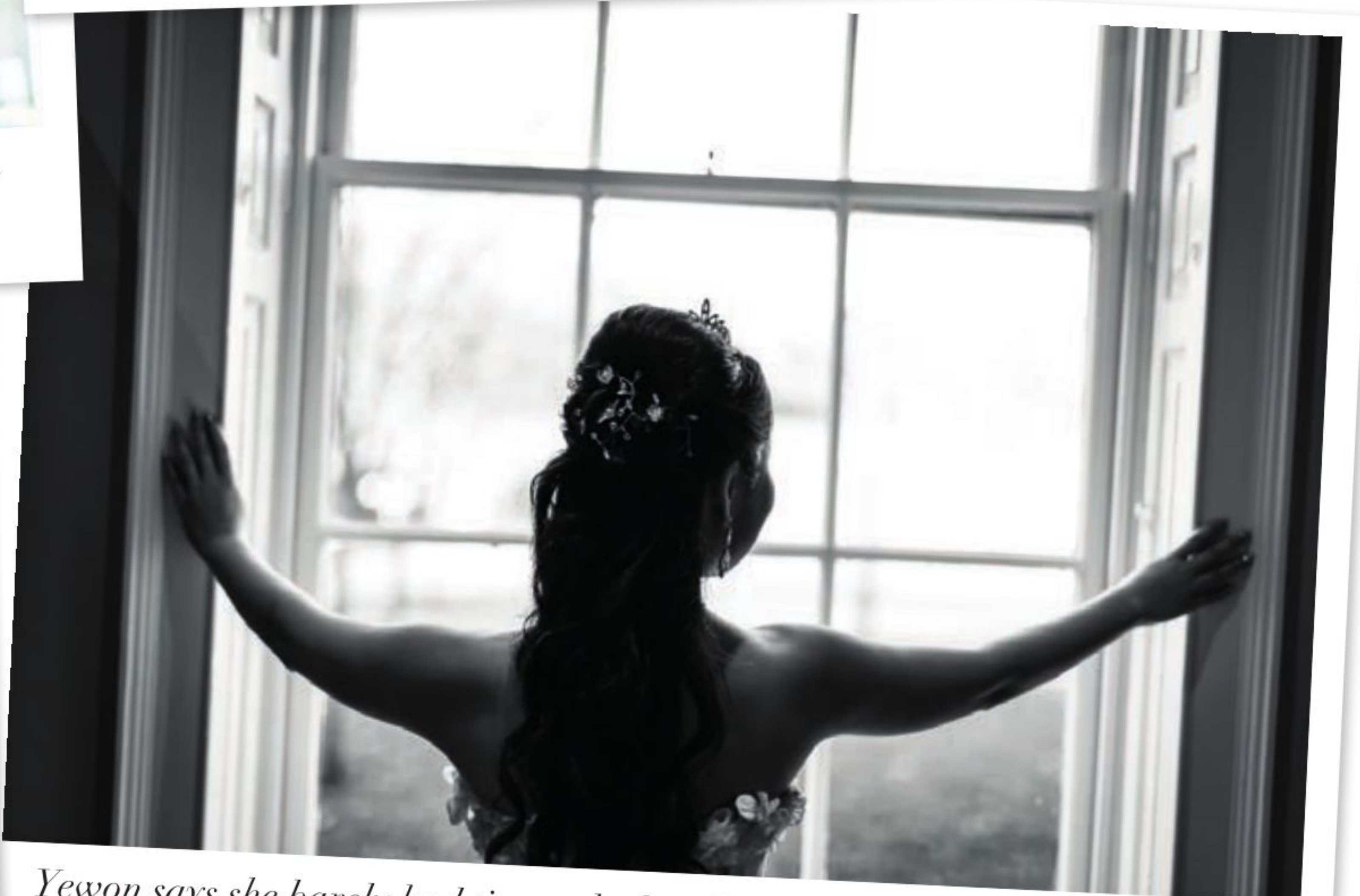
Yewon chose her dress because it was fitted, she's very slim indeed and she looked amazing in it.



For transport, we travelled in the best man's Volkswagen Passat.



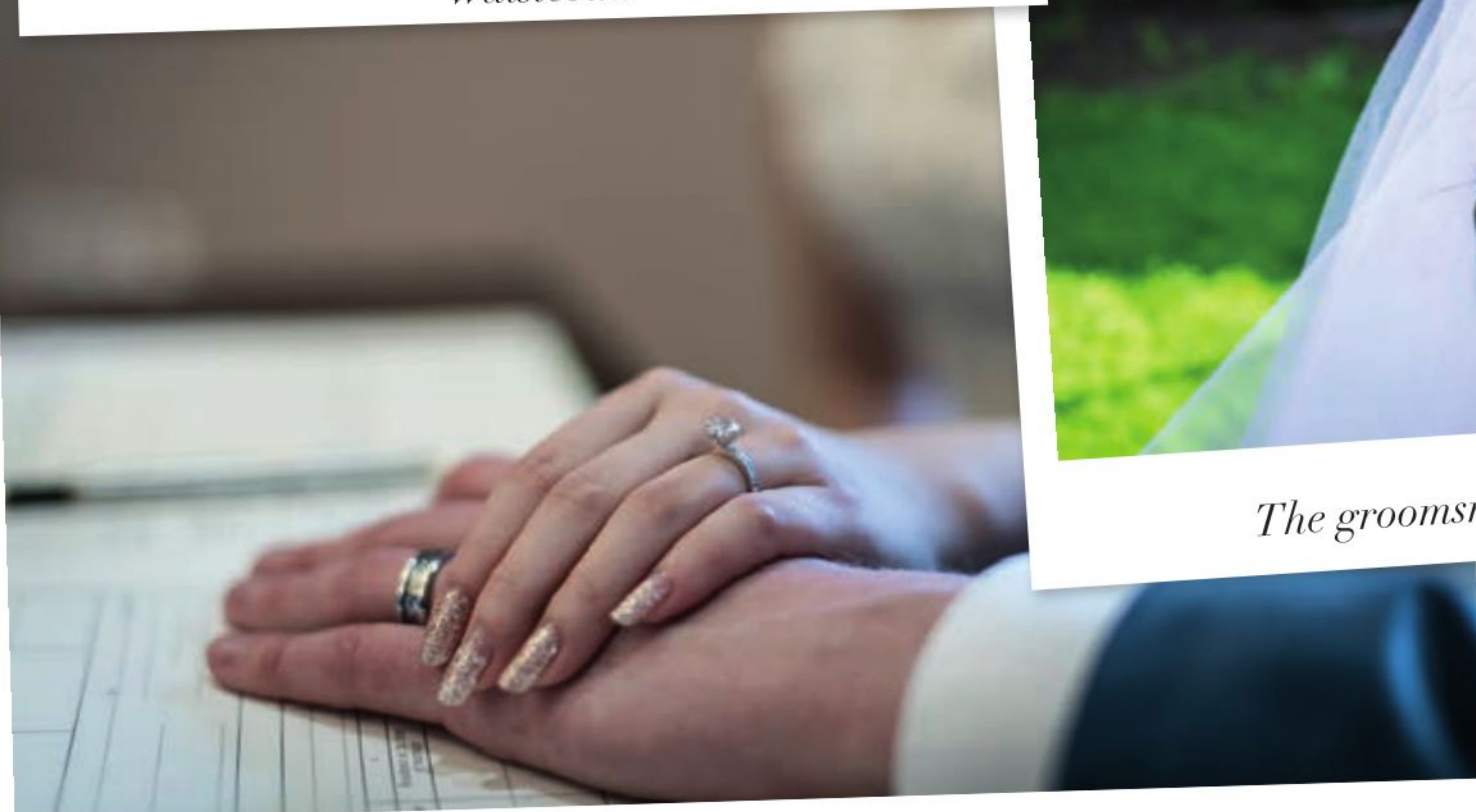
I wore a jacket from Suits Direct, which was a shiny aquamarine with jet black labels with a grey waistcoat.



Yewon says she barely had time to look at herself – it was all a massive rush after getting her make-up and hair done! But when she then looked at the photos, she saw how pretty she looked.



The groomsmen wore the same as me except for the jacket.



We couldn't believe that the day came around so quickly! But we had no doubts that we wanted to commit our lives to each other and make our love official!



A part that stood out was the bridal entry. The flowergirl was carrying a basket of rose petals and was meant to throw them onto the floor as she walked in front of the bride. She forgot to do so – on the plus side, at least the registrar was happy with us leaving a clean floor!



We can't forget the speeches! I allowed the best men far too much freedom to say what they wanted, and they obliged. They also brought a badger mask that had been used on the stag do as part of the humiliation.



Our top tip from the day would be to build up a good relationship with your photographer.



I can honestly say that Derek was a better wedding photographer than we could have hoped for. He worked so hard and tried to get the shots that we wanted every time. He gave us time, space and advised us – thinking of shots that we never considered, but that were great.

LIAM AND YEWON'S LITTLE WHITE BOOK

Venue, <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/celebrate/find-a-venue/bridgford-hall-west-bridgford-registration-office> | **Photographer**, www.derekmcallisterphotography.co.uk | **Bride's dress**, www.oxfam.org.uk

Bride's accessories, www.therange.co.uk | **Hair and make-up**, www.khhair-nottingham.co.uk | **Groom's suit**, www.suitdirect.co.uk/store-locator/alfreton | **Wedding cake**, www.marksandspencer.com | **Flowers**, www.sladesflorist.co.uk
Reception venue, www.thecottagehotel.co.uk



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My name's Derek, and I love to tell stories.

Weddings are amazing, they're a fusion of artistry and emotion; of love and happiness. Of smiles and tears (of joy) all bundled into a single crazy day.

I've been privileged enough to be at many weddings and the best part, for me, is being able to capture all those moments which are over in a flash, but when put together make the most amazing tale which you can treasure forever.

You're in safe hands when you commission me to capture your amazing day. I'm always honoured and delighted when anyone chooses me to be part of one of the biggest days of their life and it's a responsibility that I do not take for granted.

WWW.DEREKMCALLISTERPHOTOGRAPHY.CO.UK



The advertisement features a scenic photograph of Losehill House, a large white building with a red roof, nestled in a lush green field with tall grass and white wildflowers. Large trees are on the left, and rolling hills are in the background under a blue sky with white clouds. A dark rectangular box in the top center contains the hotel's name in white text.

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Rustic ROMANCE



Hannah and Richard's barn wedding featured a pastel colour scheme and DIY touches
Images courtesy of Twig & Vine Photography



Hannah and Richard's adventure first started when they met in a bar while out with friends. Richard began the conversation, the pair exchanged numbers – the rest is history! Richard says: "When we met, I knew there was something special about Hannah. We dated for around three months and by this time I was sure that she was the one for me and we haven't looked back since." Knowing Hannah wouldn't like a public proposal, Richard asked for her hand in marriage at home where he had created a path out of candles and roses, which led to the ring. They then set off for a meal to celebrate, which happened to be where they went on their first date – how romantic! Here Hannah shares details about their special day...



We liked the idea of a barn venue as it fitted with the rustic and DIY feel we were looking for, we loved that Hazel Gap Barn had this whilst still being modern with a relaxed atmosphere too.



As we couldn't decide on one idea for favours, we had 10 different ones for each of the different tables. We wanted to make as many as we could ourselves with the help of our family and friends.



Each table had a different theme based around things we enjoy and had special meaning to us. We wanted our table plan to be relatively simple with subtle indicators of what each table was.



For centrepieces, we had our signature flowers on each table in a variety of jars, jugs and glasses! Most tables had logs on, which Rich had hand-cut and varnished.



We only had ourselves and our parents on the top table as we wanted to keep it small. We wanted a large flower display at the front, which our florist did an amazing job of! I made little jars with Love Heart sweets for our table and hand-stamped some tags with our names on.



I loved the idea of a bright bouquet and settled on the coral peonies, lemon roses, and asters. Our florist suggested including blue in the form of delphinium and I also wanted flowing ribbons from the bouquets in pastel colours.

We chose our favourite three flavours for our cake: chocolate and caramel, white chocolate and raspberry, and lemon and elderflower. We then had a fruit cake as a cutting cake as Rich wanted something traditional.



The bridesmaids had a smaller version of my bouquet.



We had lots of bunting, signs, fairy lights and various hand-decorated jars around the venue.



Outside, we had various wooden crates and boxes in the garden filled with garden games, and we spray painted tin cans and stacked them on ladders to create a tin can alley.



Our wedding car was Rich's grandparents 1981 Mercedes that had been unused for many years and was revamped for our big day. We hand decorated tins cans to trail out of the boot.



I always wanted to have flowers on the cake, so we looked at different ways we could make this work. The edible flowers were from a local company called Hockley Homegrown. Our cake topper was from Norma and Dorothy. We liked the stags as we had our engagement shoot at Wollaton Park.



Most of our food was supplied by the venue. Our canapés were bruschetta, halloumi, fish fingers and cocktail sausages and we chose a mixed grill barbecue for our relaxed wedding breakfast with an amazing burrata and watermelon salad, and dauphinoise potatoes.



We had a pick 'n' mix during the day and s'mores in the evening while utilising the venues firepits!

Our evening food was pizza – we loved that it could be brought out to the dancefloor, so people didn't need to miss dancing time to eat.

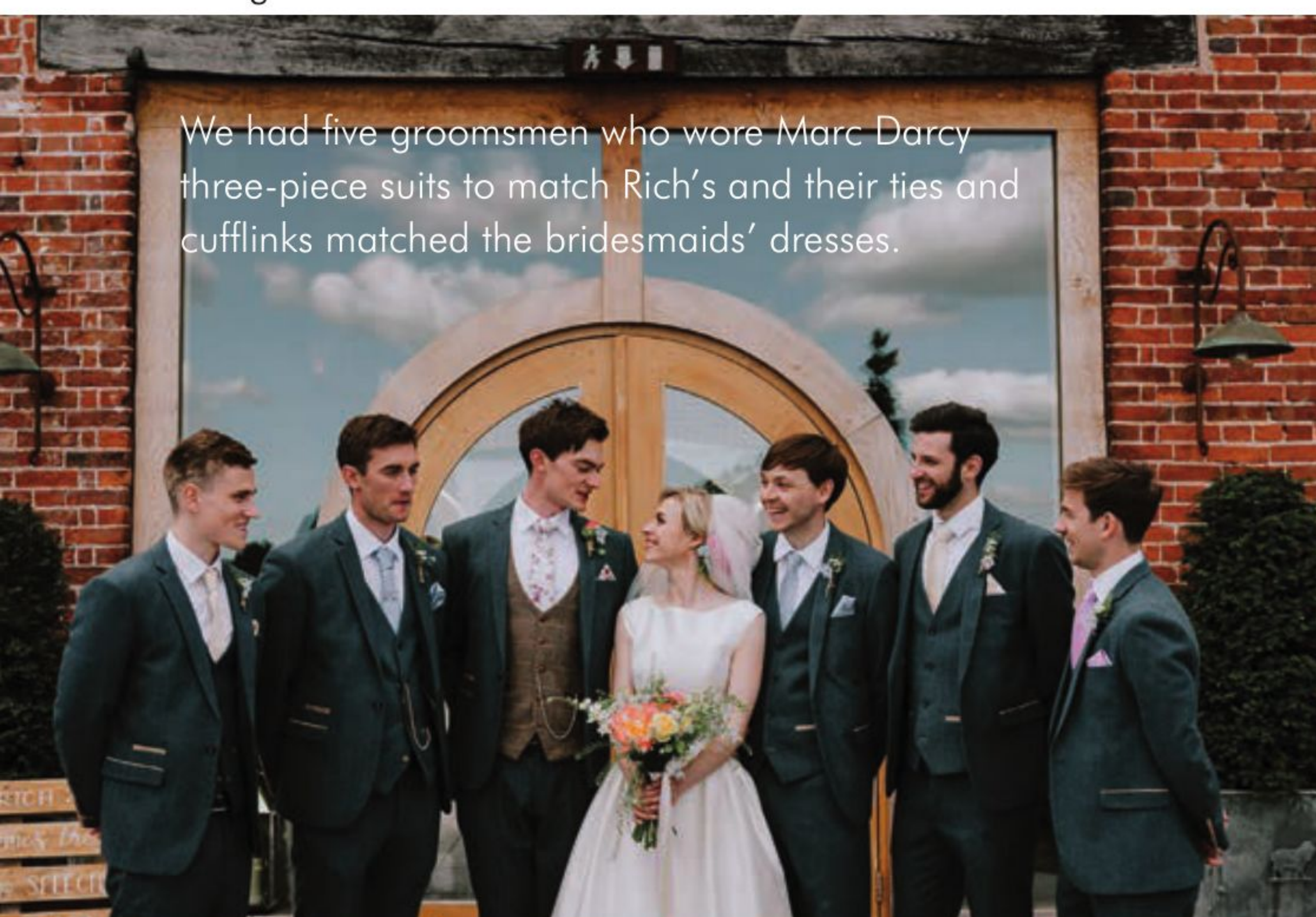


For our entertainment, we had an artist sing our favourite songs.





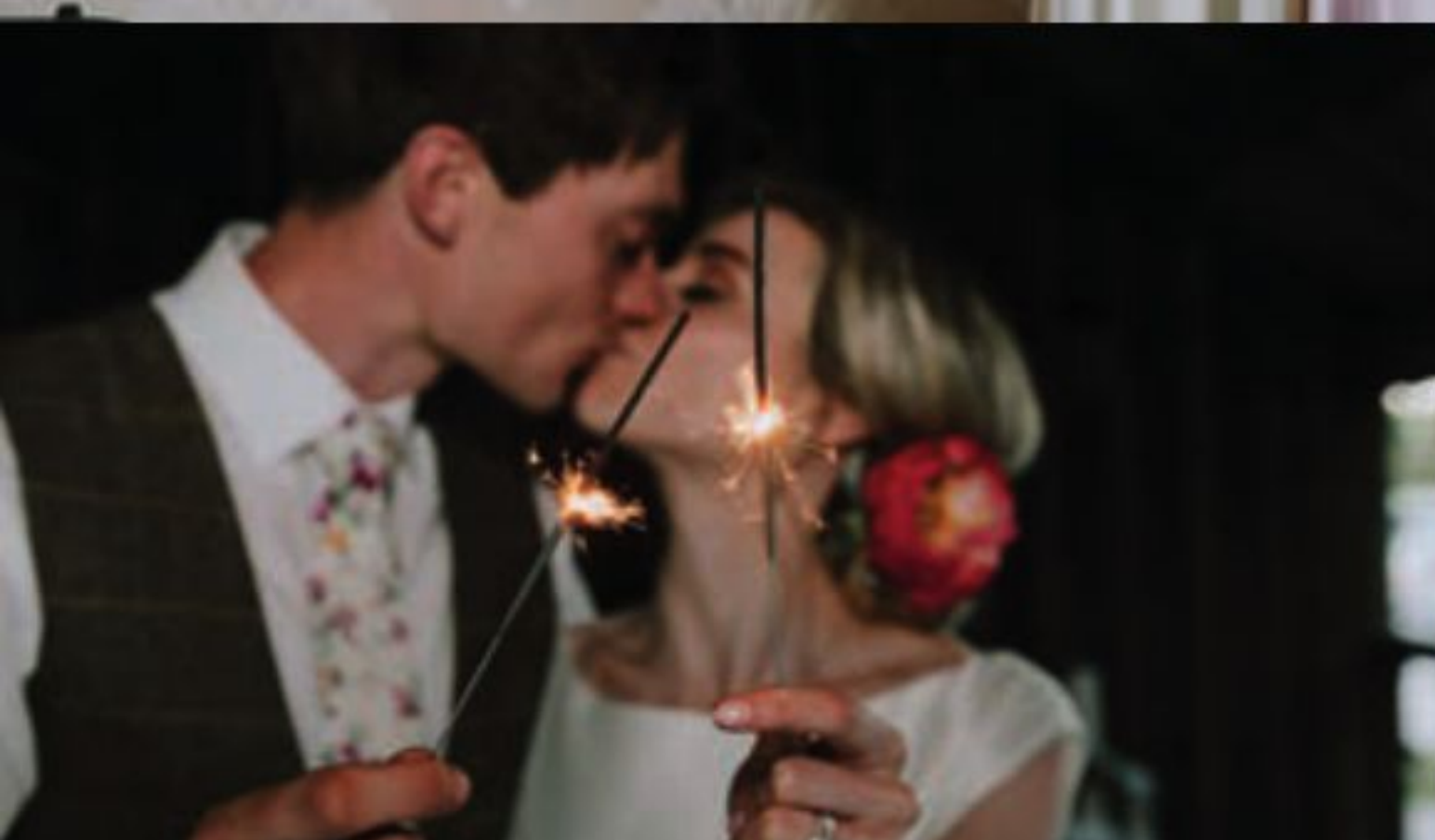
On the day, we felt excited, happy and possibly a little overwhelmed. It still makes me tearful thinking back to how amazing it was!



We had five groomsmen who wore Marc Darcy three-piece suits to match Rich's and their ties and cufflinks matched the bridesmaids' dresses.



I had six bridesmaids in total who wore pastel colours; two wore yellow, two had blue and the others wore pink. The dresses were long and floaty, perfect for a spring or summer wedding.



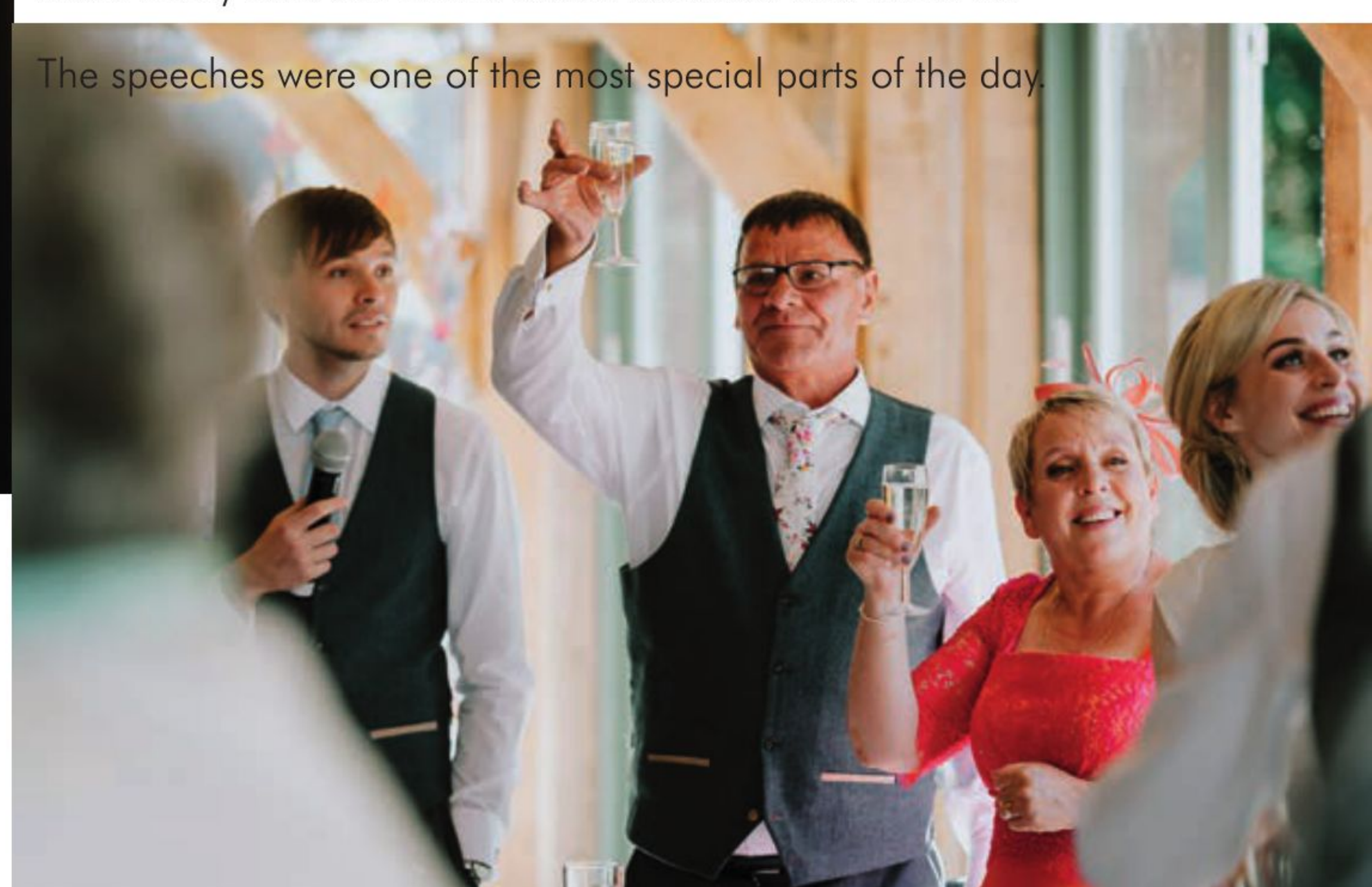
Our top tip would be to try and not worry about all of the little things that may go wrong, the only thing that matters is that you're marrying the one you love. People don't notice when things don't go to plan!



Our first dance came together after much practice; we had six lessons beforehand and chose a Disney song.



I wore an Augusta Jones gown. I wanted a traditional, classy wedding dress that also made me feel like a princess. Rich wore a Marc Darcy blue suit with a tweed waistcoat and floral tie.



The speeches were one of the most special parts of the day.

HANNAH AND RICHARD'S LITTLE WHITE BOOK

Venue, www.crippshazelgap.com | **Photographer**, www.twigandvine.photography | **Bride's dress**, www.francesday.co.uk | **Bridesmaids' dresses**, www.debenhams.com | **Veil**, www.joyce-jackson.co.uk | **Wedding shoes**, www.rachelsimpsonshoes.co.uk | **Hair**, www.alisonjennerhair.com | **Make up**, www.cristinalazzarotto.com | **Suits**, www.marcdarcy.co.uk | **Cake**, www.facebook.com/amyscakecorner | **Flowers**, Debbie Yates – 07960 786 899 | **Stationery**, www.wildflowerillustrationco.com | **Doughnuts**, www.doughnottsofficial.com | **Wedding night accommodation**, www.yeoldebell-hotel.co.uk | **Entertainment**, www.chrishobartentertainment.com

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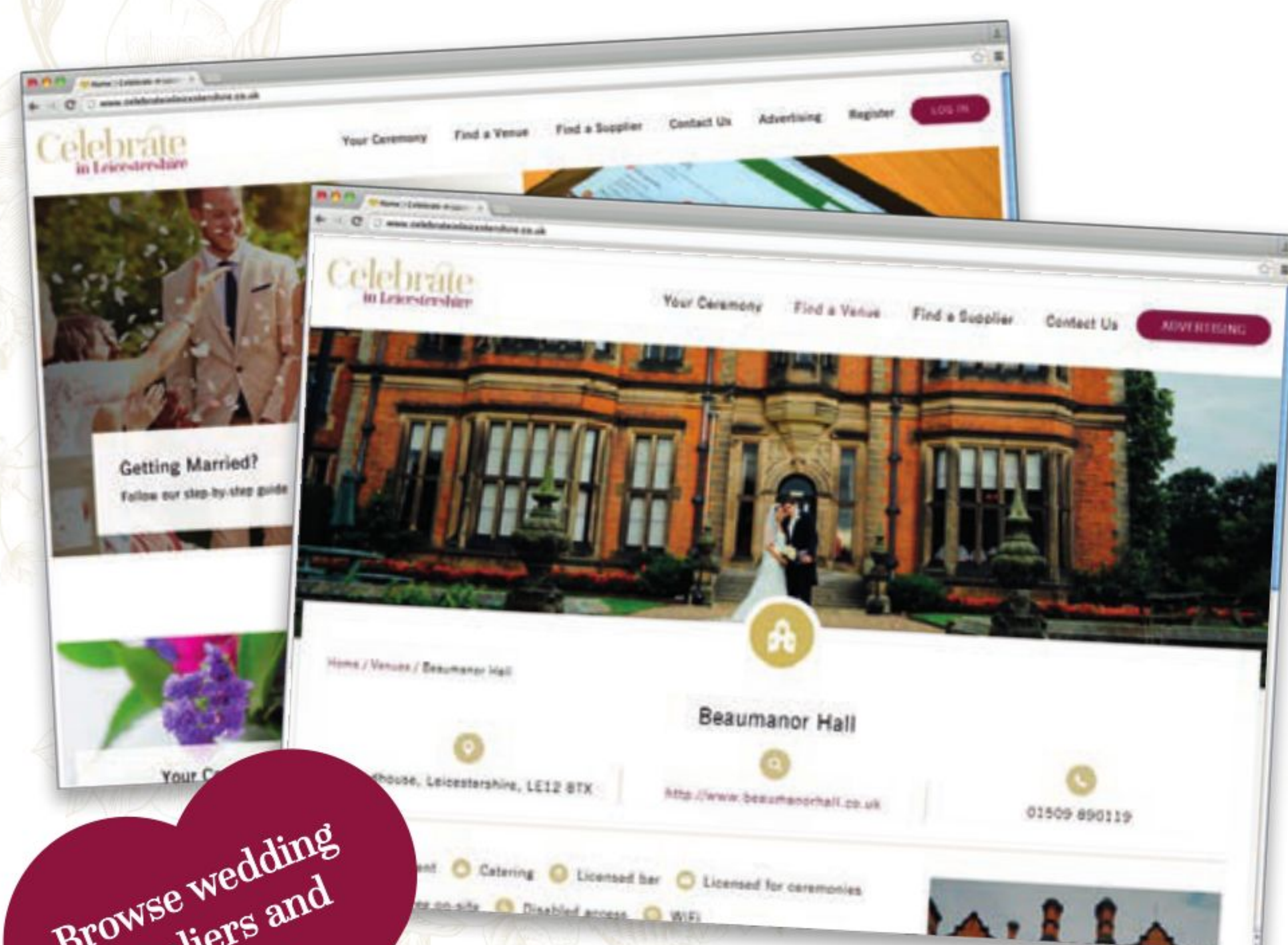


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Best DAY ever

After meeting in Geography classes together during their GCSEs, Emily and Jamie didn't like each other for two years. However, after staying on to do higher education, something suddenly clicked, and the attraction started to grow. Emily says: "After moving into our first home together, we realised that we never wanted to be without each other again."

On the couple's fifth anniversary, Jamie asked Emily to marry him. She says: "He got down on one knee and asked the question after cooking us a nice romantic meal. He had also been very traditional and asked my father for permission. The proposal was a surprise; he had even had a keepsake ring made."

Here Emily shares details about their special day...

Pink and orange featured at Emily and Jamie's big day
Images courtesy of AJ Doyle Photography





We chose Gilmorton church for our ceremony as it's beautiful, and we had always said we would get married there. The reception venue took a lot more thought! Winstanley House had been refurbished in September 2017, and when we went to view it and decided it was perfect for our big day.



Grey cards were presented on a big mirror for our table plan, which also matched the place names.



Glass bowls with Miss Piggy roses, pink lilies and gypsophila were used for centrepieces to match with the bridal bouquet.



When it came to transport, we picked a Beauford Tourer, which had pink and orange ribbons. It turned out to be the same car our friends used for their wedding six months earlier.



Jamie and I went to a taster session and chose safe but comforting options for our wedding breakfast. We went with tomato soup, garlic and herb chicken, and apple crumble.



My friend made our cake; it was a white bake with icing flowers to match the bouquets.



My mother handmade the bridesmaid dresses.



REAL WEDDING

We were nervous at first on the day, but then felt happy and emotional. In the end, we felt complete.



Jamie wore a grey suit with a checked grey and ivory waistcoat, brown brogues and an orange cravat.



We had beautifully designed display chalkboards for outside the reception room.



My dress was called *Etta* and was the first dress I tried on and I loved it instantly! The style made me feel both comfortable and confident. I was so happy, I felt like the best version of myself.



We had a DJ in the evening who played music, which the crowd reacted well to – he kept us dancing all night.



A funny moment from the day was when we broke the knife that we were cutting the cake with! Not because of the cake I'd like to add!



Everything was so wonderful and everyone was very helpful throughout the whole process. Everyone says it will be stressful, and it will, at times. Our top tip would be to accept the help of others.



A part that stood out the most to me was seeing Jamie's face as I walked down the aisle.



EMILY AND JAMIE'S LITTLE WHITE BOOK

Venue, www.winstanleyhouse.co.uk | **Photographer**, www.ajdoylephotography.co.uk | **Bride's dress**, www.wed2be.co.uk | **Hair**, Catherine Pym – 01162 394 429 | **Make-up**, Kerry Astill – 07414 871 069 | **Groom's suit**, www.malesmenswearblaby.com | **Flowers**, www.draycottsflorist.com | **Transport**, www.mrmcars.com | **Entertainment**, www.smilerevents.co.uk | **Sign for the wedding venue**, www.scarlettmyers.com

Timeless ELEGANCE

Check out this beautiful minimalistic shoot
located at Elvaston Castle

Images courtesy of Fawcett Photography

Here at *Your East Midlands Wedding* magazine, we're obsessed with this stunning shoot created during lockdown. Featuring luxury details with neutral colour palettes, this shoot offers plenty of wedding inspiration for those desiring a classic, minimalistic look packed full of style. The event took place in 321 acres with extraordinary Grade II landscaped gardens, which created the perfect backdrop for the day. Shoot coordinator and photographer Hannah Fawcett, from Fawcett Photography says: "Shooting in my signature light and airy-style encapsulates romance and utilising neutral tones allows me to produce classic and stylish imagery. Simplicity is truly beautiful, and as a photographer, it's refreshing to capture how subtle touches are truly magical."

The accessories used complemented the look perfectly from the lustrous pearls and luxury vintage adornment to the shoes, which have been constructed using the finest materials. The stunning gown is from Caroline Castiglione called *Tulisa* is made from the finest French lace combined with a simple and delicate spaghetti strap, flattering scoop back and soft blush bodice.

The pastel flowers gave a light, and airy feel with muted green foliage to add plenty of texture and elegance. A delicate colour palette was used to create the biscuit favours, the simple shades of blue and delicate brush embroidery really added a wow factor. The two-tier cake featured gold detailing which created a romantic and stylish touch, which matched the Parisian architecture and flowing typefaces-inspired stationery. We hope you love the images just as much as we do!





SUPPLIERS INVOLVED IN THIS SHOOT

Venue, www.elvastoncastleweddings.co.uk | **Photographer**, www.instagram.com/_fawcettphotography | **Dresses**, www.rachelash.co.uk
Accessories, www.instagram.com/victorialouiseaccessories | **Cake**, www.bakedbyholly.co.uk | **Flowers**, www.thelaneslifestyle.com |
Stationery, www.psweddings.co.uk | **Shoes**, www.bellabelleshoes.com | **Favours**, www.instagram.com/brentwood.bakesmith | **Model**,
www.instagram.com/carlyjanespicer

TIERS OF JOY

Discover delicious bakes and the teams behind them



RED VELVET BAKERY

Located in Derbyshire, Red Velvet Bakery was launched by Toni Adam who started baking for her husband. Her love and passion evolved the more delicious treats she made, and the rest is history. The company now produces a wide variety of cakes and is well established in the wedding industry. Toni says: "It's an absolute pleasure and a privilege to be asked to be part of a couple's wedding day. I'm passionate about what I do and ensure every cake that's delivered is made to the best of my ability and with love."

"My favourite part is the design and tasting consultation. I love hearing all about a couple's special day, their plans and honeymoon ideas. Helping to design a cake that makes people smile and knowing I've been chosen to be part of their wedding day gives me that warm fuzzy feeling."

Find out more: www.redvelvetbakery.co.uk

AMELIA ROSE CAKE STUDIO

Amelia Rose Cake Studio is based in Wellingborough, Northamptonshire. The company travels far and wide delivering to London, Oxfordshire, Leicestershire, Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire and beyond to supply bespoke wedding cakes, dessert tables and edible favours.

The family-run business takes pride in getting to know each couple to deliver a top-class service. Free personal consultations and taster sessions are offered to lovebirds in the comfort of the beautiful studio where the design, size and flavours will be discussed.

Baker Leean Iddon says: "I love the entire process of making wedding cakes but particularly enjoy making sugar

flowers. The very best part though, is receiving a photo of my happy couples with their cake or a little thank you note – that makes my day! I am blessed to have a job that I love."

The team believe that planning a wedding should be fun and part of the overall magic of the big day and will go the extra mile to make the process enjoyable and relaxed. Throughout the years, the business has won some impressive awards for its hard work and enjoy taking part in wedding industry photoshoots to give brides plenty of big-day inspiration. Many top venues recommended this supplier.

Find out more:

www.ameliarosecakestudio.co.uk



DELICIOUS DESIGNS

Established in 2001, Delicious Designs has a pretty shop based in Heage, Derbyshire, and has built up a reputation for stunning wedding cakes that not only look great but taste delicious.

Baker and designer Zoe Norris can work with any ideas to create a dream bake. From rustic naked bakes to intricate fondant beauties with handmade sugar flowers and foliage, and everything in between, each creation is tailored to any requirements. Choose from delicious flavours including luscious lemon, white chocolate raspberry and mango passion fruit.

Zoe says: "I love the planning and chatting with couples about their wedding plans. Every cake is different and people like it to reflect their personalities or match the theme for their wedding."

With an eye for detail and a steady hand for the finishing touches, the team will ensure every couple get their dream cake set up at a venue for all to enjoy. Book a consultation relax with a drink and chat all things wedding!

Find out more: www.deliciousdesigns.co.uk



www.elenstudiophotography.com

CAKES



GARDNERS CAKERY

Gardners Cakery is a business based in Market Harborough, Leicestershire, which creates bespoke wedding cakes for all sizes, budgets and designs from modern and rustic styles to cupcake towers and more traditionally iced tiers. The company even make cookie wedding favours that can be individually iced with guests' names to double up as place names in a range of different designs.

Baker Amber Lucas says: "Our favourite part of making wedding cakes is working with couples to create their bespoke design and then seeing their faces when they view their creation a few days before the special day! We also love seeing photos of pairs cutting their cake as it's such an important part of the day."

Find out more: www.gardnerscakery.co.uk

JULIA FLORENCE CAKE DESIGN

Julia Florence Cake Design specialises in designing and creating luxury bespoke wedding cakes, dessert tables and favours, which look stunning and also taste amazing. For the company, a cake has to taste just as good as it looks

and has an aim to make bakes that will leave guests talking about it long after the big day. The team are here to help lovebirds with every aspect of making decisions on favours and design, right through to delivering and setting up of the cake display.

Sarah Reilly from Julia Florence Cake design says: "I love what I do, from meeting my couples at the initial consultation, getting to know them and their ideas of a perfect wedding cake."

"I love seeing how much they enjoy the cakes I've baked for them and helping them trying to decide which flavours they should choose. I take the time to understand what is suitable for each pair and suggesting ideas that they haven't even thought of."

All sorts of wedding bakes get produced, from elegant, modern or bold designs to cake towers with a top cake, cupcakes, macarons, mini-cake jars, brownies and cookies. Julia Florence Cake Design encourages newlyweds to visit the beautiful cake studio for a free wedding cake consultation with complimentary cake tasting.

Find out more: <https://juliaflorencecakedesign.co.uk>

TOP TIPS AND CAKE



Leean Iddon from Amelia Rose Cake Studio says: "Great communication is key when it comes to creating the perfect cake. We need lots of information to help us create your bake, so we'll be asking you lots of questions. There's an unbelievable amount of choice when it comes to the design, so tell us all about your vision for the whole day. If you can put together a mood board with little snippets of all the beautiful things you're planning, then that's useful. Don't forget to include colour swatches if you'd like exact shade matching. Ask lots of questions and never be afraid to change your mind – this cake has to be perfect!"



Toni Adam from Red Velvet Baker says: "Setting a budget is very important! Let your chosen cake maker know upfront how much you wish to spend. This will enable them to help you design a cake that ticks all your boxes without breaking the bank."



Amber Lucas from Gardners Cakery says: "Our top tips for creating the perfect cake would be to include colours that will complement your colour scheme and make it more personal – whether that's a personalised topper or handmade figurines that look like you!"



Zoe Norris from Delicious Designs says: "When it comes to creating your dream cake, planning is paramount – I have lists everywhere including ordering, baking, equipment and task lists. Even after making cakes for almost 20 years, I still get nervous with every cake when it's in the final stages and ready for assembly. I never transport a cake stacked, I always assemble at the venue then attach any flowers or details last to prevent any damage."



Sarah Reilly from Julia Florence Cake Design says: "Our top tips on creating the perfect cake for your wedding is to find a cake maker who you feel understands what's important to you. Someone you can be honest with about design ideas and flavours. Choose a baker who has lots of experience and who specialises in making wedding cakes and delivering them. They have to be passionate about design and feels it's a privilege to be involved in your special day."

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LITTLE GEM

Pandora has collaborated with Disney to unveil a collection of charms featuring iconic characters including Mickey and Minnie Mouse, Pluto and Nemo. The eight charms celebrate the most beloved stories from the film studio and each one is hand-finished in sterling silver with colourful hand-applied enamel. They make a great gift for bridesmaids and flowergirls with prices starting from £45. To shop, visit <https://uk.pandora.net/en/>

www.instagram.com/theofficialpandora

Editor loves

The new needle & thread Kids collection features 25 ethereal dresses perfect for flowergirls aged three to 10 years. Designs include *Angelica* (pictured), a sequinned floral lace gown in meadow pink and *Dragonfly*

Garden, an embroidered style in periwinkle purple. To shop, visit the website www.needleandthread.com

www.instagram.com/needleandthreadlondon



SUSTAINABLE STYLE

Award-winning bridal designer Sabina Motasem, who offered her help to the NHS during the pandemic by helping to make scrubs, has introduced a sustainable and vegan collection. It's a range of ultra-modern dresses not only kinder to the planet but on the pocket too, available to buy online with prices ranging from £900 to £1,400. The gowns are made from natural plant-based materials and each style is also available in 100% silk crepe if desired. To find out more, visit www.motasem.co.uk

www.instagram.com/sabinamotasem



Ethereal girl

In other bridal news, boho-inspired brand Bo & Luca has designed a diffusion TEMPLE collection offering luxury gowns at affordable prices. It's split into three categories – Temple Beaded, Temple Minimal and Temple Lace. Styles include this pretty *Tyde* design in Chantilly lace, as well as tops, skirts and even a structured bralette that can be worn in multiple ways, ideal for a beach wedding. To shop, visit www.boandluca.com

www.instagram.com/boandluca



Hats off

Award-winning milliner Beverley Edmondson is celebrating her 10-year anniversary after opening her first boutique in Farnham, Surrey in 2010. Her colourful collection of hats, fascinators and headbands are the ideal choice for bridesmaids and mothers, and her beautiful bridal range includes hair combs, pins and accessories. She also sells pretty fabric corsages, stylish clutch bags and offers a selection of Rainbow Club shoes and bags that can be dyed to match any outfit. To find out more, visit www.beverleyedmondsonmillinery.co.uk

www.instagram.com/beverleyedmondsonmillinery



FASHION focus

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

Second time around

Luxury bridalwear brand Pronovias has partnered with Brides do Good to encourage brides to donate their pre-loved wedding gowns to their nearest Pronovias store where they will be delivered to Brides do Good to be re-sold and re-loved. Proceeds will be invested in international charity programmes aimed at empowering vulnerable women and girls to ensure they have access to the support and education they need and Pronovias will match every donation made with a dress from their dreamy collection of styles available in an array of fabrics.

To find out more, visit www.bridesdogood.com and www.pronovias.com

www.instagram.com/pronovias #MyDressXHerFuture



Thank you, NHS

British bridal designer Sassi Holford is offering a 15% discount on all wedding gowns to NHS staff who have had to postpone their wedding due to COVID-19, or who are planning their forthcoming wedding. In appreciation of the fabulous NHS, Sassi wanted to offer her support to brides-to-be working for it. Her timeless wedding gowns are designed and made in the UK and prices start from £2,000. She will be offering the discount until December 31st 2020 and NHS staff should email Sassi Holford's stores directly from an NHS email address to book an appointment. They'll be asked to show their staff identification badge at the appointment:

♥ London - 82, Fulham Road, South Kensington, London, SW3 6HR, london@sassiholford.com

♥ Taunton, Somerset - 6, The Bridge, Taunton, TA1 1UG, taunton@sassiholford.com

To view her stunning bridal collection, visit <https://sassiholford.com>

www.instagram.com/sassiholford

Thigh-high split

AS SEEN AT: Charlotte at www.elbethgillis.com

What's in store

We've had a sneak peak at the new season bridal dress collections to reveal the upcoming, Insta-worthy trends





Smart tailoring

AS SEEN AT: Wright jacket and trousers at Ashley Graham x Pronovias, www.pronovias.com



Walnut top with Marlene trousers at www.halfpennylondon.com



Tatum Jumpsuit at Justin Alexander Signature, www.justinalexander.com



Beautiful backs

AS SEEN AT: Haden dress at Justin Alexander Signature, www.justinalexander.com



Misty dress at www.katyakatya.co.uk



Statement sleeves

AS SEEN AT: Hazel dress at www.halfpennylondon.com



Chic separates

AS SEEN AT: Ridley bralette and Cala skirt at www.boandluca.com



Marlow at www.katyakatya.co.uk



Illiana and Amy at www.elbethgillis.com



Off-the-shoulder

AS SEEN AT: *Crystal* dress at
www.elbethgillis.com



Rowan corset and *Ellies* skirt at
www.halfpennylondon.com



Elsa at www.savannahmiller.com



Billie at Justin Alexander Signature,
www.justinalexander.com

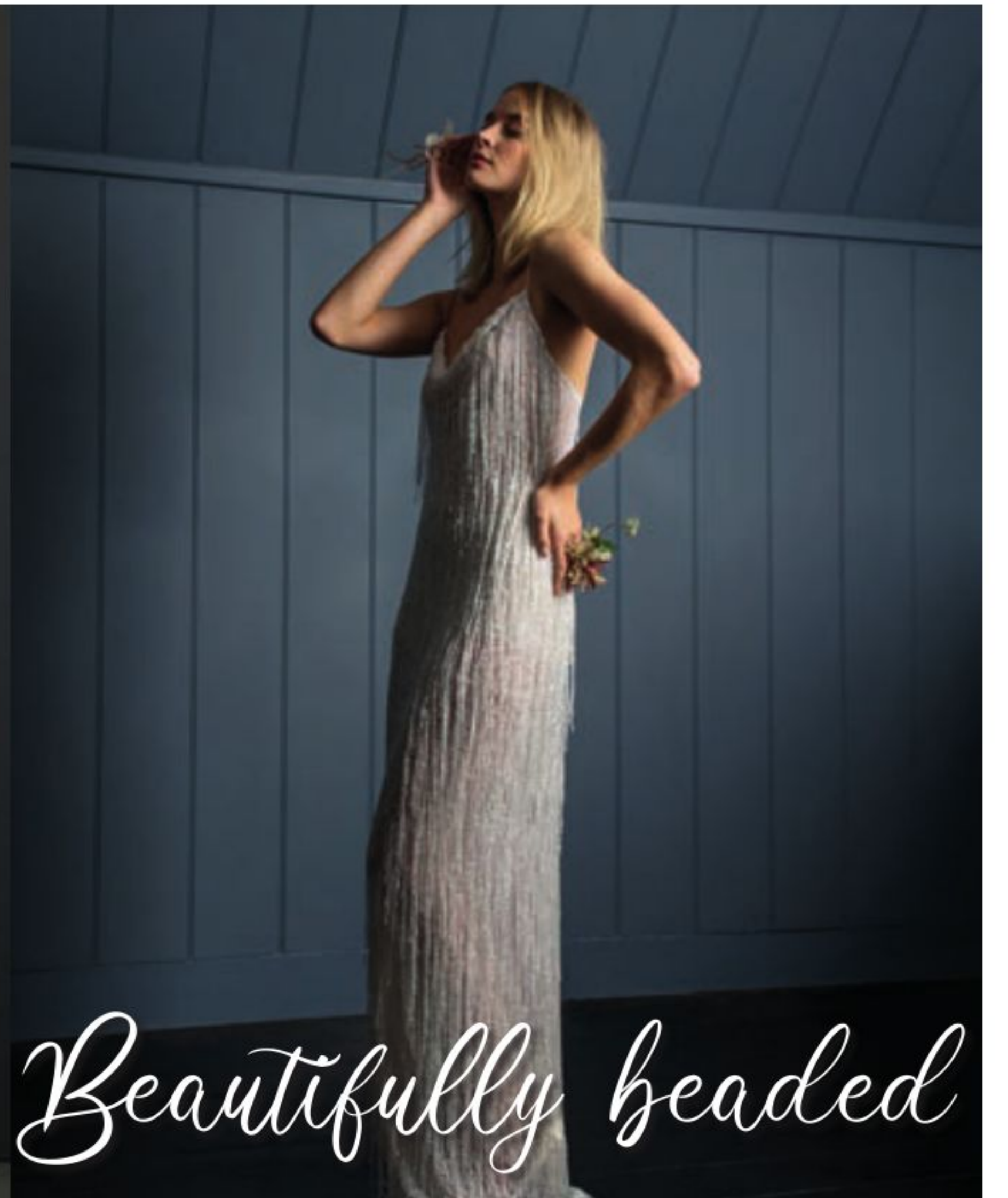


Clean lines

AS SEEN AT: Sabrina dress at www.elbethgillis.com



Cerise dress at www.savannahmiller.com



Beautifully beaded

AS SEEN AT: Elder dress at www.halfpennylondon.com



Romantic fishtail

AS SEEN AT: Style no 2182-0134 at www.morilee.co.uk



Basie at Justin Alexander Signature, www.justinalexander.com



Illusion back

AS SEEN AT: Style no 1049-0180 at www.madelinegardnernewyork.com/en



All-over lace

AS SEEN AT: Andrea gown from the Pure Collection by www.annageorgina.co.za



Style no 1046-0043 at www.madelinegardnernewyork.com/en



Alara at www.thandth.com



Tiered tulle

AS SEEN AT: Kristen dress at www.alanhannah.co.uk



Manet cape and Oliver dress at www.halfpennylondon.com



Petal dress at www.katyakatyak.co.uk



Style no 2301b at <https://mikaellabridal.com>

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a sleeveless, draped blue dress, is leaning against a stone pillar. She is looking towards the camera with a slight smile. The background is a classical building with stone columns and a checkered floor.

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Short AND SASSY

Dare to bare in one of these fun and flirty styles that offer a versatile alternative to the traditional wedding dress

This style called Maggie is an ivory lace and tulle gown from the latest Brighton Belle collection by True Bride, a selection of 1950s-inspired short wedding dresses featuring circular skirts – perfect for dancing in!
www.truebride.co.uk/733/Brighton-Belle



▲ This ivory dress featuring a knee-length tulle skirt and illusion beaded lace bodice is style no 11100 from the latest Adore collection by Justin Alexander.
www.justinalexander.com/adore-justin-alexander

► This Oscar-worthy golden gown is style no 20-50 from the Florence Fall/Winter 2020 by Berta. It features a split skirt over hot pants, not for the faint-hearted.
www.bertha.com



▲ This white tulle knee-length style called *Faith* is from the debut bridal collection unveiled at high street favourite Dorothy Perkins, where vintage-inspired shorter styles are a staple.
www.dorothyperkins.com





▲ This fun style is called *Margeaux* from the latest 2020 bridal collection by Jenny Packham that was inspired by some of the world's most romantic destinations. It's a heavily embellished tulle dress featuring a fun feather trim.
www.jennypackham.com



◀ This whimsical dress is style no *G-407* designed for the fashion-forward bride. It features a thigh-high split in the voluminous silver and sequined embroidered tulle that opens to hint at a much shorter layer underneath.
www.galialahav.com

▲ This ivory lace gown decorated with sequins and petal embellishments called *Bella* from the latest bridal collection by needle & thread features the brand's new ballet length, finishing at the ankle.
www.needleandthread.com

Floral-printed dresses, £225 each,
www.ghost.co.uk



Flower necklace, £22,
www.oliverbonas.com



Chiffon floral-printed dress,
£195, <https://kitrystudio.com>

Pink floral dress, £40,
www.liena.co.uk



Printed floral
halterneck dress, £70,
www.chichiclothing.com

Hello petal



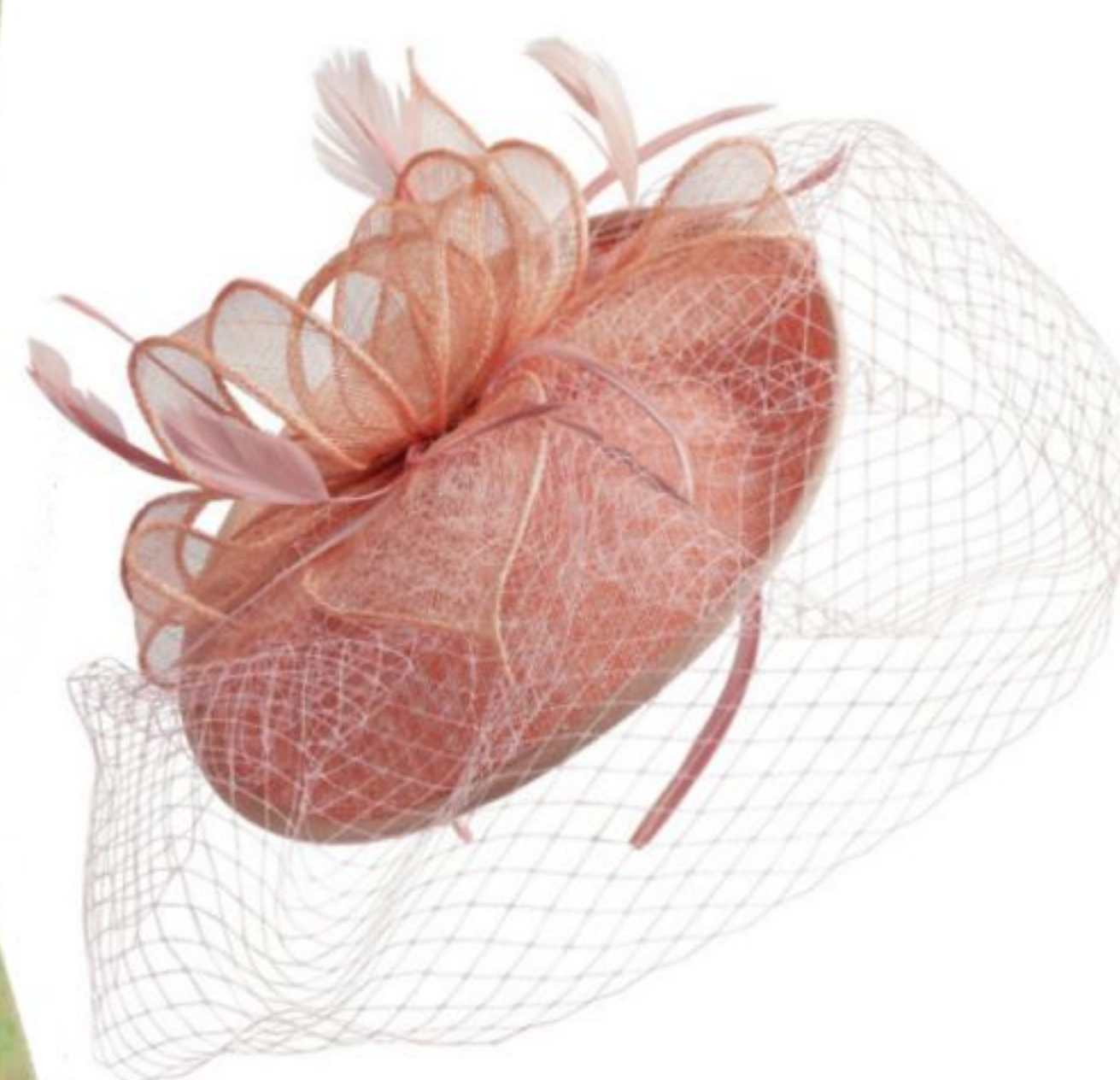
Rhodium-plated crystal ring and
matching bracelet, £119 each,
www.swarovski.com/en_GB-GB

Printed florals in pastel shades are dressing
bridesmaids and guests this summer

Yellow georgette dress with floral
print, £225, www.ghost.co.uk



Nude feather hatinator, £20.99,
<https://giftshop.bhf.org.uk>



Mint suede sandals
with flower detail, £278,
www.chiemihara.com/en



Tulle floral-printed flowergirl dress,
£135, www.needleandthread.com



Silver crystal earrings, £149,
www.thomassabo.com/GB/en_GB/home



Floral dress inspiration from
www.dorothyperkins.com



Sunglasses pendant necklace, £28,
<https://lilycharmed.com>

Silver palm tree stud earrings, £20,
<https://screampretty.com>

Crystal iridescent bracelet watch, £219, Guess at
www.hsamuel.co.uk

'Mousehole' printed silk and cotton pocket square, £20,
www.davidwatson.uk

'Mrs' bag, £35,
<https://uk.accessorize.com>

Sunglasses, £89,
<https://chimieyewear.com/en/>

Red and pink multiway bikini, £95,
<https://tuccaswim.co.uk>

Staycation in style

With honeymoons in the UK on the rise, pack quirky printed pieces teamed with colourful accessories



Sterling silver aeroplane charm, £45,
www.thomassabo.com



Gold-tone plated shell ring set, £79,
www.swarovski.com/en_GB-GB

Sunshine espadrilles, £19.95, www.joules.com



Macramé bag, £49,
www.bellandfox.com



Flamingo-print dress, £44,
www.sugarhillbrighton.com



Yellow wedges, £29,
www.shoeaholics.com



Mules with tropical embroidery, £169,
www.prettyballerinas.co.uk



Polka dot sunhat, £22,
<https://uk.accessorize.com>



Pink and bronze earrings, £38, EMKa Jewellery at
www.etsy.com/shop/eMKaHandMade



Palm tree-print flip flops, £22,
<https://ipanemaflipflops.co.uk>



HERE COME THE GIRLS

Looking for the perfect bridesmaids' dresses?
Take our test to see which style best suits your big day

You've found the dress of your dreams and accessorised it like a pro, but don't forget you're not the only one who wants to look and feel their best for your nuptials. To help you find the perfect look for your bridesmaids, we've created the ultimate quiz. Simply tick the boxes that apply and turn over to see the results!

WHICH NECKLINE DO YOU PREFER?

1



2



3



4



WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE COLOUR?

1



2



3



4



CHOOSE THE MOST APPEALING LENGTH

1



2



3



4



WHICH EMBELLISHMENT DO YOU LIKE BEST?

1



2



3



4



PICK YOUR FAVOURITE SLEEVES

1



2



3



4



WHICH BACK WOULD YOU CHOOSE?

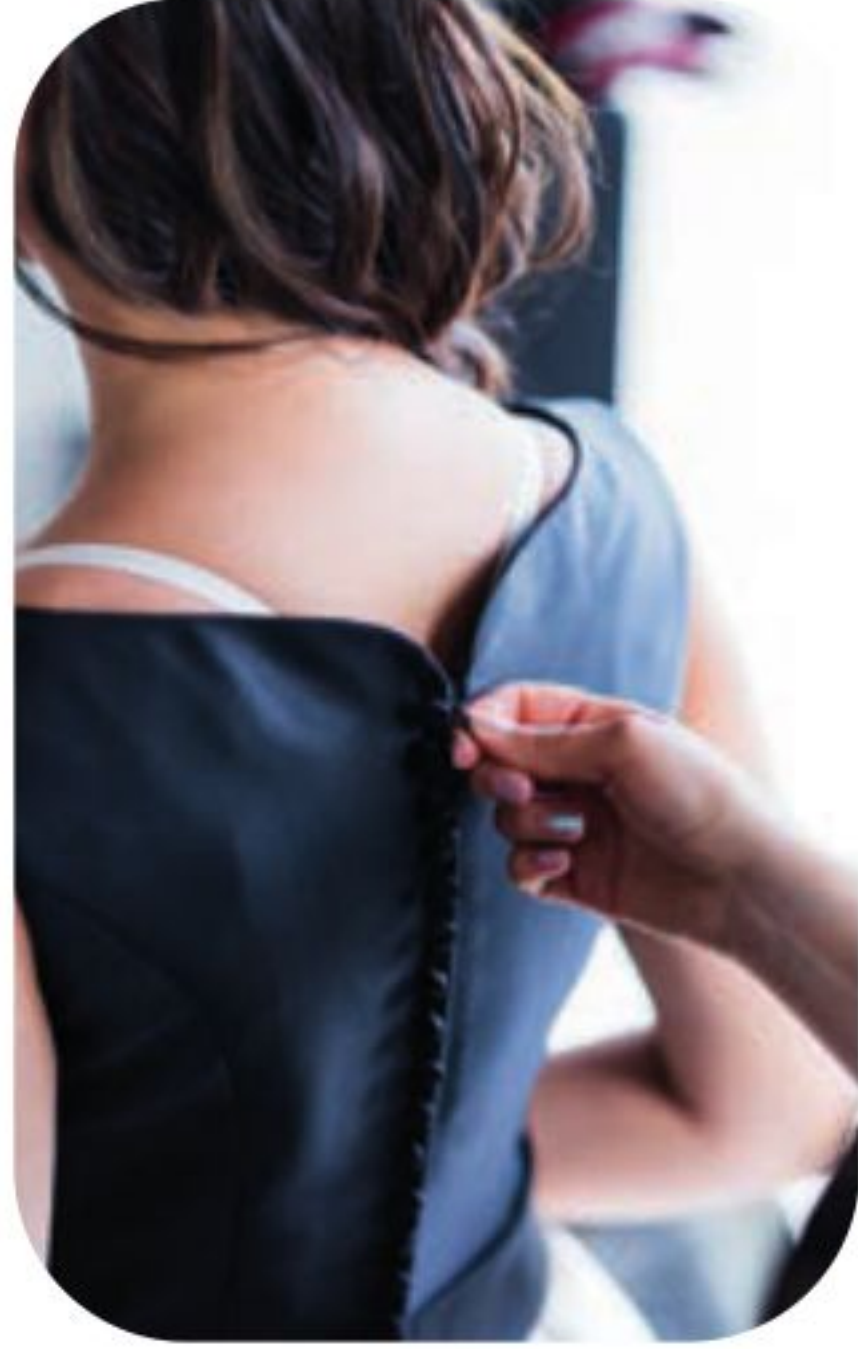
1



2



3



4



You scored...6-11

You have a traditional style and prefer simple yet classic designs. Dress your girls in elegant jewellery and remember less is more.



You scored...12-17

Your style would suit an al fresco or boho-themed celebration. Look for dresses that are rustic and colourful.



You scored...18-20

Stand out from the crowd with an alternative wedding. Opt for strong hues, quirky designs and don't be afraid to let your personality shine through.



You scored...21-24

You're an on-trend bride-to-be who loves luxury. Look for grand embellishments and opt for a gold or silver colour scheme.





UPGRADE YOUR SHOWER

Whether it's your morning shower setting you up for the day, or a long soak to help you unwind before bed, Roger&Gallet 2-in-1 Bath and Shower Gel is all you need. New to the brand's Extrait de Cologne Collection, Gingembre Exquis is a sensual scent, which will transform your daily routine to a moment of pure indulgence, providing the ideal pick-me-up.

Priced at £9.50 it's available at www.lookfantastic.com



SPRITZ AND SMILE

Citrus fragrances are known for uplifting the mood and reducing stress levels. Plus, the scents of orange, lime and grapefruit are recognised for boosting energy levels, triggering endorphins and serotonin. Enter Atelier Cologne's new range of fragrances, featuring Bergamote Soleil, described as the perfumier's "happiest fragrance." It's characterised by a blend of floral aromas including bergamot and lavender from Italy, and the Mediterranean Sea.

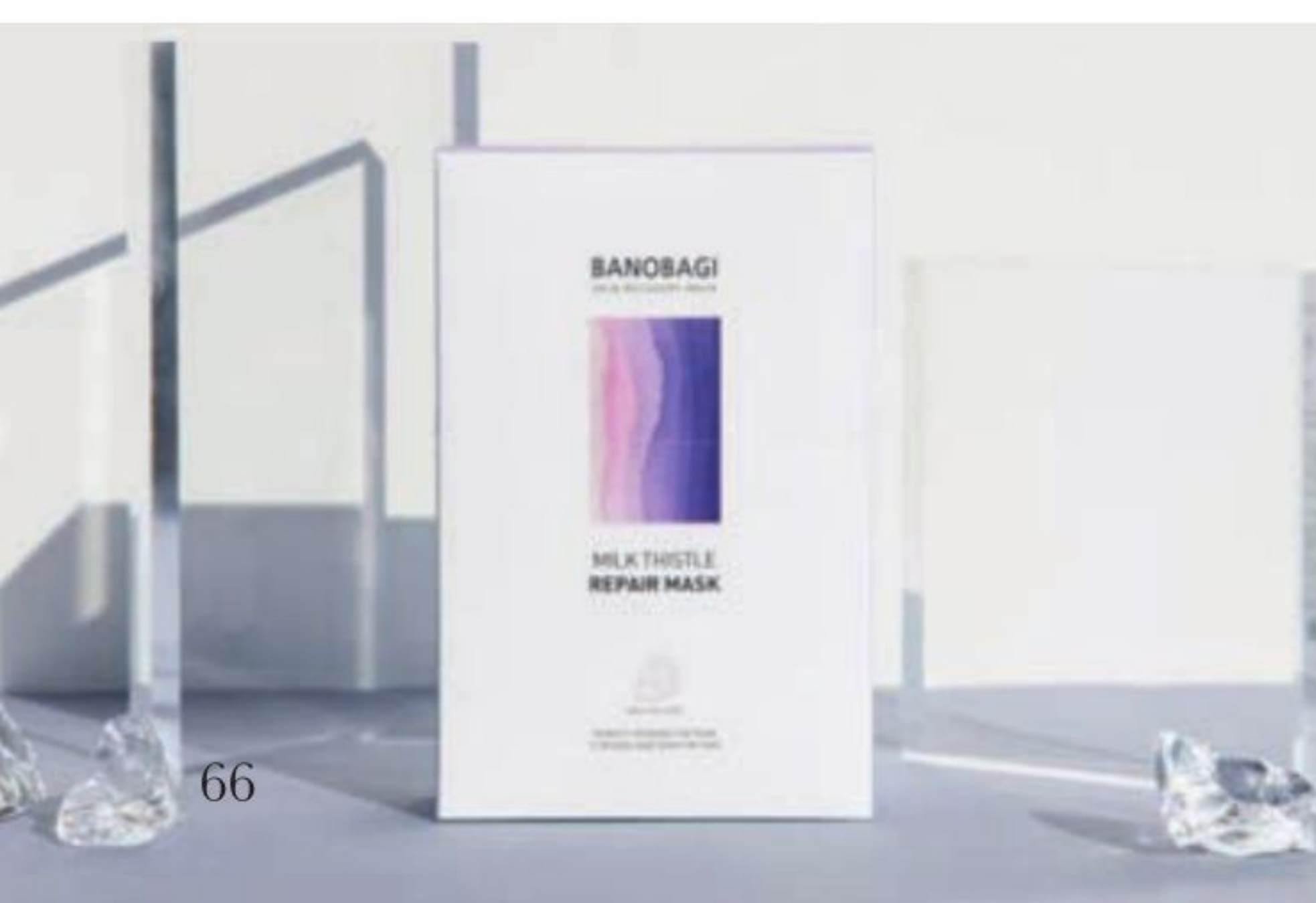
Along with the other fragrances in the collection – Pacific Lime and Orange Sanguine – Bergamote Soleil, priced at £55, is available at www.feelunique.com

Going smoothly

Banoagi – one of South Korea's most trusted brands, has announced the launch of its innovative Milk Thistle Repair Mask. Developed by a team of 30 medical professionals and based on 20 years of clinical experience and thesis, the mask contains a cocktail of ingredients, which are said to leave the skin smoother and more youthful looking after just one application, even for the most sensitive skin.

The embossed sheet has a soothing ampoule to richly soak it with active ingredients including milk thistle, burdock root, niacinamide and centella asiatica.

Just £3.20 from www.glamtouch.co.uk



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

Beauty BUZZ



RELAX AND UNWIND

Whether you've had a stressful day or simply need a slice of tranquility BEYOU has the bath bomb for you. Handmade in the UK they're all-natural, vegan, and have been created with sustainable ingredients, which are kind both to your skin and the environment. Created for the richest and most indulgent bath time, BEYOU has doubled the dose of its oils and botanicals to ensure the ultimate experience.

Choose from orange leaf and grapefruit, chamomile and jasmine, lemon and neroli, and peppermint and eucalyptus.

Priced at £5.99 from www.beyouonline.co.uk



DARE TO BARE

Stressful times can bring on stressed skin. So, if you're suffering from dryness, redness and unusual sensitivities at the moment, this could well be the cause. Rosalique 3 in 1 Anti-Redness Miracle Formula SPF50 contains alpha-bisabolol, extracted from the German chamomile plant – a clinically proven anti-inflammatory. It reduces redness by calming and soothing irritated skin. Plus, the SPF 50 means your face is protected when you venture outside. You can even go make-up free and wear this skincare hero alone to conceal, treat and protect.

Priced at £29.99, it's available at www.rosalique.co.uk

QUALITY H2O

Face mists are more than just a refreshing fix for hot summer skin, they deliver added beauty benefits all year round. With a breakthrough formula dedicated to respecting the skin's ecosystem, Institut Esthederm's Cellular Water Mist has a patented hydra-booster, antioxidant and an energizing composition providing a daily source of rejuvenation.

Designed to keep the skin looking younger, it cleverly boosts the hydration capacity of all skincare routines. Cellular water empowers your other products, allowing everything to work together to enhance the skin's treatment and leave you with a youthful hydrated glow.

Priced at £18, check out www.esthederm.com/en



BEAUTY NEWS



Little wonders

Oio Lab's lovely range of four natural and organic facial serums all target different skin concerns. Harmony First is a great base for make-up and helps the skin's regeneration process, balancing moisture. Future Bright contains vitamin C and is a great brightener. 7 Wonders contains seven botanical oils, which smooth the skin, and last, but not least, Sleep Tight is a fab anti-aging product, working as you snooze.

Find out more at www.oiolab.co/en. Available at www.wolfandbadger.com/uk

Editor loves

CV Age Defy+ Pure Luxe Body Oil from the clever folk at Green People is a divine body oil blended with plant botanicals for superior radiance and an incredible skin glow. Rich in pomegranate and phospholipids, this perfecting formula envelops the skin, giving a beautiful satin-soft finish. Safflower, rich in linoleic acid, promotes elasticity and regenerates skin texture. Neroli revives the skin at a cellular level, boosting elasticity to smooth and tone.

With skin in dire need of some pampering, this oil was an absolute delight to apply and smells heavenly. For silky soft and touchably smooth wedding-day skin, this is a must.

Priced at £25, it's available from www.greenpeople.co.uk



BACK TO BLACK

Powered by a soothing combination of shea butter and other natural, African ingredients, R&R Luxury Liquid Black Soap deeply cleanses your face and body without stripping moisture. This luxurious soap is 100 per cent natural and sourced from Ghana, the home of shea. Simply use within your daily routine to reap the benefits of clean, fresh, healthy, moisturised skin.

What's more it can help to treat conditions such as eczema, acne and psoriasis, so if you're faced with skin woes in the run up to W-day, it's worth giving Black Soap a try.

Priced at £12, it's available at www.randrluxury.co.uk

GIVE ROOTS THE BOOT

Given none of us have been able to get to the hairdressers for goodness knows how long, this product could be the answer to at least one of our problems. This breakthrough root touch-up spray instantly covers regrowth and greys in between colour appointments, with no stickiness, dustiness, or transfer. The multi-dimensional shades provide coverage that lasts until the next shampoo, and its vegan and cruelty-free formula, rich in minerals and amino acids, helps regenerate and moisturise hair with shine. I'm in!

Priced at £25. Find out more at www.beautyrebel.store/rco



Pamper package

ishga, partner to some of the UK's leading spas, has curated a Spa at Home collection featuring some of its hero products to help create a wellness experience in the comfort of your own home.

With uplifting and soothing essential oils infused into each product, the range is certified organic by the Soil Association, and includes ishga's Invigorating Organic Body Oil, Hebridean Sea Salt Scrub, Hebridean Dreams Candle and Relaxing Bath Salts.

It's priced at £39, head over to www.ishga.com to discover more.



BEAUTY IS *skin-deep*

Kelly Andrews talks to
Caroline Hirons about
pre-wedding skin prep, and
her debut book, *Skincare*



A 35-year veteran of the beauty industry, skincare expert Caroline Hiron began her career on the shop floor before progressing to the level of qualified facialist. Despite an appreciation of make-up, her biggest passion has always been skincare, claiming it as her obsession. A decade ago, she set up her own blog – www.carolinehiron.com – a place where she could discuss her greatest love. “There was no plan, I just thought I’d have a go,” she says, and 125 million page views later, her debut book *Skincare* is about to be released.

Our beauty editor, Kelly Andrews, caught up with Caroline to get the lowdown on her no-nonsense guide to everything you need to know when it comes to taking care of your skin.

Where did your interest in skincare begin?

Watching how obsessively my grandmother and mother took care of their skin. They both worked in the industry on counters. When I worked in store, I was all too frequently met with people who wanted a really heavy foundation to hide their skin, and my first question was always “why what’s wrong with it?” Good skincare is the foundation!

Your blogs and YouTube videos have a huge and loyal following. To what do

you attribute this success?

Being honest, being responsible, and putting the reader first above brands and PRs.

What’s your daily skincare routine?

You should adapt your routine every day depending on your skin’s needs. Today I’ve cleansed with REN Clean Jelly Oil Cleanser, and used La Roche-Posay Toleriane Mist. This was followed by Sunday Riley Autocorrect Brightening and Depuffing Eye Contour Cream, Oskia Super-C Smart Nutrient Capsules, and Allies of Skin Molecular Multi-Nutrient Day Cream. I finished with Zelens Daily Defence Sunscreen SPF 30.

In the evening, I cleansed with my Pixi Double Cleanse, then applied 0.5% tretinoin from Dermatica, and waited 10-15 minutes. Next was Kate Somerville Line Release Under Eye Repair Cream, followed by another spritz of La Roche-Posay Toleriane Mist, and finally Kate Somerville Peptide K8 Power Cream Advanced Anti-Aging Moisturizer.

What’s your top skincare buy recommendation for brides?

Don’t have any mad facials in the months leading up to your wedding. Have your skincare taken care of way in advance. Don’t use any new products in the week of the big day. Remember, your partner doesn’t care about your pores and if they do,

consider cancelling!

Is there a one-routine-fits-all, or should skincare regimes be tailored to the individual?

It would make it so much easier if there was, but that’s not the case. My new book carries on from the blog, and has every possible skin type and condition covered, so you can create a routine from scratch, tailor-made for you.

What product have you tried recently that you can’t wait to tell your followers about?

My followers are always the first to hear about everything. But I’ve recently been loving Oskia’s Super-C capsules and Dermatica’s online service.

Tell us about your new book.

It’s called *Skincare* and is published on June 25th. It’s a no-nonsense guide to everything you need to know. I’ve taken everything I’ve learned from my years in the industry and my time on the blog to help you navigate the world of skincare, simply and succinctly. I tell you what you do, and don’t need, and where not to waste your time and energy. If I rave about a product or an ingredient, it’s because I know it genuinely works. Plus, it’s bright yellow and covered in camouflage. What’s not to love?

SKINCARE WHEN GETTING MARRIED

You don’t want to walk down the aisle on the biggest day of your life with a beetroot face or spots. If you want to gear up for your wedding and your skin needs a little help...

- ♥ Try to start around 4 months before – 6 if you can afford it.
- ♥ Have a couple of maintenance facials 6 weeks apart, then a pampering facial a couple of days before the big day itself.
- ♥ Avoid invasive machinery, extractions and anything you haven’t had before on the last facial before the wedding. No ‘last-minute’ peels!

If the dress of your dreams is backless or low on the back and you’re worried about spots on your back, speak to your facialist – they can treat it.

WHAT FACIAL?

Despite their popularity and the continued growth of spas and salons, the average woman in the UK has a facial as a ‘treat’

on only three occasions in their lifetime: a birthday, Christmastime/celebration, or their wedding.

There is nothing more frustrating than looking forward to something, paying out good money and coming away feeling dissatisfied. Here’s a general guide of what’s out there and when it might prove useful.

There are lots of different types of facials, yet most involve the following steps:

- ♥ Cleanse
- ♥ Exfoliation (sometimes with steam)
- ♥ Extraction
- ♥ Massage
- ♥ Mask
- ♥ Application of product

TYPES OF FACIALS

MAINTENANCE: Will include massage, extractions, steam and possibly machinery

PAMPERING: Lots of massage, possible steam and lots of masks or serums

CLEANSING: Massage, clay masks, steam, and usually extractions

ANTI-AGEING: Machinery such as FRAXEL, fractional laser (all lasers), light therapy, galvanic, Caci, microneedling and serums/massage

ACNE: Deep cleanse, exfoliation, extraction, masks, high-frequency treatment

Extract: *Skincare* by Caroline Hiron is out 25th June (HQ, HarperCollins).



Bioderma Atoderm Shower Oil
200ml £9, www.feelunique.com

"My skin is definitely not summer ready. I suffer with very dry, borderline scaly, shins and nothing makes a difference. Plus, I'm not a fan of mucking about with lotions straight out of the shower – I know, I don't help myself! The good news for me is that this oil works as a shower soap, cleansing the skin with a gentle foam before rinsing away, and it really did go a long way towards solving my woes. What's more it's ideal to use when shaving your legs. Maybe a skirt won't be out of the question this year!" – **Kelly Andrews**



Sugar Coated Leg Hair Removal Kit
£9.99,
www.sugarcoatedhairremoval.com

"Waxing at home isn't something I'd normally consider, but being in lockdown it was the perfect time to give it a whirl. The 100 per cent natural wax, the only one to be certified by The Vegan Society, is made from sugar and water. It also comes with reusable, washable strips so it's great for the planet. It's smooth to apply as it's not super-sticky, and has a sweet caramel smell. After bracing myself for the pain of removal, there really wasn't any. It doesn't tug at the skin and the rosehip essential oil soothes as it goes." – **Hannah Faulder**



Yardley London Flowerazzi Magnolia & Pink Orchid Exfoliating Body Scrub
200ml £6, www.yardleylondon.co.uk

"The first thing I noticed was the gorgeous summery scent that filled the room, making me feel instantly relaxed. The lightly foaming gel is made using 95 per cent naturally-derived vegan and cruelty-free ingredients to leave your skin feeling softer and smoother. It felt luxurious on my sensitive skin and worked like magic. After just two uses, I noticed a real difference and have since incorporated it into my daily routine. A small amount goes a long way, so the bottle size is well worth the budget-friendly price tag." – **Melissa Barker**



Amanda Harrington New Skin Body Advanced Glycolic Body Scrub
180ml £22,
www.amandaharrington.com

"Prepare yourself for a treat. This scrub leaves your skin feeling wonderfully soft and renewed;

great for tackling dry patches, especially around the knees and elbows before self-tanning. The exfoliating beads are biodegradable and it has a lovely subtle fragrance too – a pre-honeymoon must-have!" – **Sarah Reeve**



SUN'S OUT

Get summer-ready skin with our scorching hot best buys

Green People Scent Free SPF30 Facial Suncream
50ml £19 or 200ml £24,
www.greenpeople.co.uk

"I love the sun and will happily sit out in it all day, however, suffering from prickly heat and eczema I can't say the sun loves me! So, I jumped at the chance to test this organic suncream. Thick to apply, which helps to see the coverage, it seeps into skin leaving it silky smooth. I was able to dress straight away afterwards and didn't experience any of the usual skin sensitivity as a result of being in the sun. I love the all-natural ingredients and brand ethos; I'd use this for the whole family." – **Danielle Harvey**



St. Moriz Advanced Pro Formula Radiant Glow Face Mist
150ml £9.99,
www.superdrug.com

"I tested this product in the morning after I'd cleansed and moisturised. The lightweight spray felt nice to apply, and it has a pleasant, sweet fragrance. I didn't wear make-up or wash my face for the rest of the day, leaving it to gradually develop, and after a second application the next morning, I started to notice a subtle glow to my skin - nothing drastic, just what I wanted. Perfect for a big-day glow and a honeymoon suitcase essential." – **Claire Ridley**



A VINTAGE CLASSIC

Q: For our vintage-style wedding, I want a dress that will suit our big-day theme. What would you suggest?

The term vintage refers to a particular historical-style or period that has come into fashion once again. The first most crucial decision is whether you're looking for something that's of a specific era such as the 1920s with flapper girl or Great Gatsby-style gowns, or a tea-length dress for a 1950s celebration.

As the request is for a vintage-style, two quick and easy ways to achieve this is by using lace and pearls. Therefore, our current top pick would be the fabulous *Antonia* wedding gown by Maggie Sottero. This full-on lace sheath gown with classic covered buttons can be purchased in antique ivory and gives an instant vintage feel – particularly when styled with classic pearl accessories.

Think single teardrop earrings, a high tight bun and either a pearl choker or two long tiers of pearl dripping down to the mid rift.

The sleeves give a modern twist to the look, but also provide excellent coverage and elegance. Plus, the addition of a shrug or cape would work beautifully for a winter wedding.

Angela Butler | Bradgate Brides | www.bradgatebrides.co.uk

Fashion & Beauty Q & A

Our experts give their advice to help you look your big-day best



THE WOW FACTOR

Q: I'm wearing an off-the-shoulder dress for our wedding and wanted to know what hairstyle would work best with it. What would you suggest?

It's essential to work with the style of your dress when choosing your bridal hairstyle, but that doesn't mean your options are limited, far from it!

Off-the-shoulder dresses are timeless and suit a polished low bun perfectly. You can go for a sleek and glossy look for a more Hollywood glam-style or a more textured, wavy version with some volume and pieces left out around the front to soften the face and neckline. Your stylist will be able to help you decide which of these would best suit your face shape, personality and dress.

Another elegant-style that looks beautiful with an asymmetric dress is Hollywood waves. Like your dress, it's a timeless classic that's perfect if you like to wear your hair down or are maybe a little more self-conscious of your shoulders.

Lastly, if you fancy something a little more on-trend but still stunningly romantic, a low wavy ponytail tied with a ribbon or some scattered pearls looks just stunning.

Robyn Wood | Perfect Silhouette Hairdressing
www.perfectsilhouettehairdressing.com

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 - Chocolate fountain • Confetti cannons



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HOT TOPIC

Enjoy your dream day with our expert advice

YOUR DAY, YOUR WAY

For our elegant wedding, what props can we use to add that extra special touch to the big day?

For that extra special touch to your big day, you'll need to add elements and special versions of practical ideas that will stand out and be memorable. These should be striking additions that will give a definitive wow factor to the wedding.

A perfect example of this is our exclusive Carousel Display which is elegant, contemporary, beautiful, lights up the room and is extremely versatile. It can hold sweets, doughnuts, cupcakes and mini-desserts while illuminating and rotating all of the delicious treats you wish to serve your guests – it's quite the showstopper.

Also, have a play with words when hiring the large light up letters, try something different like 'Always' or 'Forever' for example.

Or perhaps personalise your day with your initials or surname. This will look fabulous on your photos and will set your day apart from the rest.

There are many special and exclusive props for hire on our website and more stunning props launching soon. Our advice? Don't be afraid to do things a little differently.

Kaila Green | Big Day Display |
www.bigdaydisplay.co.uk

CAPTURE THE MOMENT

Q: I'm really shy when having my photo taken, but how can I ever get around this?

I'd always advise you to get to know your photographer; if you click (no pun intended) and can have fun with them, it will help immensely on the day. Request a pre-wedding shoot if they don't offer one, and always include the bridal preparation shoot. These simple things can help you feel at ease with the camera.

Most importantly, speak to your photographer about your worries and concerns. The right supplier will be able to adapt their style to one that's less imposing if needed, making you feel much more comfortable on your special day and help to remove those fears.

I'd also suggest doing a little bit of research to get a feeling for wedding shots and styles you like, then speak with the photographer and find one that excels in natural shots, documentary or journalistic-style images. These can be less imposing and still achieve excellent pictures of your day.

Above all else, remember it's your day and you need to choose a photographer that's interested in your story.

Nick Shoot | Nick Shoot Photography
www.nickshootphotography.co.uk





FINDING THE ONE

Q: I'd love a princess style-dress, but because of my height, I'm worried I'll be swamped. What gown will suit my small frame?

Princess wedding dresses come in a range of lengths and can be custom made or altered to suit any bride perfectly, depending on the designer. A princess dress can be an option for a short bride, as long as you get the sizing and detailing right. Alternatively, an A-line wedding dress, which isn't as dramatic in size can be an absolute showstopper! With the right detail and accessories, you can create the fairytale look you're aiming to achieve. Your height should never be an obstacle to finding your dream dress as long as you have the right bridal stylist to help!

Anna-Marie | Ashleigh Richards | www.ashleighrichards.co.uk

TREND SETTERS

Q: My mum's so excited for our wedding, but she's struggling to find the perfect headwear. What are the current trends?

The modern mother-of-the-bride is tending to move away from a full ensemble by the same designer that matches her dress. It's therefore much easier and wiser to shop around for headwear and other accessories.

A hatinator-style is very popular and attaches to the head by a piece of elastic or a band which makes it more practical to wear all day as they're light and don't flatten hair like a full hat and are regularly seen on the heads of royals like Zara Tindall and Kate Middleton. They may also be more appropriate at a smaller, more intimate gathering, while still making the mother-of-the-bride feel special. Current millinery trends include veiling, headbands, beret shapes and Dior brims. A contemporary edge is given with the addition of simple lines, materials like leather and pretty florals. Colours such as dusty pinks, blues and neutrals are everywhere at the moment and are flattering for most.

Beautiful mother-of-the-bride, Sheila, wore a blue percher style hatinator with a spectacular sculptural swirl to match her wrap dress from Stine Goya, as can be seen in this photo.

Clare Brown | Clare Brown Headwear
www.clarebrownheadwear.co.uk

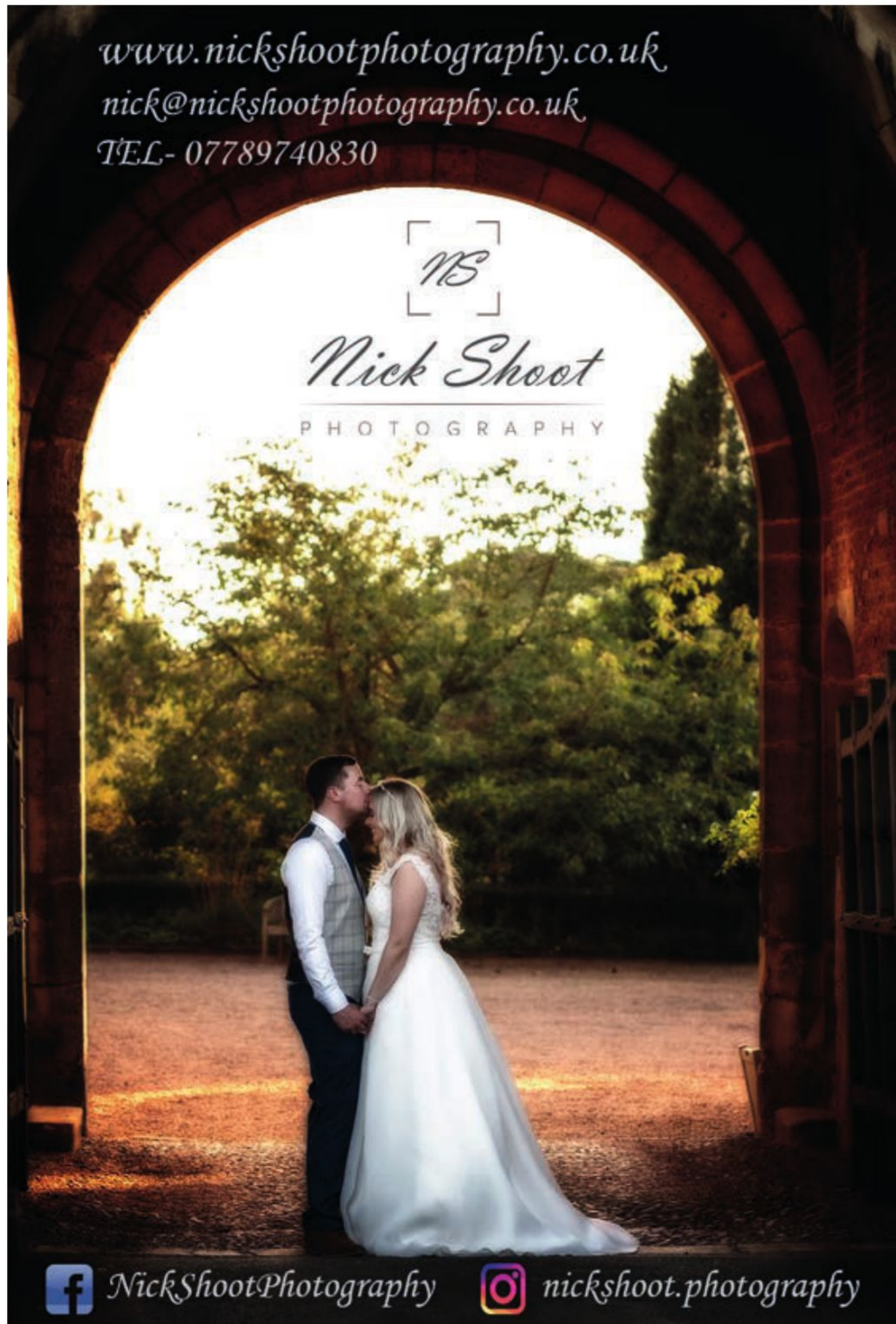


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Regardless of budget, size or style we are proud to cater for all with a wide range of sizes available in boutique. We are dedicated to helping you find a dress that showcases the very best version of yourself on your wedding day.

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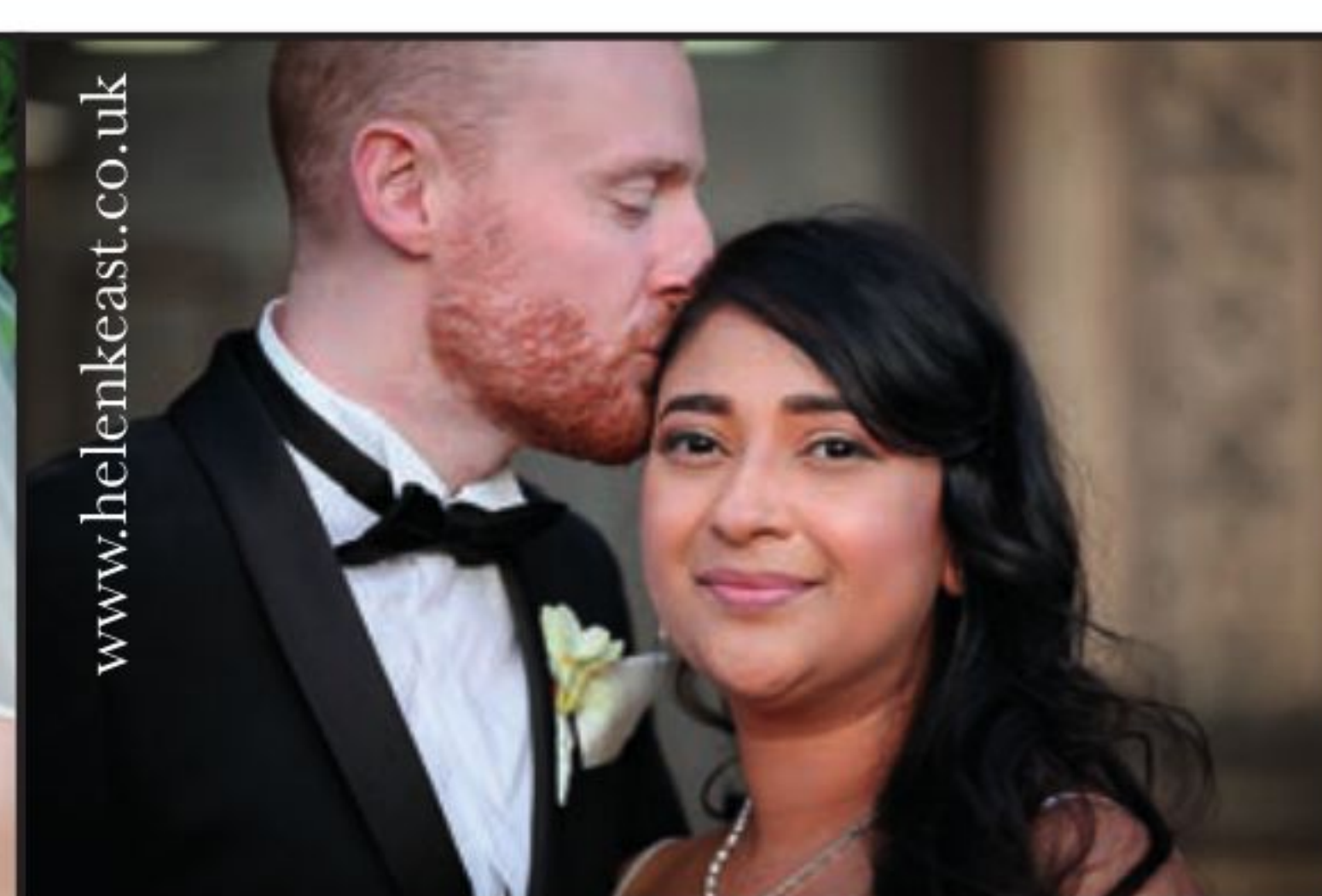
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Through the lens

Discover picture perfect images

Photos are such an important part of a wedding as they allow for incredible memories to be frozen in time for couples to treasure forever. From bridal prep to the exchanging of vows to dancing the night away, capturing the important story of the day is essential. We've got top photographers from all around the region to showcase some of their best work to give inspiration and show off their style and talent. Lights, camera, action!

Truly romantic



Live, love, laugh





Shows toppers

MEET THE PHOTOGRAPHERS

Derek McAllister | Derek McAllister Photography | www.derekmcallisterphotography.co.uk

Nick Shoot | Nick Shoot Photography | www.nickshootphotography.co.uk

Katie Oliver | KT Photography | www.kt-photo.com

Helen Keast | Helen Keast Photography | www.helenkeast.co.uk

Tara Winter | Pudding & Plum Photography | www.puddingandplumphotography.co.uk

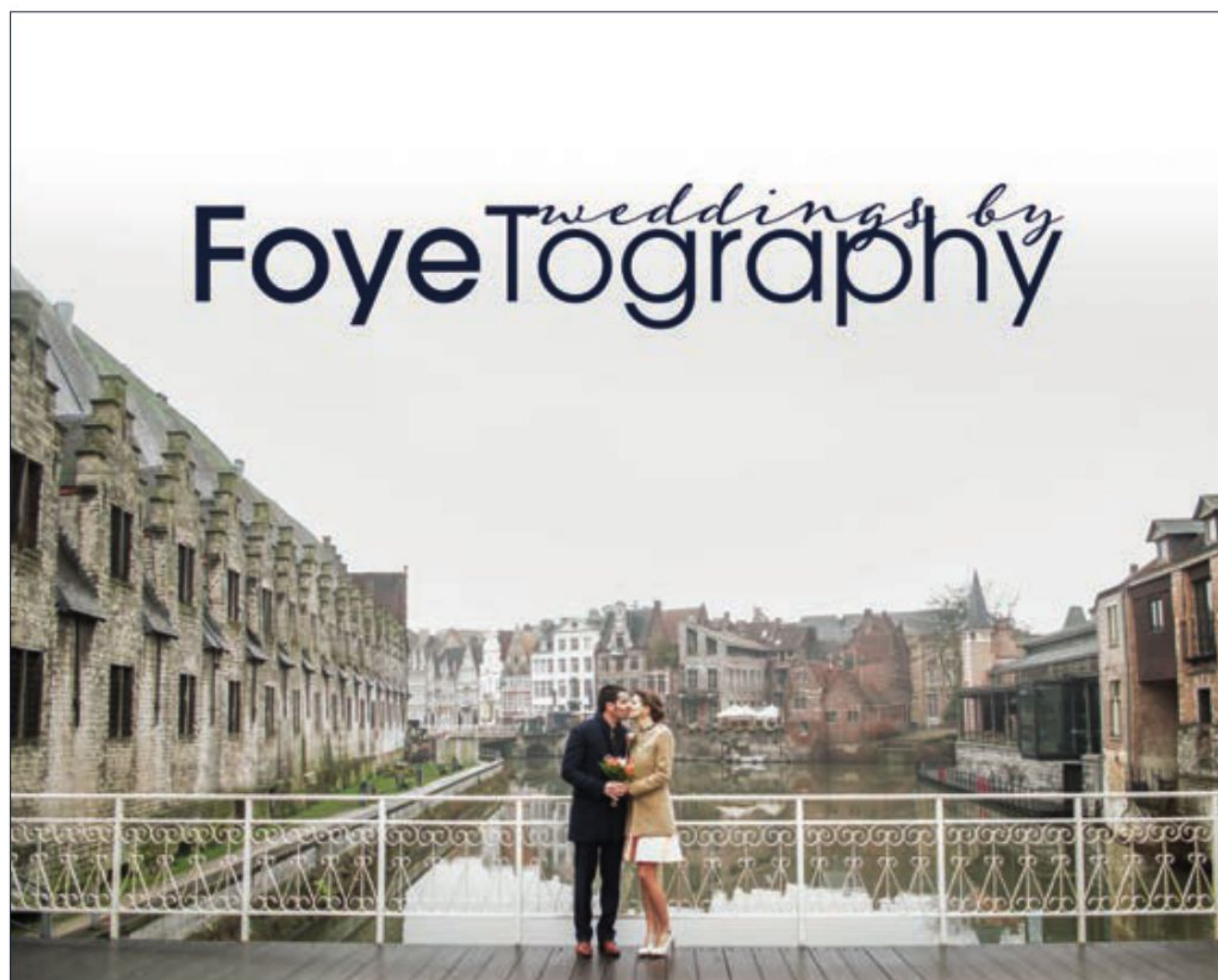
Lianne Foye | Foyetography | www.foyetographyweddings.co.uk

Hayley Masom | Captcha Photography | www.captcha.co.uk



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SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

David Watson, a silk accessories brand, has launched a line of alphabet-inspired designs. The collection includes pocket squares, hair bows and neckties, all personalised with the letter of your choice.



I was lucky enough to try one of the hair bows. Not only is it excellent quality, but it looks fabulous with any outfit and would make a lovely gift for brides- or grooms-to-be.

Starting from £45, the products are made in England using the finest silks. Visit www.davidwatson.uk for more.

ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY

I love this leather wallet from Ekster. It's the world's first voice-activated, trackable smart wallet. The worldwide tracking feature uses Bluetooth and Crowd-GPS to locate and ring your wallet, no matter where you go.

To make things more convenient when paying, all Ekster wallets come with a pop-up mechanism, giving you instant access to all your cards. It offers storage for up to 10 cards, leaving enough space for cash and other essentials.

Check out www.ekster.com



Read all ABOUT IT!

Grooms editor Melissa Barker shares the latest best buys and product launches



COMFORT AND STYLE

Men's underwear brand, Hamilton and Hare has created a new product called The Wedding Boxer. This special pair of signature boxer shorts are made from premium grade pinpoint weave cotton for a subtle, luxurious texture and extra level of comfort. It comes in a crisp, clean white that matches a formal shirt perfectly and has a slimline tailored cut so it won't ruin the line of a suit when worn underneath. Featuring a mother-of-pearl button and complimentary monogramming, the boxers can also be purchased as a gift in a special wrapping.

A pair costs £45 and is available at www.hamiltonandhare.com



Suited and booted

Fairfax & Favor is helping gents look dapper on their wedding day with the release of its 2020 collection. The company design versatile footwear and accessories that intertwine classic country style with a modern city aesthetic. The collection features refined shapes, elevated style and improved comfort and fit.

Our favourite is The Bedingfeld II. It has a leather raised sole, tassels and can be dressed up or down to suit all occasions.

Head over to www.fairfaxandfavor.com to see more.



A SMOOTH FINISH



L'OCCITANE has launched a new shaving and skincare collection. The Homme Cade Collection is made using natural ingredients, including cade essential oil which contains protective and soothing compounds – making it the perfect ingredient for men's skin.

Choose from the Daily Exfoliating Cleanser, Energizing Face Fluid, Purifying Charcoal Mask, Shaving Soap, Cream or Gel. All of which are designed to leave you with soft and glowing skin for the big day.

To find out more, visit www.loccitane.com

Time's up

If you're looking for the perfect watch for your nuptials, then look no further than the re-designed Q Timex Falcon Eye. Every detail of the original watch has been re-created and updated. It now has a woven stainless-steel bracelet, functional battery hatch, two-tone case, luminescent paint and a striated electric-blue dial.

It's priced at £159 and can be purchased from www.timex.co.uk



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Step out of your comfort zone with these dashing pink items



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£80, www.riverisland.com



£45, www.davidwatson.uk



£35, www.joebrowns.co.uk



£22.99, www.mandco.com



£36, www.remusuomo.com



£35, www.burton.co.uk



£64.99, www.baselondon.com



£12, www.riverisland.com



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9

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5. £35, www.joebrowns.co.uk | 6. £10, www.burton.co.uk | 7. £189.95, www.oxfordshirt.co.uk | 8. £10, www.riverisland.com
9. £35, www.foxandchave.com

WIN!

A LUXURIOUS MINIMOON IN TUSCANY

Enter now for your chance to win a minimoon at the enchanting Grotta Giusti in Tuscany

County Wedding Magazines has partnered with Grotta Giusti to offer readers the chance to win a three-night minimoon. The 19th-century villa, once owned by the poet Giuseppe Giusti, is surrounded by picturesque parks, and guards what he regarded as the eighth

wonder of the world: an ancient thermal cave. Now a prestigious hotel, Grotta Giusti is renowned for its historical charm, making it the perfect romantic escape.

The enchanting setting boasts the largest thermal grotto in Europe.

Guests can bathe in the magical underground hot spring lake inside the thermal cave, which also acts as a natural steam room. Couples can enjoy scuba diving, hot yoga and floating therapy for a truly memorable experience. The hotel's spa is the jewel in the crown, tantalising spa-lovers with its 750-square-metre thermal open-air pool with underwater hydro massages.

Grotta Giusti has maintained its natural beauty, and offers 64 luxurious rooms with marble bathrooms and a backdrop of antique furnishings and paintings throughout.

THE PRIZE

- ♥ One double room for two people
- ♥ Three nights on a half-board basis
- ♥ One spa treatment per person

WORTH £1,500



HOW TO ENTER

Simply answer the following question... **In which Italian region is Grotta Giusti located?**

Enter online at www.youeastmidlands.wedding. The closing date is 2nd October, 2020. Terms and conditions apply. Please see our website for details.



A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

We all need something to look forward to right now, which is why Aardvark Safaris is encouraging couples to postpone – rather than cancel – planned safari honeymoons. Now more than ever, it's vital to support the African camps and lodges that are reliant on tourism to fund conservation and community projects across sub-Saharan Africa.

With postponements just one element, continuing to organise future trips is also important. "This enforced lull in travel presents an opportunity to plan ahead with our experienced experts at your disposal," co-owner Alice Gully says. "We've found FaceTime calls are perfect for bringing to life the joys of a safari." Visit www.aardvarksafaris.co.uk



'MOONS LIKE JAGGER

After a recent renovation, the new 750-square-metre Presidential Suite at Tivoli Mofarrej São Paulo in Brazil has been named the largest suite in Latin America – making it the ideal choice for newlyweds looking to go all out. The ultimate brag-worthy destination, guests here will be following in the footsteps of royalty and celebrities such as Donatella Versace, Justin Bieber, Mick Jagger and Lady Gaga.

Found on the 22nd floor, the suite boasts panoramic views of Sao Paulo city centre and is decorated in contemporary Brazilian style. Stay here, and you can look forward to VIP treatment, massages at the Anantara Spa, and a concierge butler service on-call 24 hours a day. Head to www.tivolihotels.com

HONEYMOON



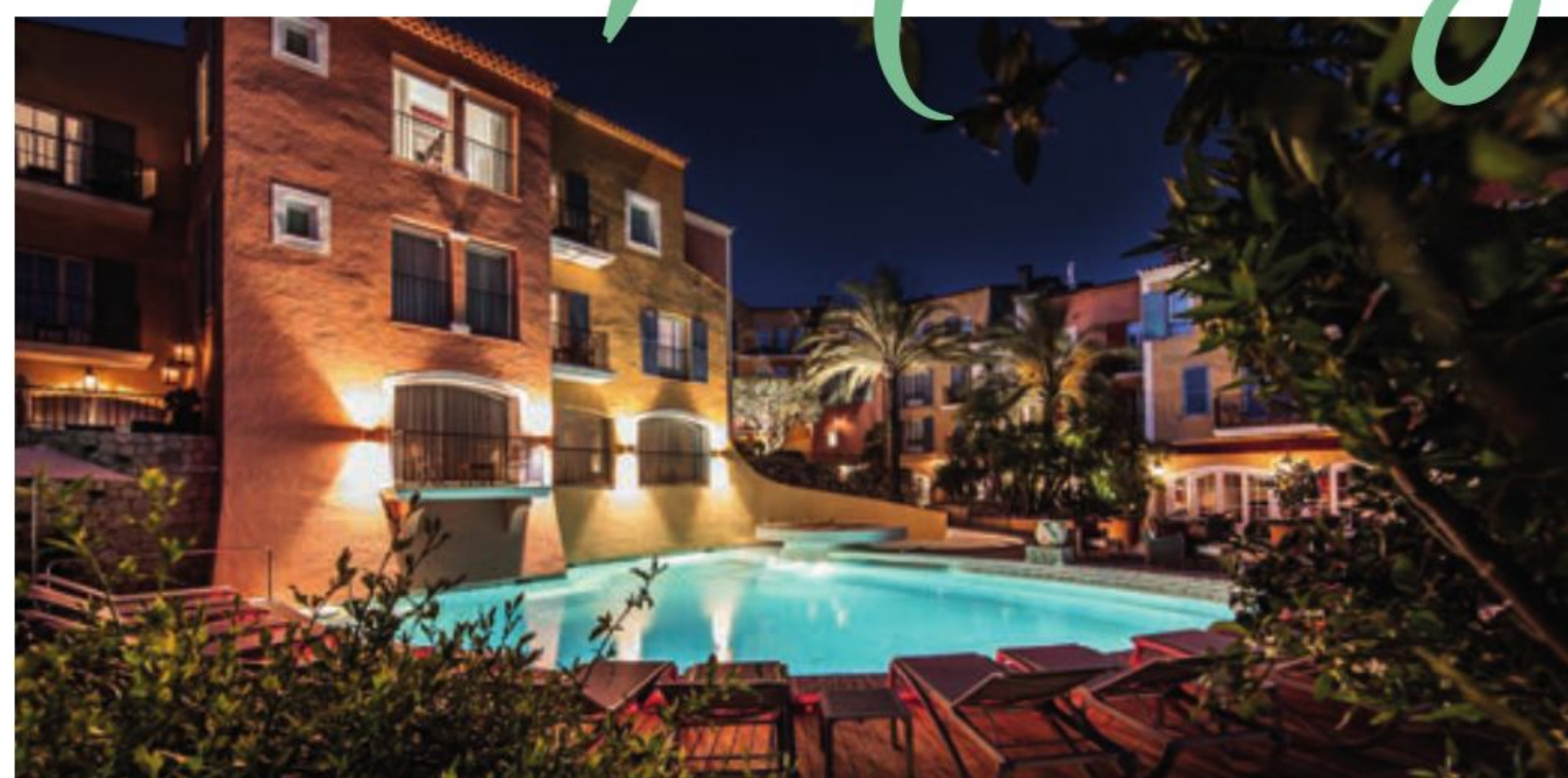
We all need a little escapism at the moment, so let Hannah Faulder help you plan your dream honeymoon for when travel restrictions are lifted

News

STAY-CAY

With so much uncertainty around travel, finding the perfect spot for a UK minimoon has never been so appealing. Fritton Lake is an exclusive new holiday club on the Norfolk-Suffolk border. Set within Somerleyton Estate's 1,000-acre wildland project, guests can lose themselves in spectacular natural scenery and catch sight of the grazing animals that are leading the way in the estate's eco-restoration programme.

Minimooners can choose from luxury accommodation across the resort, including farm cottages and cabin retreats, each with wood-burning stoves, private hot tubs and a lake- or forest-side terrace. For total privacy, there's even a food-delivery service, which includes delicious locally sourced produce. Feeling a bit more adventurous? Take advantage of the activities on offer from sailing and horse-riding to swimming and yoga. Find out more at www.frittonlake.co.uk



La vie en rosé

When it reopens, Hotel Byblos in St Tropez will be revealing a wonderful new restaurant, Arcadia, and a fabulous new package for wine-loving honeymooners. Inspired by the popularity of rosé wine from the South of France, the package will offer the chance to taste some of the best wines in the region in a relaxed yet luxurious environment. You can also visit Byblos Beach Ramatuelle, the hotel's beach club, which opened last year on Pampelonne beach.

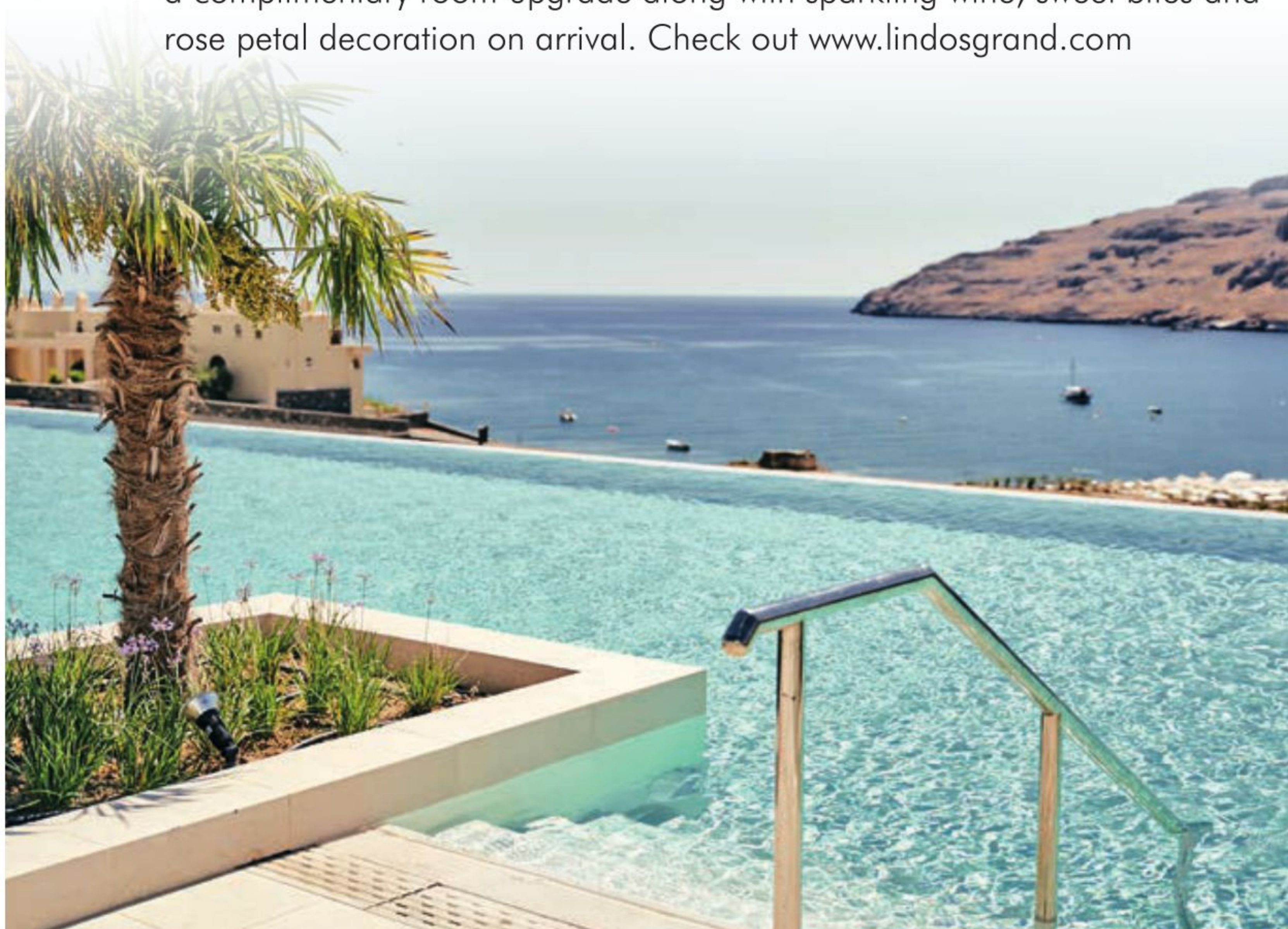
The hotel was originally built for film star Brigitte Bardot in 1967 by a Lebanese businessman who was in love with her. The same year, he sold it to a French businessman and four generations later it's still in the same family. Over the years, it has welcomed celebrities such as Elton John, Jack Nicholson and Cher. Head to www.byblos.com/en

THE RHODES TO ROMANCE

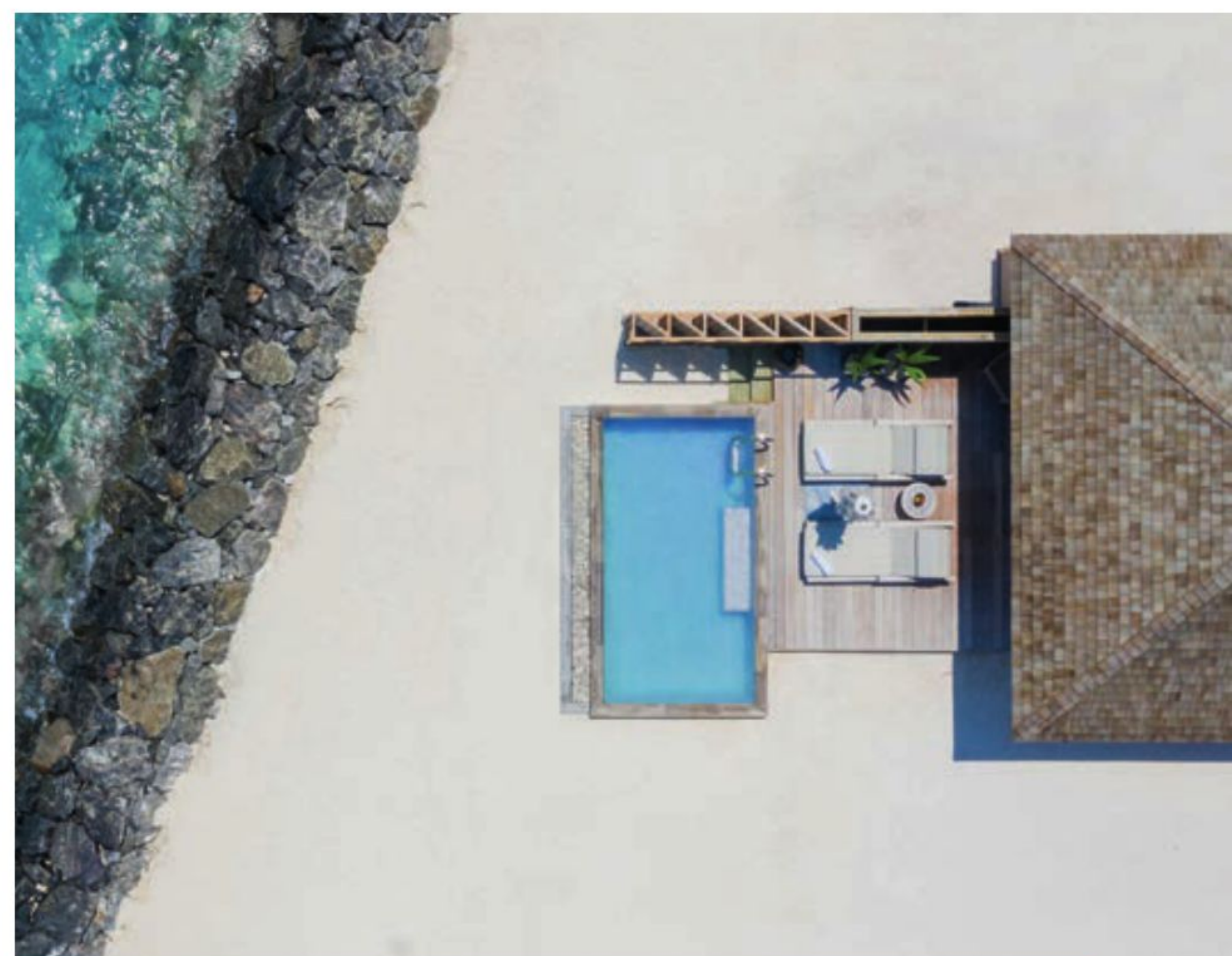
Found moments from Lindos Old Town, the new five-star adults-only Lindos Grand Resort & Spa will open in summer this year. You'll find an array of fine-dining options, uninterrupted views of the shimmering Aegean Sea and jaw-dropping infinity pools cascading from the cliff edge. The idyllic setting combined with a personalised service will make this a truly romantic beachside honeymoon.

The resort will also launch the ThalassoSpa in collaboration with the Natural Spa Factory. Here, you can indulge in private spa treatments, a selection of facials and tailored massages – all designed to promote wellbeing. There will be a luxurious range of vegan-friendly treatments. What's more, newlyweds can take advantage of the natural surroundings with beach-front yoga, horse-riding or hiking in the Greek mountains. There's also an intimate wine-tasting experience in central Rhodes.

The majority of rooms benefit from their own balcony and wrap-around infinity pool with incredible vistas of the crystal-clear waters below. All accommodation boasts an e-concierge, and honeymooners are treated to a complimentary room upgrade along with sparkling wine, sweet bites and rose petal decoration on arrival. Check out www.lindosgrand.com



HONEYMOON NEWS



RELAX IN PARADISE

The five-star Kagi Maldives Spa Island will launch in the Maldives' North Male Atoll in September 2020. The 50-villa property promises to provide a wellness experience like no other, and all just a 15-minute seaplane or 60-minute speedboat ride from Velana International Airport.

At the heart of the island will sit the 1,500-square-metre Baani Spa and wellness hub, along with a state-of-the-art gym, a dive centre and a house reef. Honeymooners can find total relaxation with a range of wellness offerings from reiki and crystal-healing to holistic health coaching and yoga.

There will be two restaurants and three bars, and the resort's fusion cuisine will take inspiration from the Maldives' surrounding countries – from the highly fragranced food of South East Asia to the fiery flavours of South America and Oceania. Find out more at www.kagimaldives.com

Treat yourself to these travel picks...



I struggle to find sun cream that doesn't irritate my skin – particularly on my face. But the new range from ethical brand Green People promises to be kind on your complexion and the planet. Visit www.greenpeople.co.uk

These cute flip flops from Ipanema are the ideal holiday companion, and the ivory colour goes with everything. Check out <https://ipanemaflipflops.co.uk>



I'm loving these sunnies from Swedish brand CHIMI. The range of colours are to die for. Check out <https://chimieyewear.com>

Tales FROM THE Cornish coast

Hannah Faulder experiences The Idle Rocks in St Mawes, a romantic UK bolthole complete with fresh sea air, incredible dining and picturesque surroundings

Drew Gibson

Nestled in the heart of the pretty seaside village of St Mawes on the Roseland Peninsula in South Cornwall, The Idle Rocks cuts a striking focal point on the harbour-front. Perched above the water, the tide seems to lap against the hotel making it very much at one with its environment. A long sun terrace hugs the front of the building, offering a gorgeous spot to while away an afternoon.

With no-fly honeymoons increasingly popular, this Relais & Chateaux property set in an idyllic fishing port offers the perfect alternative to an overseas trip. When the sun's shining, there's nowhere quite as beautiful as the Cornish coast. For an unforgettable arrival, you can catch the sleeper train from London Paddington, evoking some real old-time romance.

STAY

My husband, Cal, and I stepped inside to find the kind of warm and friendly welcome you come to expect in Cornwall. Walking to our room (one of 19 in the property), we pass playful objects and quirky artwork adorning the walls. These items are balanced so perfectly with the decor it creates a homely yet luxurious feel, with more than a nod to its nautical setting.

We know it's our room thanks to the slate sign with "Hannah & Cal" chalked





HONEYMOON



on it – cute touch! Through the door we're met with stylish, fresh interiors, a huge marshmallowy bed and a fabulous free-standing rolltop bath in the room. Sunlight streams through the sash windows, and as my eyes adjust, they reveal incredible views across the harbour and the little fishing boats lazily bobbing on the water. It was truly quite breath-taking.

Once our bags were unpacked and we sat on the sofa with a cup of tea, our ears tuned in to the sound of waves rolling onto the shore and we began to slow down to Cornish time; we soon realised this was a place of simple pleasures and relaxed luxury.

EXPERIENCE

Say "Cornwall" and most people think of surfing, pasties and Poldark. From The Idle Rocks you can explore all these things and more. The Roseland Peninsula where the hotel sits is a paradise for walkers with craggy clifftops, light-dappled woodland and rugged coastlines to tempt you. You can even borrow a walking guide and wellies from the hotel. One afternoon we took a stroll out to St Mawes Castle, which is just around the other side of the village and as far as we fancied walking on a wet and blustery day. I

loved this compact, clover-leaf shaped castle – it's one of my must-dos along with catching the ferry across to Falmouth.

Walking through St Mawes, we dipped in and out of little art galleries and indie shops. There's also plenty of places to sample a cream tea (jam followed by cream in Cornwall, please) and delicious local pasties and seafood. The harbour was quiet on a wet day in early March, but it's normally bustling with people taking to the water on boats, paddleboards, canoes and windsurfers. What better way to blow away the cobwebs?

One of my highlights of the trip was the Hidden Cinema experience at The Idle Rocks' sister property St Mawes Hotel (www.stmaweshotel.com). Located just around the harbour, the husband and I got dressed up for date night and wandered around to the hotel for a delicious dinner followed by a private screening. The two of us got cosy in the 25-seat state-of-the-art cinema under a fluffy blanket with a big bowl of popcorn and a glass of wine. The cinema normally shows a mix of films, sporting events and screenings of theatre productions, but we were treated to a private viewing of our wedding photos – what an experience!

We didn't want to leave so the staff put on our favourite film, *L.A. Confidential*, and we settled in for the night while our wine glasses and popcorn bucket were never left to go empty.

DINE

The Idle Rocks has an ethos of sustainability, which means food is sourced locally to keep its carbon footprint down. Luckily for guests, it's situated in one of the best places for regional produce. New head chef Dorian Janmaat has returned to his native Cornwall after eight years at Raymond Blanc's two Michelin-starred Le Manoir aux Quat'Saisons. Expect exciting and aesthetically pleasing dishes, which champion the freshest local ingredients.

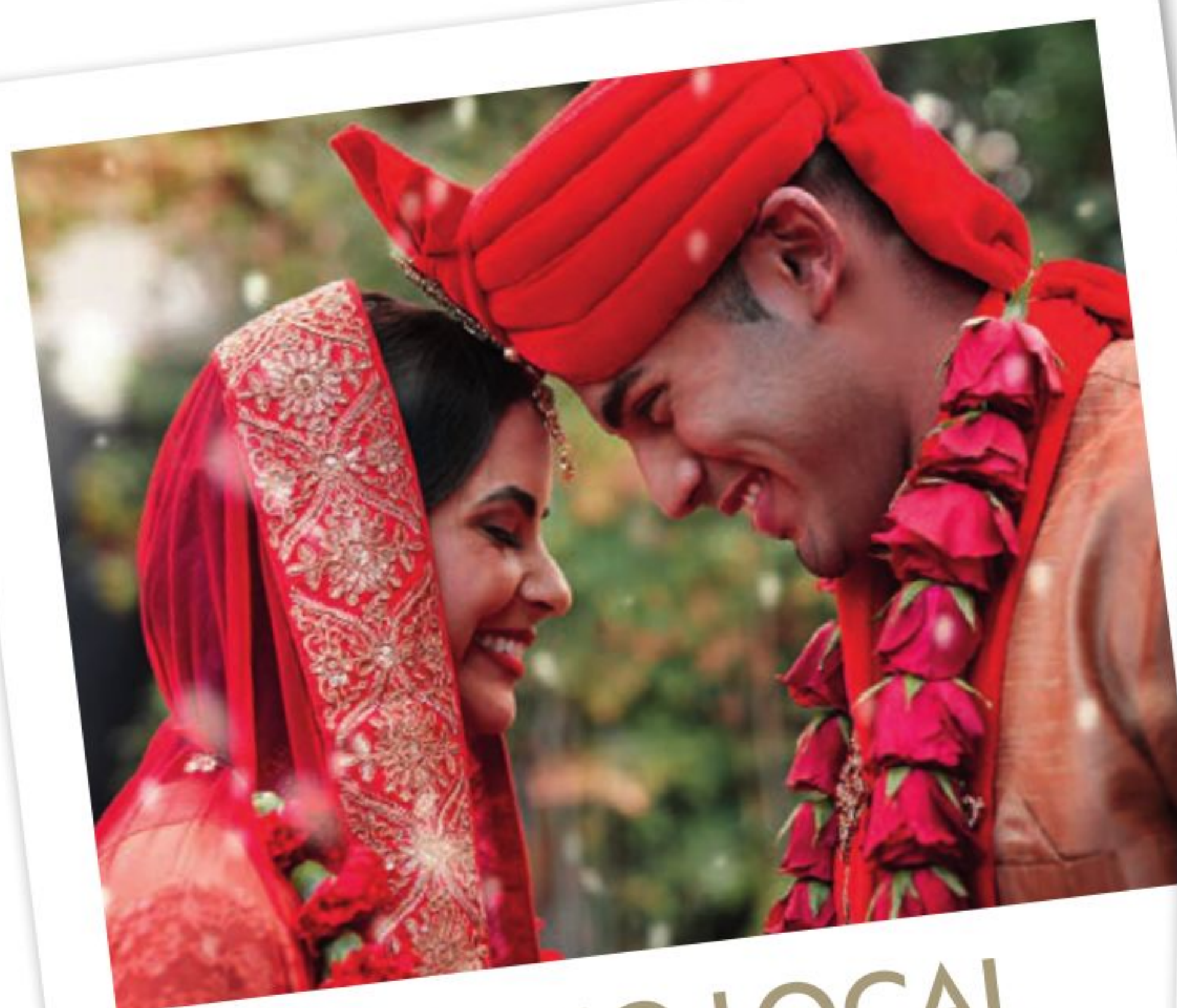
Dinner in the Idle Rocks is a memorable affair. With attentive, knowledgeable staff and an incredible menu. Cal devoured fresh oysters, while I absolutely loved the foraged wild garlic soup. The brassica and coconut dhal was a divine veggie option for me, and Cal was treated to some amazing seafood. For something a little more informal, we loved the gastro-pub feel of The St Mawes Hotel. Here we ate pizzas and Scotch eggs, all with the same emphasis on exceptional quality.

Rooms at The Idle Rocks start from £200 per night, based on two people sharing on a B&B basis. To find out more, visit <https://idlerocks.com> or call 01326 270 270.

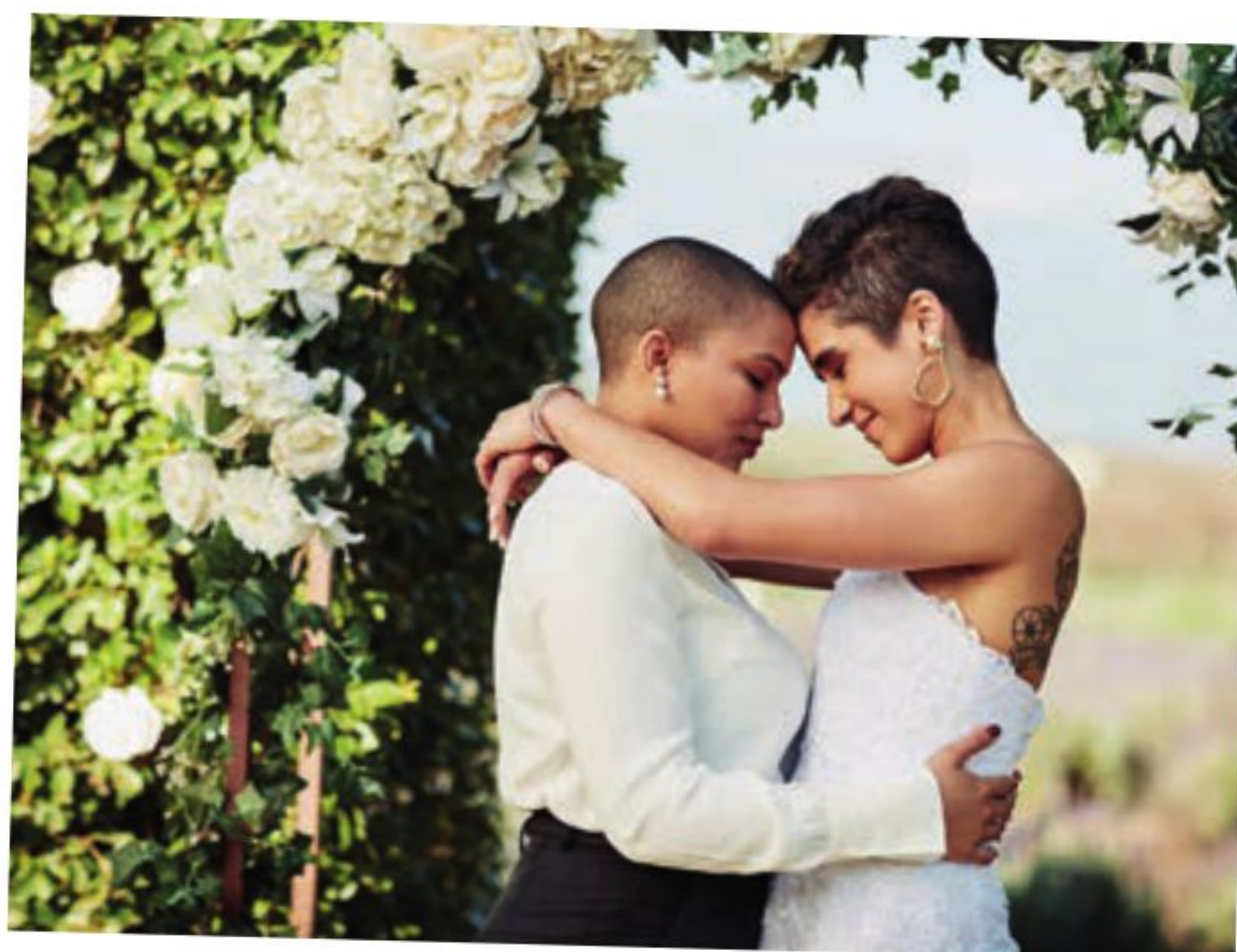
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OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2020

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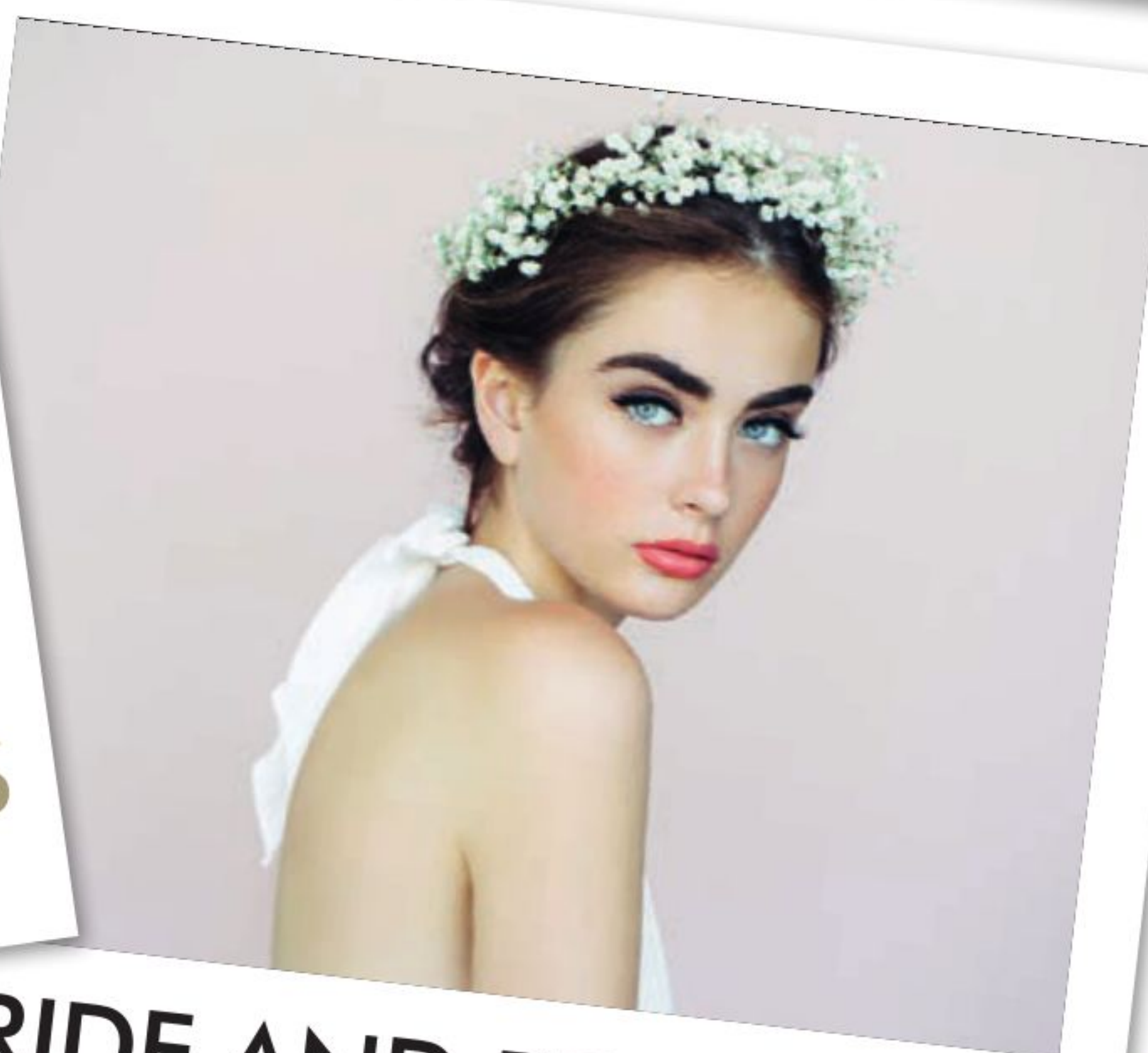
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We love featuring local brides and companies. If you want to get in touch email editor@county.wedding for your chance to grace the pages of next issue

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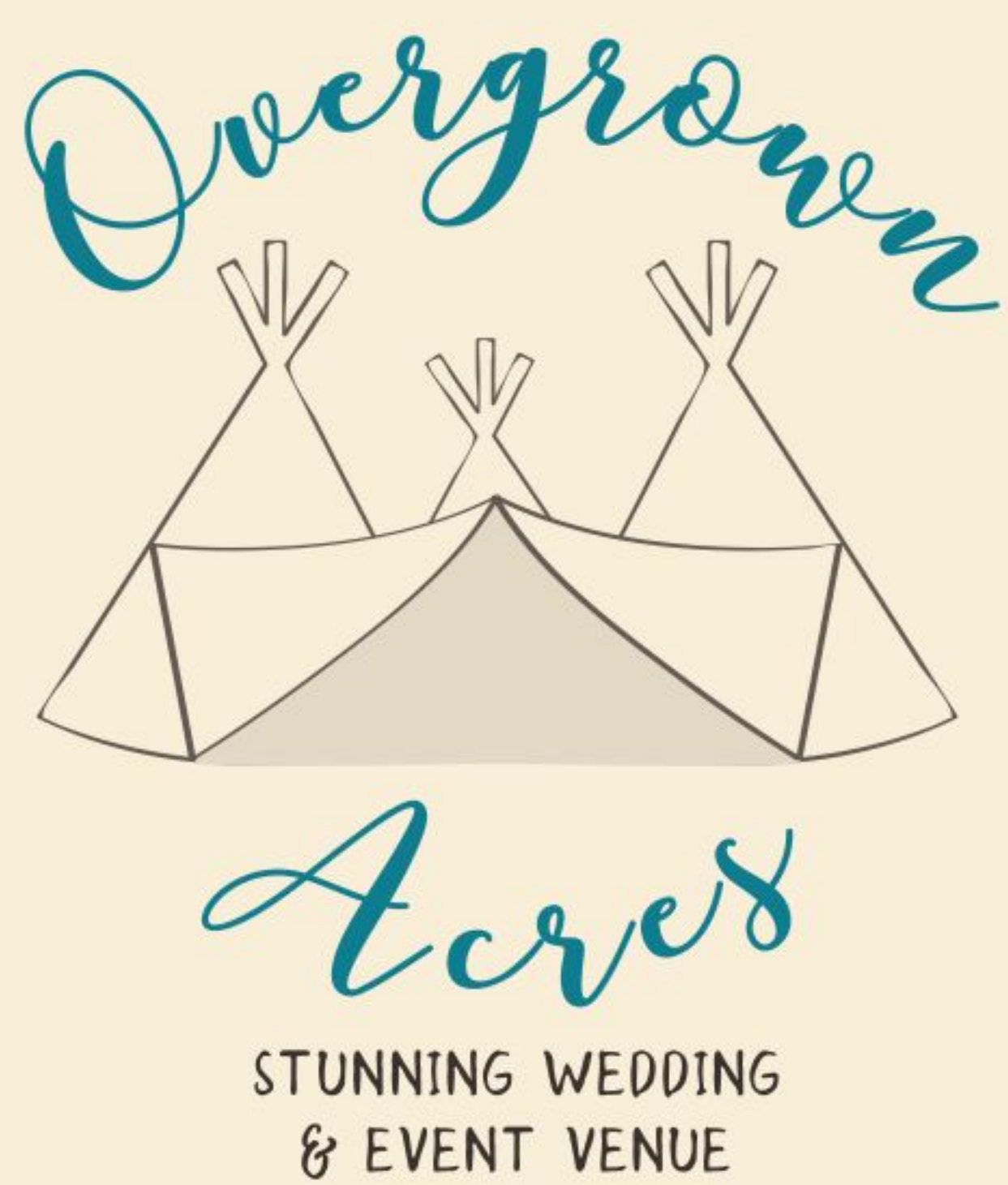
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