

# Brides' bulletin

All the latest from around the region

## Fabulous fonts

Newlyweds-to-be on the hunt for stylish invites, RSVP cards, table plans and more can check out Devotion Stationery's new website.

After launching the Derbyshire-based business last year, designer Helen Bell's wedding collections are now available to view online. "The designs I create are an eclectic mix of styles, all influenced by my love of weddings, unusual fonts and lettering," she explains. As well as a bespoke service, she also offers a ready-to-buy range. Visit [www.devotionstationery.co.uk](http://www.devotionstationery.co.uk) for details.



## RURAL INSPIRATION

Up and coming Lincolnshire-based bridalwear business Wold Couture will be marking its launch with a double celebration this September.

Bespoke pieces and fashion items combine with bridal couture in the company's portfolio of handmade garments. The designs are created by Jessica Holmes in the picturesque Lincolnshire Wolds – the inspiration behind the company name.

"We are holding a double launch, one 'up north' in the Wolds and the other 'down south' in London," says Jessica. The East Midlands event is being held on 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 from 4pm to 8pm at Marris Barn, Thorganby Hall, Lincolnshire. Private appointments to view the launch collection will also be held throughout the afternoon. Visit [www.woldcouture.co.uk](http://www.woldcouture.co.uk) for further information.



## On your marks

WOW Wedding Shows and Leicester Racecourse are launching a major big-day event this autumn.

The Leicestershire Wedding Show will be taking place on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 at the racecourse's new Kube exhibition space. A wide range of suppliers will be exhibiting, covering everything from bridalwear to honeymoons with up to 100 different stands. Key areas include the Vintage Boutique for all things retro and period-style, including bridal fashion, photo booths and an afternoon tea area. Leading companies will be sharing inspiration, latest styles and trends on stage, while brides-to-be can visit the Beauty Salon for a spot of pampering. Admission and parking are free, for further details visit the website [www.theleicestershiroweddingshow.co.uk](http://www.theleicestershiroweddingshow.co.uk)



## LEADING LIGHT

Wedding and events planner Valerie Mattinson has been appointed Midlands Regional Ambassador for the UK Alliance of Wedding Planners (UKAWP).

Valerie, director of Nottingham-based Benessamy Weddings & Event Planning, says, "I'm particularly looking forward to networking with and providing support to wedding planners committed to promoting professionalism in our industry."

Her wedding and events service includes everything from finding a venue or supplier to the whole big-day planning package. For details visit [www.benessamy.co.uk](http://www.benessamy.co.uk)

# Save, spend, *splurge*

## Wedding décor for all budgets

Getting the look you want to fit the big-day kitty is a perennial problem. What to do? Watch your fairytale wedding go up in smoke or blow the budget? With a flexible approach and a realistic plan, it's possible to avoid both and style your celebration your way, without breaking the bank. Our experts show you how...



*"Think creatively about ways to add pizzazz to your wedding décor – bunting and paper lanterns or pompoms are a fabulous way to add a pop of colour with bright table linen and stationery."* – Val Mattinson, Benessamy Wedding & Event Planning

Make a statement with a riot of rainbow hues, or mix and match different shades for a coordinated effect. Wedding décor specialist Sue Savage of Savage Wedding Services suggests:

### Save

Decorate tables with coloured glassware and fill vases and bowls with water tinted with food dye.

### Spend

For centrepieces, fill fishbowls, Martini or lily vases with coloured gel balls and LED lights to bathe your tables in a subtle glow.

### Splurge

Project coloured uplighters onto a plain backdrop for a wow-factor effect and have a red-carpet entrance sprinkled with multi-hued rose petals.

Planning and coordination, Benessamy Wedding & Event Planning [www.benessamy.co.uk](http://www.benessamy.co.uk); Styling, Darby & Joan [www.darbyandjoanvintage.co.uk](http://www.darbyandjoanvintage.co.uk); Tipi, Sami Tipi [www.samitipi.co.uk](http://www.samitipi.co.uk); Bunting, Emma Bunting [www.emma-bunting.co.uk](http://www.emma-bunting.co.uk); Pompoms, Pom Pom Studio [www.pompomstudio.co.uk](http://www.pompomstudio.co.uk); Stationery, Best Day Ever [www.bestdayeveruk.com](http://www.bestdayeveruk.com); Flowers, Tineke Floral Designs [www.tinekefloraldesigns.co.uk](http://www.tinekefloraldesigns.co.uk)



Tie coloured ribbons onto chair backs to instantly bring your rainbow brights theme alive. Dressing service, £3.50 a chair by Newark-based Crafty Betty.



Finishing Touches Hire style and fit chair covers to suit a range of big-day themes. Decorate with luxurious two-toned double swags and floral trim, priced £4 a chair or single organza sashes for a budget-friendly option.

# HOT

How to clash-proof  
your wedding

# TOPIC:

Colour coordination

Meet the  
experts



Jules Horwood  
Wedding stylist



Kelsey Hughes  
Bridal boutique  
owner



Nazlio Di Tullio  
Florist



Val Mattinson  
Wedding  
planner

## Mix and match

**Q** My fiancé and I have just booked our big day at a beautiful Georgian venue. We plan to have a period-themed wedding but I've no idea what colour scheme to choose. What would work well in a historical setting?

**A** *Jules says:* Vintage carnival is a popular style which works well in any period building. Don't be too literal with the theme though, mix it up with some modern elements like contemporary fonts on chalkboard signs and quirky props for your table numbers. Luxurious saris in rich purple, blue, red, pink and orange tones are easy to use as dramatic drapes. Mixing different prints and textures in similar shades always looks great and don't be afraid to experiment with colours, it's a celebration after all.



gingernutphotography.webs.com

## PICK 'N' MIX

**Q** Help! I'm drowning in colour swatches and can't decide what to choose for my big day. Where should I start?

*Val says:* With so much choice it's easy to get carried away, so unless you're planning a rainbow colour theme, here are three tips to help you decide.

**A** ♥ Take inspiration from your favourite flower to create the foundation for your big-day palette. It's a great way to focus your ideas.

♥ Try to complement the season you're getting married in. For example the changing autumn landscape lends itself beautifully to rich shades of burnt orange, purple and yellow.

♥ Consider the style and décor of your wedding venue. Some provide a blank canvas so you can choose whatever you want while others may have strong features that lend themselves to a specific palette such as warm, rich tones against a backdrop of dark wood panelling. Pay particular attention to fixtures and fittings – you may not be able to do anything about a bold patterned carpet, but try to choose a scheme to complement, or at least not clash with it.

# RUSTIC CHARM



Image: [www.hannahphotography.co.uk](http://www.hannahphotography.co.uk)  
www.darbyandrosamimage.co.uk

*“Why not have a help-yourself drinks station for your guests like this one styled for a country photo shoot at Bawdon Lodge Farm in Leicestershire? You can source containers and decorative items yourself or hire props from a wedding stylist.”* – Val Mattinson, Benessamy Wedding & Event Planning



For an authentic country vibe natural, raw fabrics like hessian work well. Use it to make your own bunting – learn how at Crafty Betty’s bunting workshops, priced from £20 per person, or buy it ready-made from the company at £2.99 a metre.



*“A ploughman’s buffet is always a winner with locally sourced cheese, homemade bread and chutneys.”* – Jules Harward, Orange Tree Weddings



## SUE'S TOP TIPS

### Save

Make the most of your venue. If you’ve hired a barn for your reception search for old farm and garden tools, decorate with ribbon and use as props. Ask the venue owners if you can borrow items for the day – you’d be amazed by the rustic finds to be discovered.



### Spend

Use hessian sashes for your chairs and add a flower or lace overlay and team with matching table runners and swags.

### Splurge

Pile hay bales around the room, hire old wheelbarrows and fill to the brim with flowers. Ask your florist to create floor-standing sheaves of corn to decorate the doorways.