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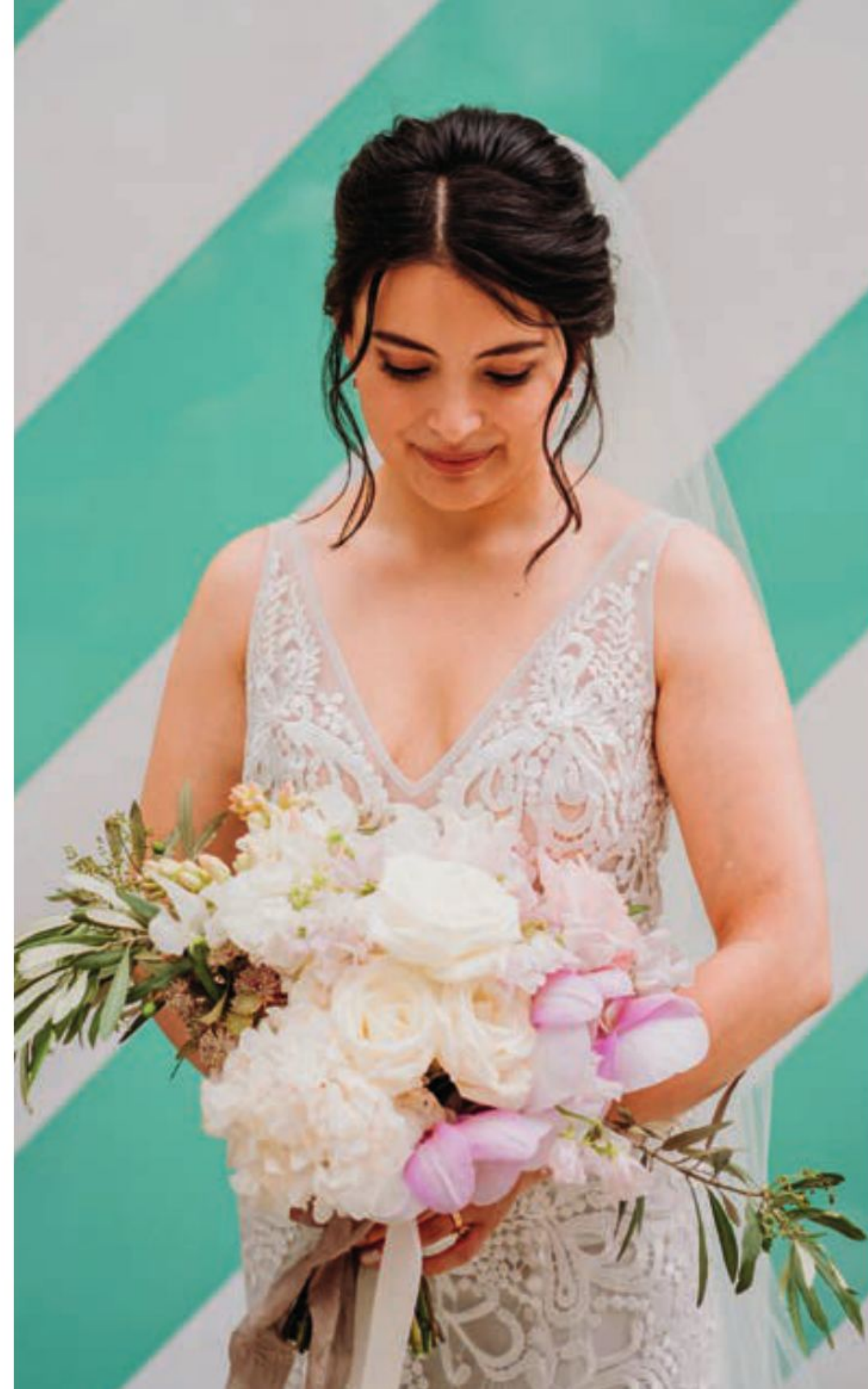
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Stranger things



As I type, weddings are prohibited and no one knows when these restrictions will be lifted, which makes these worrying and difficult times for couples who had planned to wed this summer. While we wait, we're here to help on two counts: first, advice for those who need to postpone or revisit their plans (turn to page 94 to read wise words from London suppliers) and, second, an escape from all that worry – after all, they can't cancel our dreams.

And on that note, we've got plenty of inspiration for those of you still in the planning stages – from the glorious real weddings featured on page 26 to two beautiful shoots (pages 75 and 80).

And while our favourite London haunts may be shuttered for the time being, we can show our solidarity with words – we've featured some of our top spaces on page 15; many are offering virtual tours too – so click through to their websites and explore at your leisure.

In the meantime, stay home, stay safe and love fiercely,

Georgina x

Georgina Cassels,
Editor

WIN!

A LUXURY MINIMOON TO ZAFIRO PALACE
ALCÚDIA IN MALLORCA, WORTH £2,500



A stage, music galore and glitter tattoos – performers Emma and Matt went to town on the entertainment front. Read all about it on pages 39 to 42.



Baroque bridal fabulous on page 75.

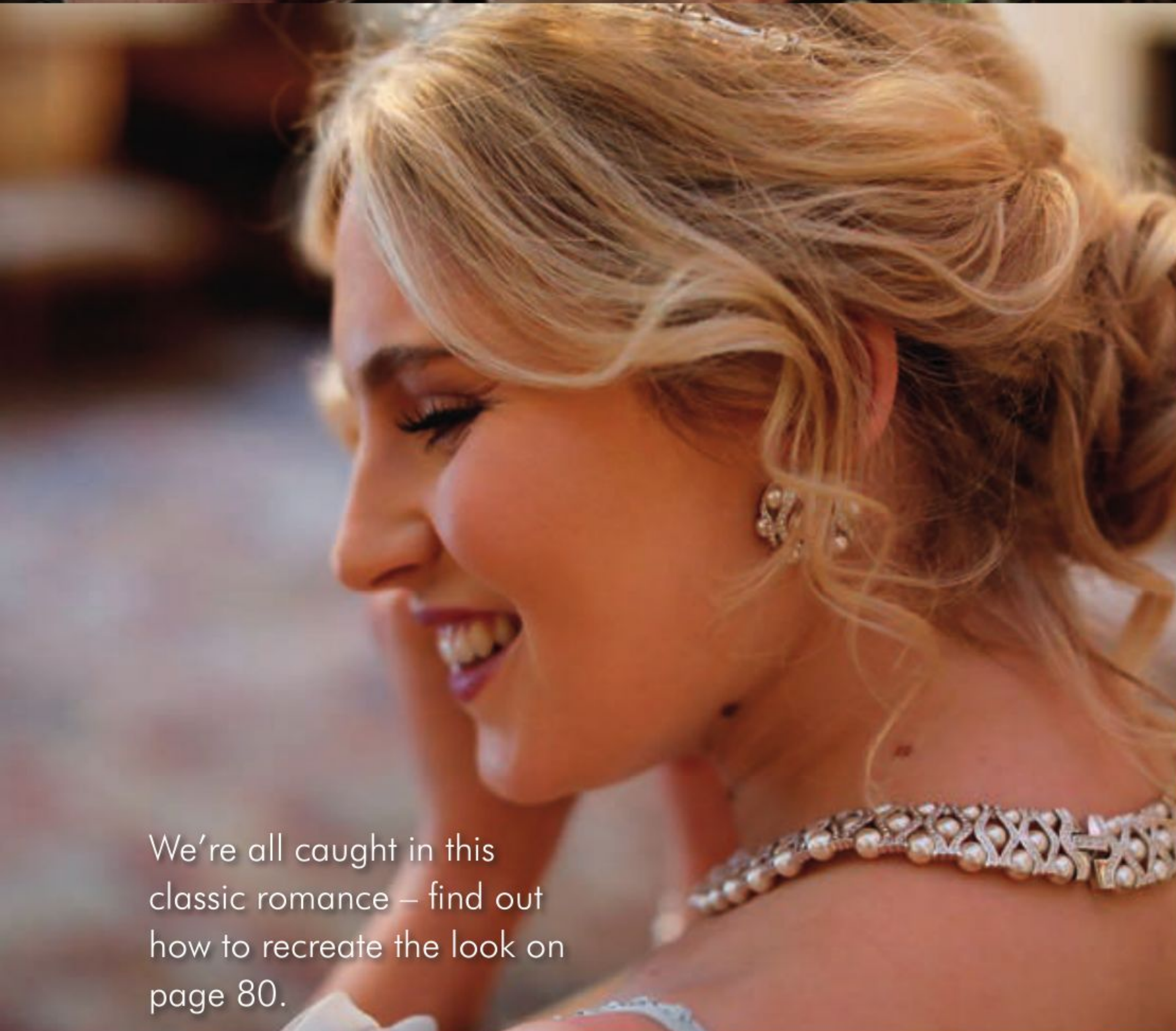


It's all about the journey not the destination – big-day transport to wow on page 55.





A neon sign, prosecco wall and pastel palette, Jhuliana and Johnny's big day was packed with personal touches, see more on page 26.



We're all caught in this classic romance – find out how to recreate the look on page 80.



We're crushing on Leanne and George's outdoors-in theme on page 33.



Love conquers all – find out about the businesses doing their bit on page 9.



These are a few of our favourite spaces, from page 15.

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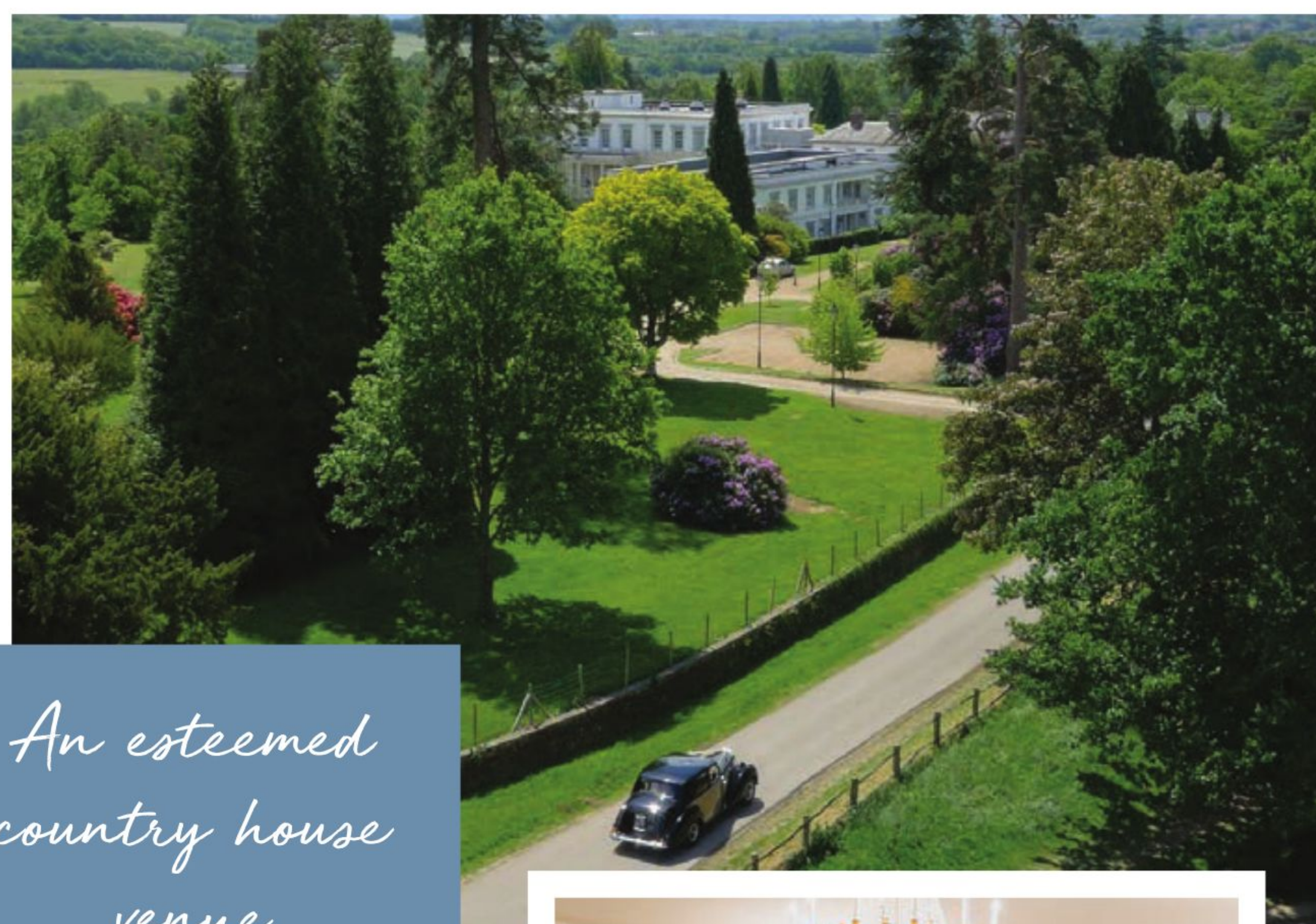
This historic Palladian mansion, located in the heart of the Ashdown Forest, has hosted countless weddings for generations, delivering flawless events with memories to last a lifetime. With our elegant function suites, newly renovated feature bedrooms, vast sunny terraces and stunning gardens along with a pretty church in the grounds, the estate provides the ultimate backdrop to your special day.

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Save
Our New
Date

ON HOLD

If your wedding details have changed due to restrictions ushered in following the COVID-19 outbreaks, keep loved ones informed with these elegant designs from London stationer Papier. After receiving several requests from couples affected by the restrictions, the stationery designer has produced a series of new designs to help spread the news that the big day's on hold.

The Change of Plans Postponement Card is priced at £15.20 for 10 or We've Postponed Card starts from £15.20 for 10. For more information, or to purchase, visit <https://www.papier.com>

We've
Postponed

the wedding of
OLIVIA & CHARLES
has been postponed
please save our new date
14.08.2021
we hope you will still be able
to celebrate with us

CHANGE OF DATE!
THE WEDDING OF
MONICA SINCLAIR
AND
AMERON MITCHELL
HAS BEEN POSTPONED
TO A LATER DATE

A SHOE IN

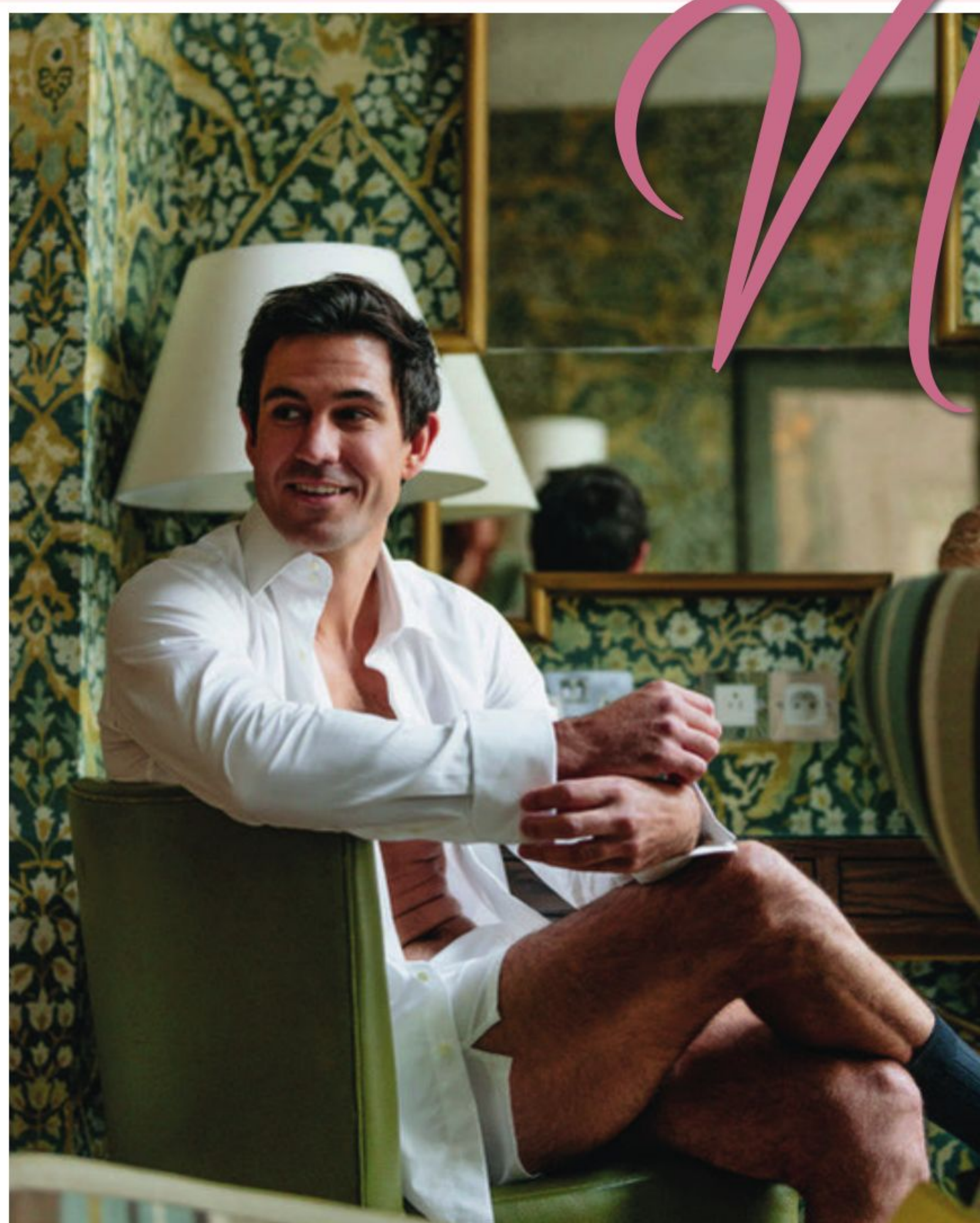
Let's face it, we could all do with a little pretty right now – and this time at home is ideal for breaking in those wedding shoes! So, we're basically providing a public service by announcing that Emmy London has launched its new bridal shoe collection. The Sketchbook Collection embodies the brand's core values to bring comfort and confidence to brides on their big day. From Harriet's whimsical ribbon tie to Phoenix's crystal strap and block heel, there's a dream shoe to suit every style.

For more information, or to view the collection, visit www.emmylondon.com



Nearlywed NEWS

All the latest from around the city

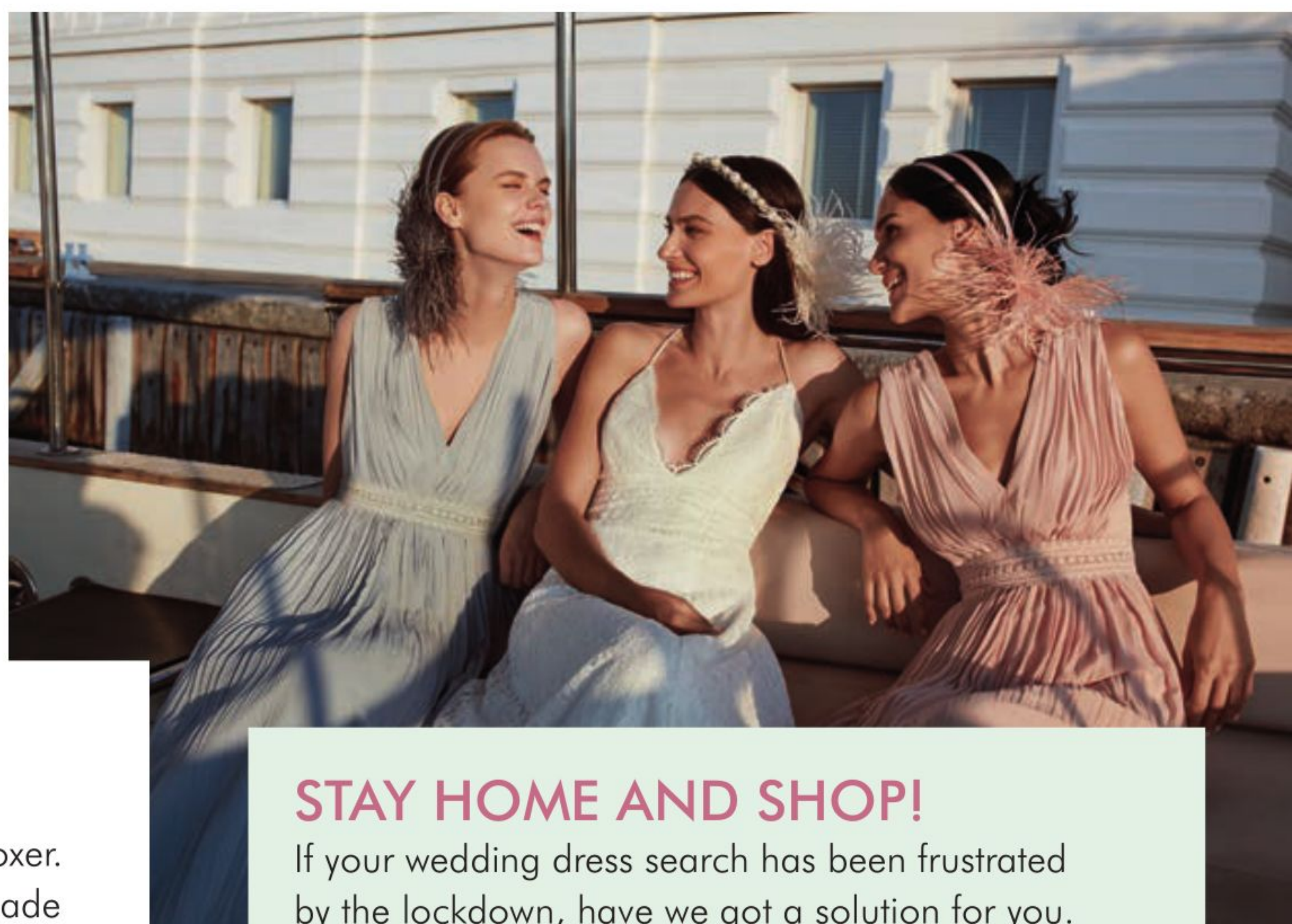


WHAT LIES BENEATH

Big days need best boxers and that's precisely why British men's underwear brand Hamilton and Hare has unveiled The Wedding Boxer.

The Wedding Boxer is an extra special pair of signature shorts, made from premium grade pinpoint weave cotton for a subtle, luxurious texture and gives an extra level of comfort for the all-important day. The shorts come in a crisp, clean wedding white that matches perfectly with a formal shirt and has a slimline tailored cut so they won't ruin the line of a suit when worn underneath.

Featuring a mother-of-pearl button fly and complimentary monogramming with either the bride's initials or a special date, the Wedding Boxer has been designed with the utmost attention to detail and quality and is produced in the brand's small scale factories to ensure they last the test of time (just like a marriage), and comes beautifully packaged in a Hamilton and Hare gift box sleeve. The Wedding Boxer will be available to buy in store at 39 Chiltern Street upon reopening and is available online at www.hamiltonandhare.com, priced at £45.



STAY HOME AND SHOP!

If your wedding dress search has been frustrated by the lockdown, have we got a solution for you. Launched this spring, Rowley Hesselballe London's aim is to bring modern and affordable luxury bridal, bridesmaid and evening wear designs online.

Billed as one of the first bridal direct-to-consumer brands, the company offers next day delivery to the UK and free returns and features a collection of contemporary dresses and jumpsuits in a palette of white, red, navy, emerald and beige, starting from £249 in sizes XS to XL. There's also a range of matching silk, feather and pearl headpieces designed and made by Eli Peacock. To find out more, visit www.rowleyhesselballe.com



DOING THEIR BIT

With many newlyweds left devastated after being forced to postpone their big day, Bloom Gin is hoping to spread good cheer by offering free Bloom London Dry Gin minis as wedding favours to anyone whose wedding has been affected as a result of the virus. To claim, simply visit www.bloomginwedding.com and register your details. To be eligible for the offer, entrants must be over the age of 18 and have had their wedding date affected by COVID-19. The offer will run until 30th November, 2020. Terms and conditions apply, please see the brand's website for further details, www.bloomgin.com



BARGAIN ALERT!

Finiks London is currently running a sample sale on all bridal gowns that have been part of photo shoots and catwalk shows. The collection is inspired by vintage couture and beautiful fabrics featuring feminine and romantic one-off designs that are light and comfortable to wear. A great chance to grab a stunning dress for a fraction of the price. For more information or to view the range, visit www.finiks.co.uk



MONEY MATTERS

Emma-Lou Montgomery, associate director for Fidelity International (www.fidelity.co.uk) advises on wedding planning during the lockdown.

"While weddings are a joyous occasion, planning them can be very stressful. For anyone dealing with this in the current climate, the likelihood of having to postpone the date or cancel for the foreseeable is a very upsetting prospect and can be a real hit on your personal finances. However, taking even a few small steps to efficiently manage the wedding fund you do have in play now, will significantly help you and your partner in the long-run."

♥ Stay up-to-speed

While right now is a very stressful time for anyone trying to keep their wedding plans in order, staying in-the-know on the important issues and getting to grips with how they affect you will put you in better control of your wedding finances. It will also help you keep a bit of perspective on what is, and what isn't, worth worrying about month to month.

♥ Cut down your outgoings

Going through your bank statement is a quick and easy way to identify unnecessary outgoings that you can turn into additional wedding savings. For example, cancelling unused subscriptions and limiting your purchases to only necessary items could potentially save you hundreds of pounds over the next few months; a saving that you can then put towards your big day.

♥ Postpone instead of cancel

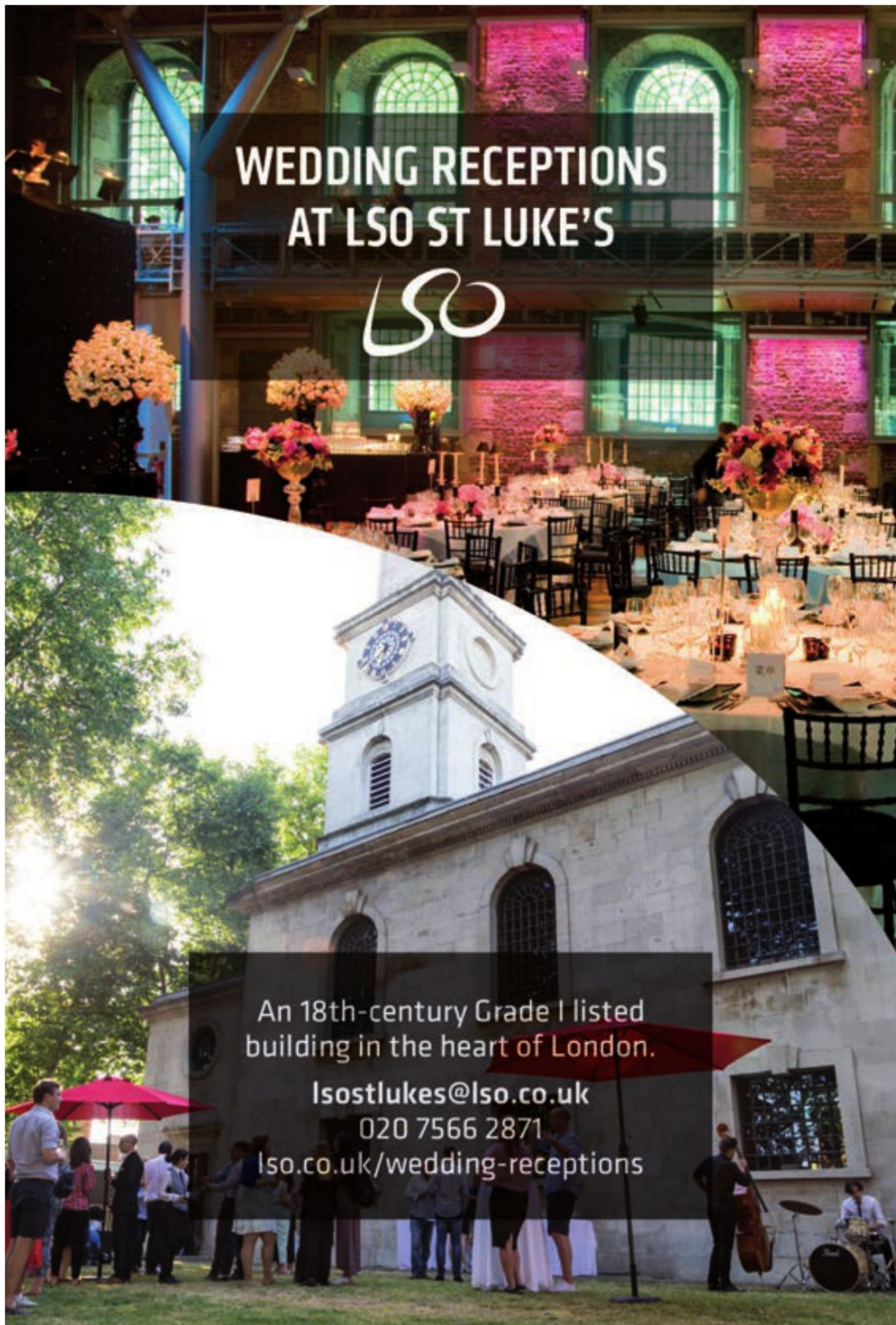
Rescheduling your wedding may be the last thing you want to do, but the sooner you understand your options, the more prepared you'll be when speaking to your suppliers and your guests. Often, you'll risk losing more money by cancelling outright. Try to prioritise by speaking to your celebrant and chosen venue first as they're likely to be trickier to re-book than caterers, florists or car services.

♥ Stick to a plan

Whether you're hoping to wed this year, next year or in the next five years, it's best to get an adaptable budgeting plan in order. List your goals, map this against your current income and expenditure and you have the beginning of a financial plan, which, if you stick to it, can make a huge difference to you and your partner's celebrations and future financial position. Because starting married life up to your eyeballs in debt does not pave the way to wedded bliss.

♥ Take advantage of technology

Getting through the next couple of months is one thing, but it's equally important not to lose sight of the end goal and let your finances suffer too much. To help you manage, why not use this time to explore the range of money apps available. These will give you real-time information about your savings, investments and spending habits. Indeed, our research found 49% of women are increasingly turning to online platforms in order to better manage their money.



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Candles by Sophie is offering *Your London Wedding* readers 15% off all products purchased via the website until the end of June. To claim, enter code CANDLELOVER at checkout.

Terms and conditions apply. Please see our website for details.

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Throughout the centuries, Gunnersbury Park House has stood witness to the most sumptuous parties and, after a £21 million restoration, it's now ready to lend its magnificent Grade II* backdrop to celebrations once more.

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or as one large space for up to 200 guests. Alternatively, the Orangery, which can accommodate up to 80 friends and family, or Temple, where 50 nearest and dearest can witness your vows are located in the grounds.

Talking of which, there's 72 hectares to explore here, so, whether you're looking to celebrate surrounded by the fresh blossoms of spring, in the glorious summer sunshine, amongst the rich colours of autumn or the bright, crisp frost of winter, the ever-changing beauty of the park and water features will provide stunning surroundings.

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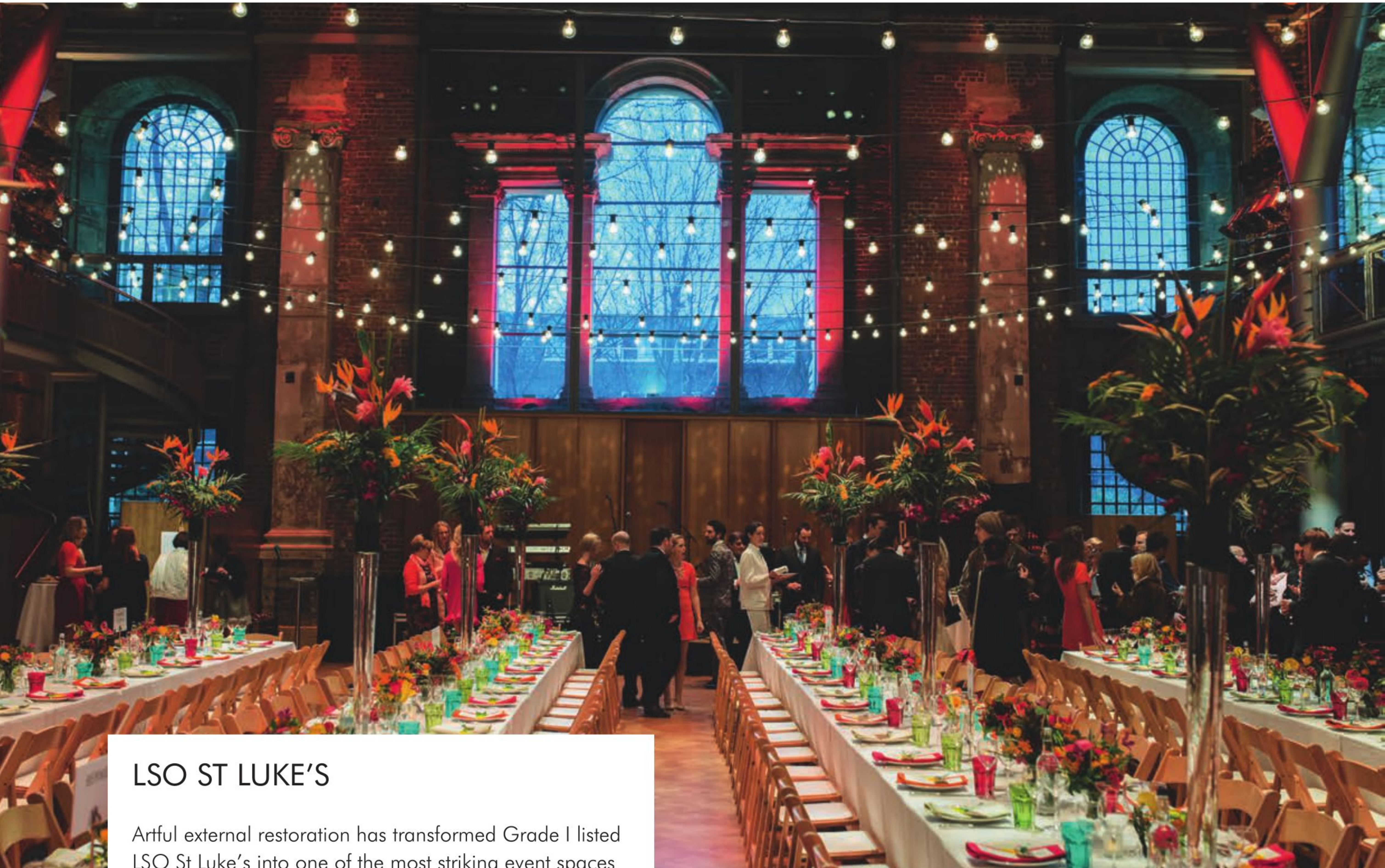
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Surrey Downs

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LSO ST LUKE'S

Artful external restoration has transformed Grade I listed LSO St Luke's into one of the most striking event spaces in London. With its distinctive Hawksmoor-designed spire, this concert venue provides an elegant 18th century backdrop for those all-important photographs.

Entering through the building's elegant façade, guests will find a contemporary interior with fascinating elements of original architecture. The Jerwood Hall at LSO St Luke's, flooded with natural light, is a highly versatile space able to accommodate up to 220 guests for seated dinners or 425 for standing receptions. Alternatively, if you're looking for an outdoor reception, LSO St Luke's Front Lawn is an exclusive and tranquil green space which can be dressed with outdoor furniture and stocked with party games to make for an enticing al fresco affair for up to 425 guests.

Ceremony licence? No

Contact: www.lso.co.uk | 020 7566 2871

ST ERMIN'S HOTEL

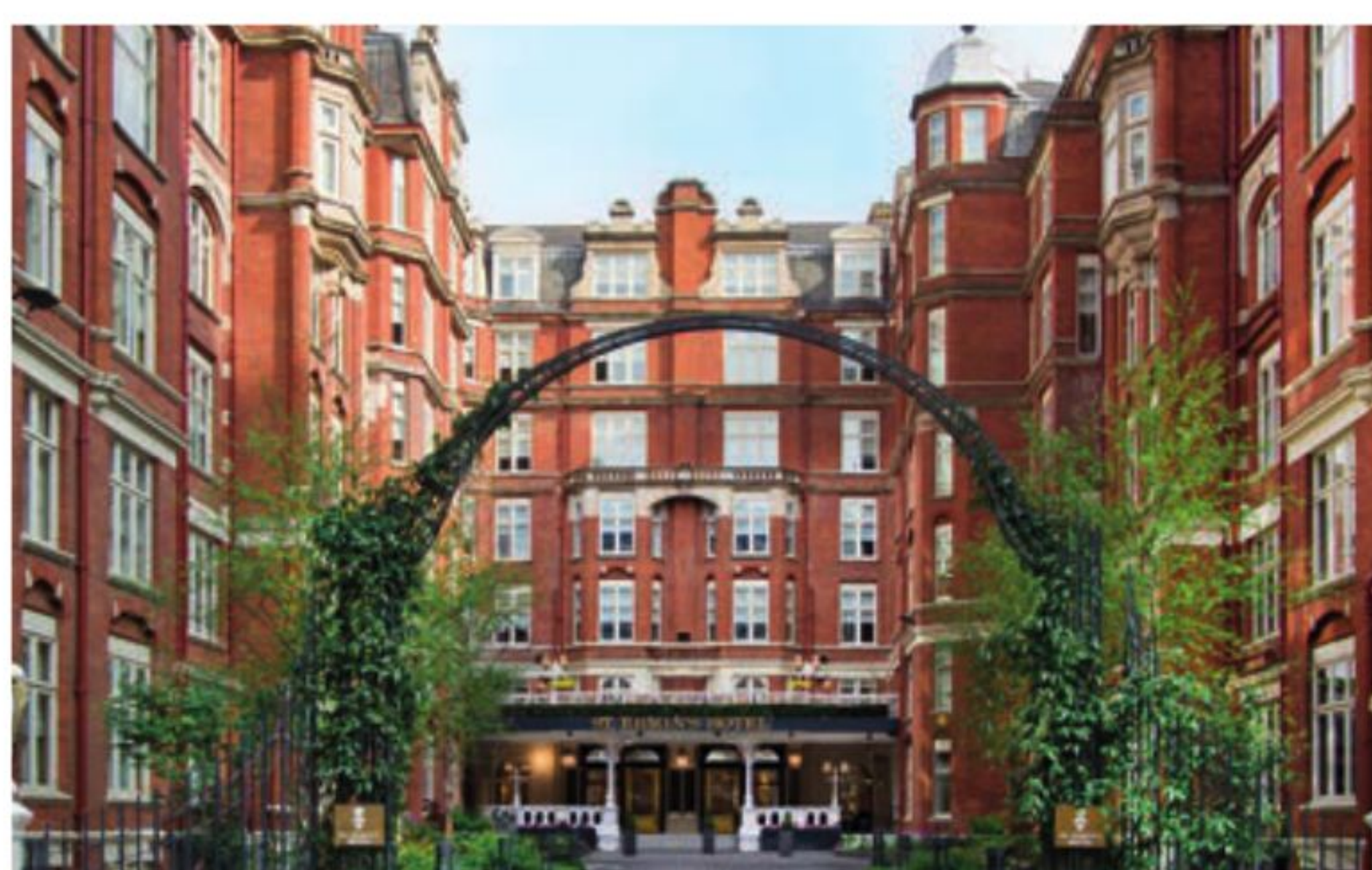
Long known as the 'wedding cake' hotel for its opulent and romantic spaces, London's iconic St Ermin's Hotel is a memorable big-day location. Distinctly individual, this Grade II listed gem boasts some of central London's most dramatic public spaces. A sense of occasion is guaranteed from first arrival to the beautiful white lobby with curving central staircase, balcony mezzanine and continues in the Crystal Ballroom and Cloisters Suite, where up to 150 guests can join the celebrations.

What's more, featuring a beautiful, recently restored courtyard garden and pretty outdoor terrace, a working organic rooftop kitchen garden and a Bee Terrace – home to the hotel's very own urban bee colony – there's a lot more happening outside St Ermin's than in most central London hotels.

Ceremony licence? Yes

Contact: 020 7222 7888

www.sterminshotel.co.uk





WWT LONDON WETLAND CENTRE

This 105-acre wildlife reserve is a scenic mosaic of lakes, pools, meadows and gardens which are home to countless wildlife species. Indeed, London Wetland Centre brings the countryside to London; it's just 10 minutes from Hammersmith but it could be a world away.

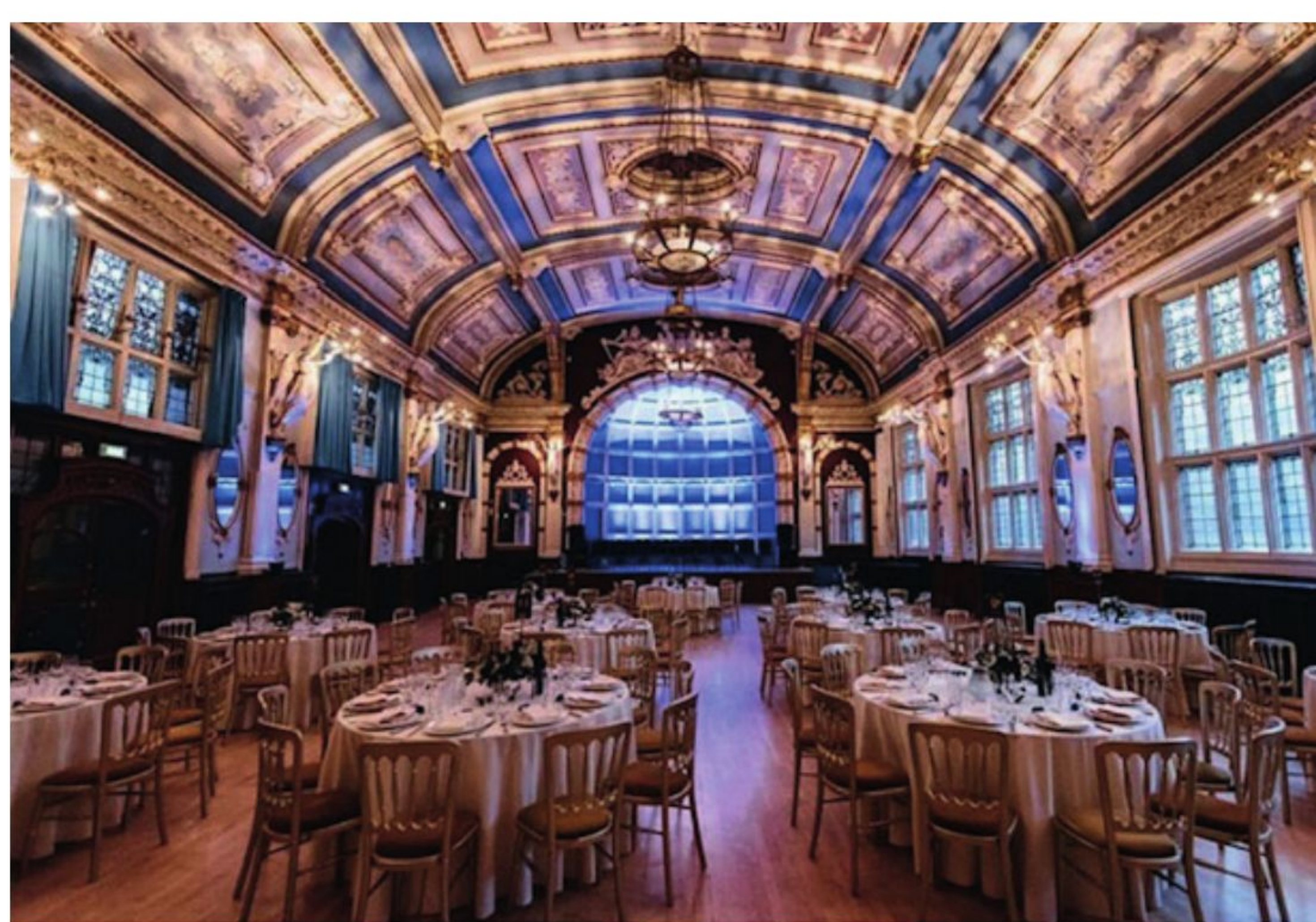
Ceremonies can take place in the split-level, heated observatory where the panoramic views from the huge window will provide a stunning backdrop to your vows. There's room

for 80 seated guests to join you here. Alternatively, up to 42 friends and family can witness your vows in the cute-as-a-button Wetland Living building with its thatched roof and white-washed walls lending romance a-plenty.

Both can accommodate receptions or the Water's Edge Room is ideal for wedding breakfasts for 110 loved ones and boasts magnificent views as well as a decked balcony.

Ceremony licence? Yes

Contact: www.wwt.org.uk | 020 8409 4400



THE OLD FINSBURY TOWN HALL

This recently renovated, landmark Grade II listed building exudes Art Nouveau elegance, from the glass and wrought iron canopy outside to the theatrical sweeping staircase, stained glass and stunning majestic Ballroom with its glittering chandeliers within.

Ceremonies for up to 30 seated loved ones (40 standing) can take place within the Wedding Room, where the mahogany panelled walls and luxurious red carpet add glamour aplenty.

The Great Hall, meanwhile, is ideal for receptions of up to 200 seated friends and family, every one of them is bound to be wowed by its ornate Art Nouveau décor. Smaller parties can be accommodated in the Council Chamber, which seats 60 diners under its magnificent domed ceiling or, connected to the Great Hall by two staircases, it can also work well as a break out room.

Ceremony licence? Yes

Contact: 020 7713 7710

www.theoldfinsburytownhall.co.uk

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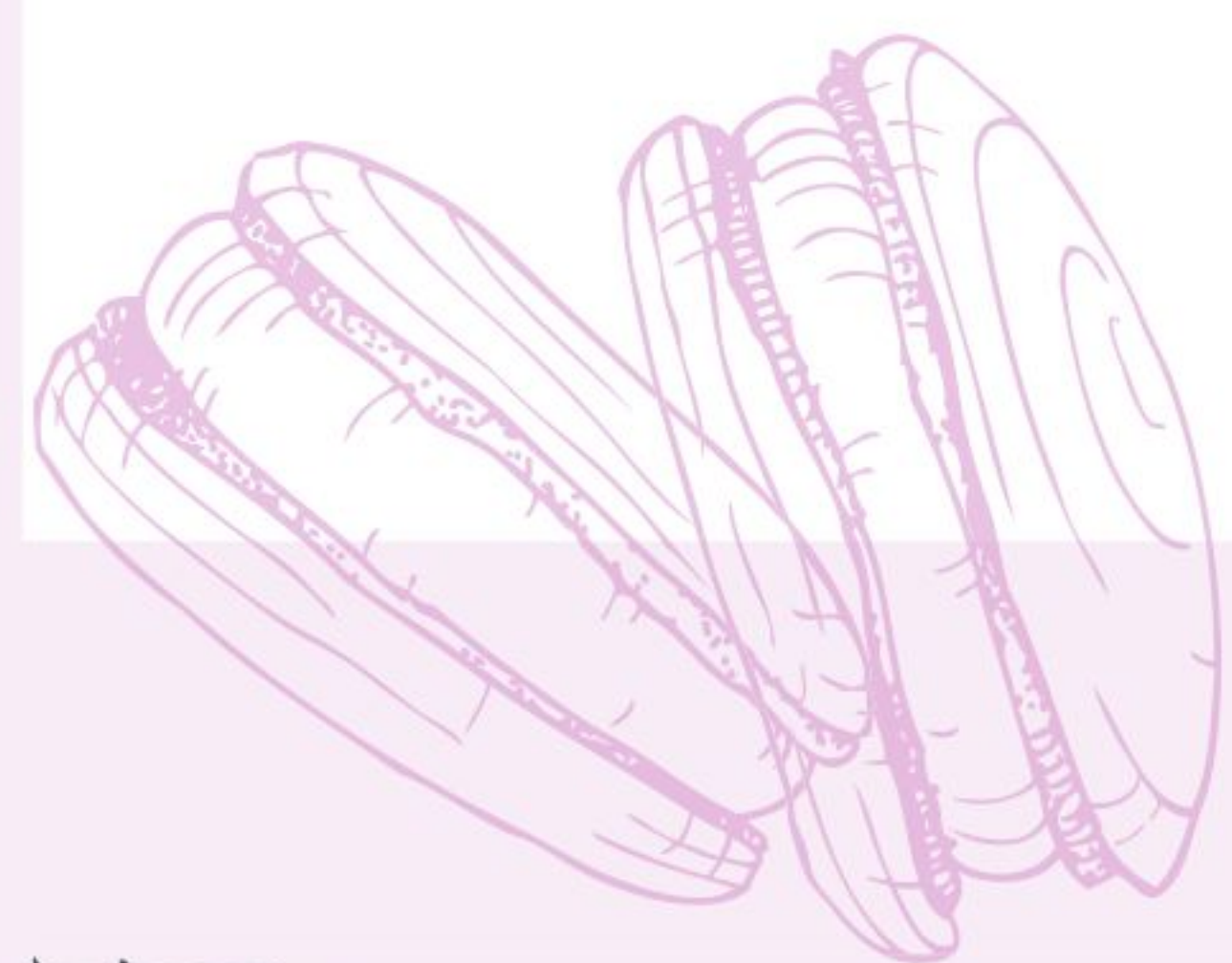
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Godalming GU8 4AY
SUN 18 OCT



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Worthing BN13 3UN
SUN 18 OCT



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Edenbridge TN8 7NP
SUN 20 SEPT



GHYLL MANOR
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KENSINGTON PALACE

A welcome retreat from the nearby hustle and bustle thanks to its tranquil gardens and surrounding parkland, Kensington Palace is one of London's most beautiful and architecturally impressive buildings.

And now Kensington Palace's State Apartments have been opened up to wedding parties, couples can tie the knot in the magnificent King's Gallery, which seats 150 guests for an evening ceremony, or the King's Drawing Room where up to 100 loved ones can enjoy the glorious paintings and idyllic views over the gardens.

And in those gardens lies the Pavilion, a fabulous reception space standing in for the Orangery during its refurbishment. There's room for up to 300 seated friends and family here, or up to 800 carousers can join you for a more informal affair. More intimate parties of 80 can be accommodated in the Cupola Room where the trompe l'oeil will certainly provide a talking point.

Ceremony licence? Yes
Contact: 020 3166 6115
www.hrp.org.uk



This central borough is renowned for its grand spaces

ALSO CHECK OUT...



CHELSEA OLD TOWN HALL

This recently renovated Grade II* listed building has stood witness to many iconic couplings in its time. Choose between one of three rooms on the registrar's side: The Harrington Room – a simple and elegant location for small parties of eight nearest and dearest; The Rosetti Room where up to 12 loved ones can witness your vows and The Brydon Room, where some 38 friends and family can look on as you say 'I do'.

On the venues side, larger parties can be accommodated in the Cadogan Suite, a charming space that can seat up to 77 attendees, or the Small Hall, known for its ornate fireplace, can accommodate a maximum of 150 invitees and the capacious Main Hall, with its vaulted ceilings and marble columns, has room for 360 ceremony guests or 180 for a wedding breakfast – and its sprung wooden floor makes it ideal for dancing!

Ceremony licence? Yes
Contact: 020 7361 4100 (registrars) and 020 7361 2220 (venue) | www.rbkc.gov.uk

CHELSEA PHYSIC GARDEN

Stretching 3.8 acres alongside the River Thames and divided into quarters by intersecting paths, this walled botanical garden is an idyllic setting for weddings not to mention a mecca for plant-lovers.

Ceremonies can take place in The Gallery, a bright airy space that can accommodate up to 70 loved ones and sits to one side of the main lawn. Blessings can also take place throughout the garden and receptions can be catered for in a marquee,

pitched either on the Main Lawn for up to 200 seated friends and family or the Lower Lawn where 100 guests can join you for the wedding breakfast.

Tours can be arranged for your guests for a small extra charge and the happy couple will be gifted a year's membership in celebration of their union.

Ceremony licence? Yes
Contact: 020 7352 5646
chelseaphysicgarden.co.uk



STUDIO Z

Nestled at the heart of vibrant, colourful Brixton, this blank canvas space is ideal for those looking to put their own stamp on their big day; its exposed brick walls and high ceilings provide an ideal backdrop for design conscious couples.

The venue is divided into two interlinked spaces, one ideal for hosting parties for up to 200 carousers (100 seated) and the other ideal for a chill-out space. On balmy days, wedding parties can avail themselves of the private outdoor terrace.

Ceremony licence? No
Contact: 07591 451 915
www.studiozbrixton.com

Stretching from Brixton to the Southbank this borough is renowned for its varied spaces

THE ROSENDALE

Originally a Victorian coaching inn, this majestic three-storey Dulwich venue features a striking entrance marked by columns, high ceilings and large windows not to mention three beautiful outside spaces – in other words, all the ingredients for a rather fabulous big day. And while lockdown persists (at the time of writing), you can even take a tour in 3D via the website.

Ceremonies can take place in either the East Room, where there's room for 20 seated nearest and dearest or in the West Room where up to 100 guests can look on as you exchange vows. The West Room is usually the space of choice for receptions too – an al fresco bar in the side garden provides the ideal spot for post-ceremony drinks.

Ceremony licence? Yes
Contact: 020 8761 9008
www.therosendale.co.uk



LONDON AFTER LOCKDOWN

London's pubs and restaurants may be shuttered for now but we'll meet again...

CHUCS SERPENTINE

Set within Zaha Hadid's renowned 'Magazine' extension to the Serpentine Gallery, Chucs Serpentine boasts a dramatic white roof and vast glass walls. The building's unique curvature adds to the distinctiveness of the design, contributing to an avantgarde feel.

Inside, white pillars extend to the lofty canopy and framed oval skylights while the undulating glass walls allow filtered light to flood the space. There's room for some 300 standing guests to toast your union here, or 120 seated diners.

Ceremony licence? Yes
Contact: 020 7298 7552
www.chucsrestaurants.com

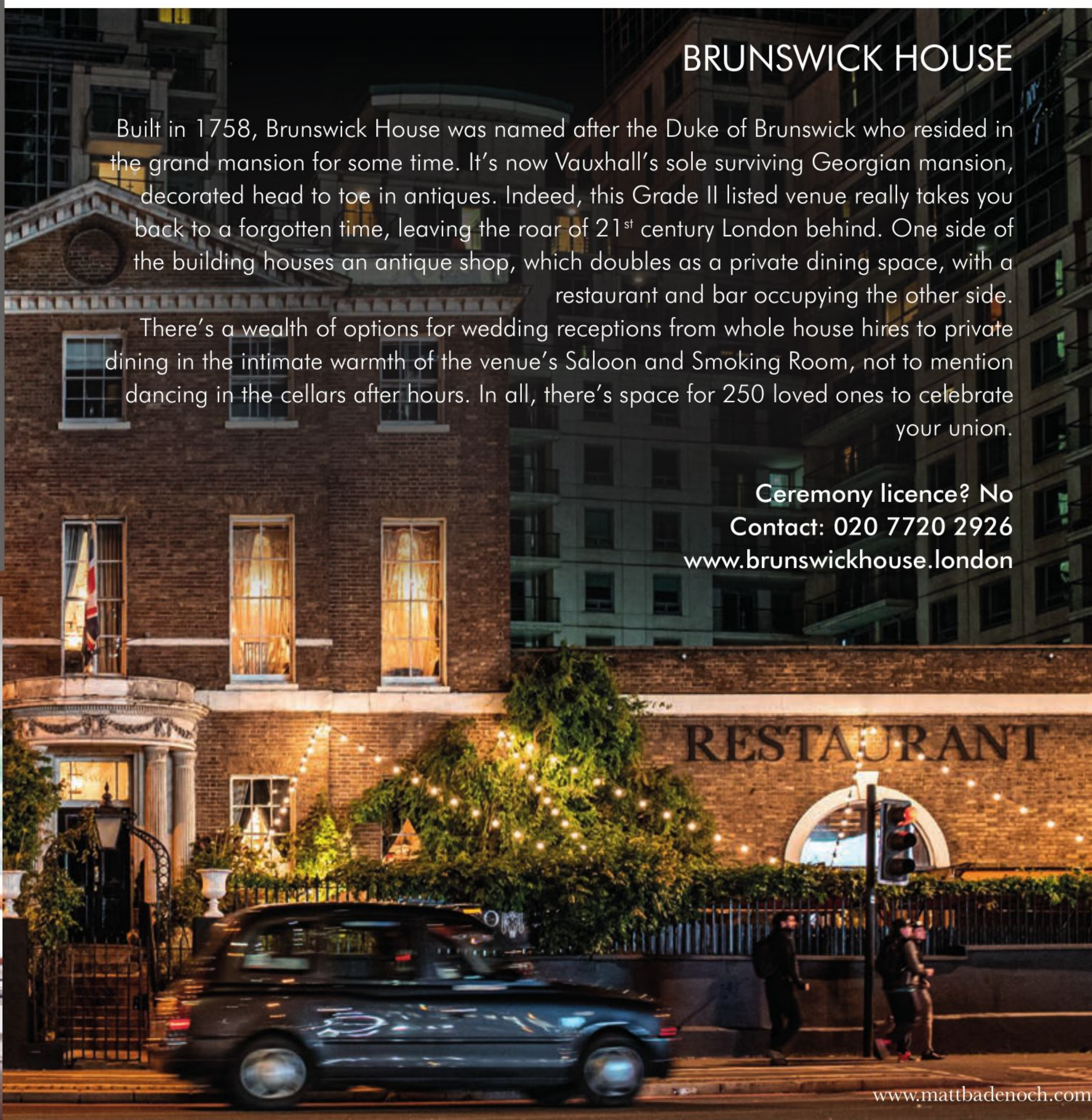


BRUNSWICK HOUSE

Built in 1758, Brunswick House was named after the Duke of Brunswick who resided in the grand mansion for some time. It's now Vauxhall's sole surviving Georgian mansion, decorated head to toe in antiques. Indeed, this Grade II listed venue really takes you back to a forgotten time, leaving the roar of 21st century London behind. One side of the building houses an antique shop, which doubles as a private dining space, with a restaurant and bar occupying the other side.

There's a wealth of options for wedding receptions from whole house hires to private dining in the intimate warmth of the venue's Saloon and Smoking Room, not to mention dancing in the cellars after hours. In all, there's space for 250 loved ones to celebrate your union.

Ceremony licence? No
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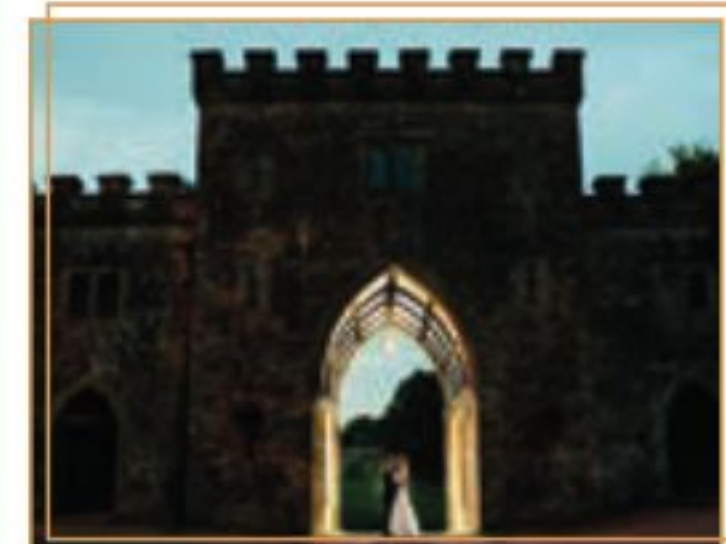
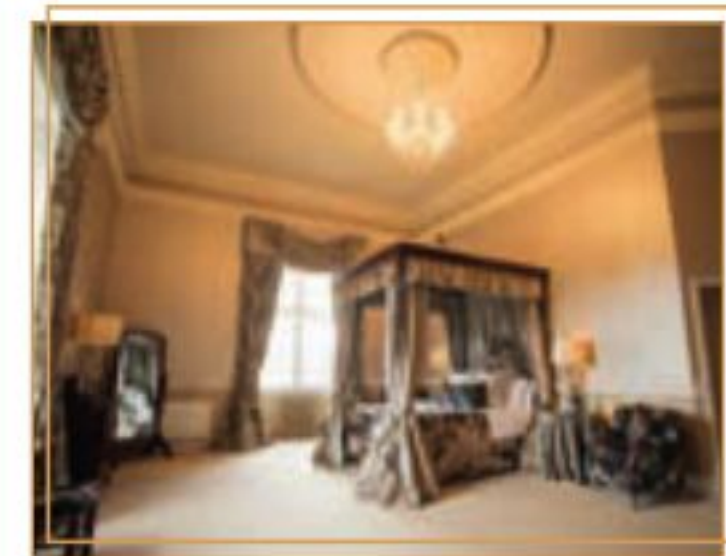
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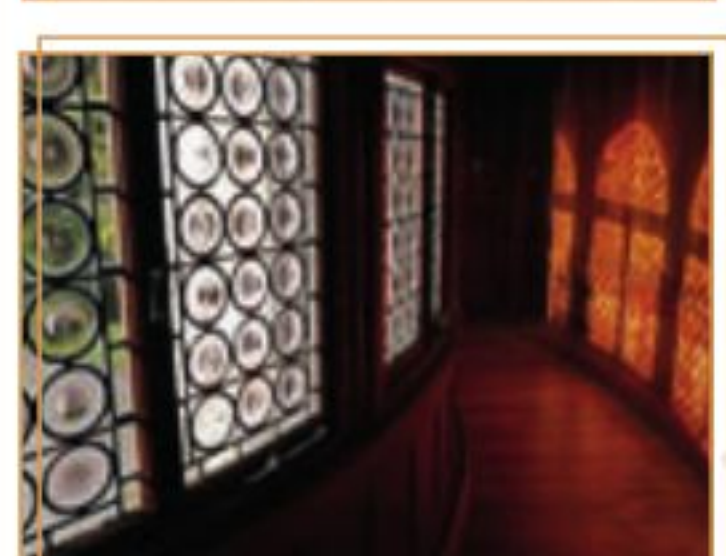
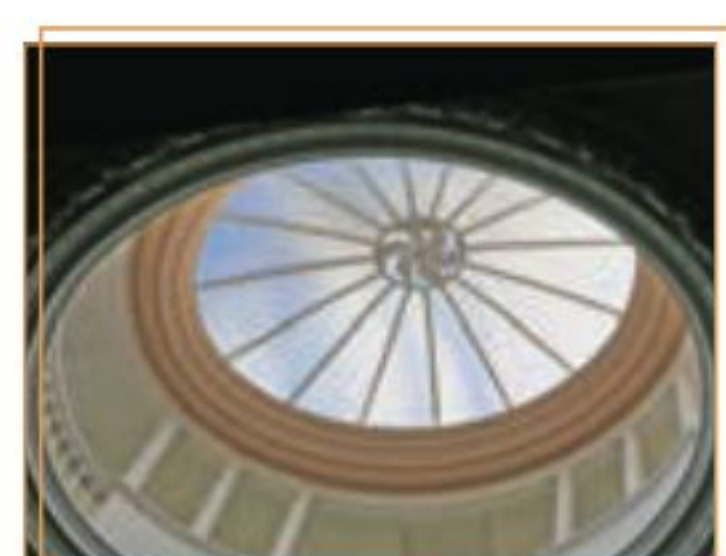
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in summer

Jhuliana and Jonathan celebrated their intimate nuptials in a London restaurant resplendent in pastel tones
Images courtesy of Lex Fleming

Jhuliana Arevalo Trujillo, 28, married Jonathan Clifford, 31, at Islington Town Hall, followed by a reception at Lino Restaurant on 3rd August, 2019.



Jhuliana describes her relationship with Jonathan as a 'true modern-day romance': "We met online through a dating app. I'm Ecuadorian and my husband is from Bradford but we both live in London; in what world could these two people get together if not through the power of the internet?"

But get together they did, indeed they hit it off instantly on that first meet, despite Jonathan's attempt to impress Jhuliana by singing a cheesy Spanish song he'd learnt at work.

Luckily, when it came to the proposal, he pulled it out the bag, drafting in their 10-month-old daughter, Aurelia, to hold the ring as he popped the question.

The couple knew immediately that they'd tie the knot in London and the hunt for the both venue and photographer went smoothly. "I had walked past Islington Town Hall a couple of times and seen all the happy newlyweds taking pictures outside with their wedding guests; it always put a smile on my face," explains Jhuliana. "After seeing some of the images Lex had shot there, I was sold."

For the reception, having visited a handful of venues, the pair fell in love instantly with Lino restaurant – it was the perfect size for their 50 guests and they loved the interiors to boot.

IT'S ALL IN THE DETAIL

Having studied print design, Jhuliana was in her element when it came to the wedding décor. Plumping for an intimate, personal feel, she sought help from both her daughter, who hand painted the favours – individual succulents in ceramic pots – and her graphic designer brother who designed the table numbers, as well as a friend who offered to construct a prosecco wall, which rapidly became the tableplan and was so successful, it's now available for hire.

A florist friend, meanwhile, was charged with the flowers while a cake designer found via Instagram completed the look.

#OOTD

When Jhuliana stepped into the ivory *Sasha* dress by Made with Love, she knew instantly it was *the one*. "Even before stepping out to show my mum, I was sure," she reveals. "I'm petite so short or very puffy dresses just didn't work for my body type. The long train made it look so classy but the lace was unlike any other – it was more like crochet and brought a modern touch."

The bride accessorised with shoes from shoe designer (and former colleague), Sophia Webster.

Jonathan, meanwhile, opted for a grey, marl three-piece suit from Next with a black tie while his groomsmen wore grey three-piece suits in a more traditional fabric from Moss Bros, paired with black ties and white pocket squares to match the groom. "Our very talented florist made some gorgeous boutonnieres from preserved hydrangeas," Jhuliana adds.

The couple decided against bridesmaids in favour of casting their daughter as a flower girl, accompanied by Jhuliana cousin's daughter, while her cousin's son and Jonathan's nephew were page boys. "I looked everywhere for page boy outfits in pastel hues, and was



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about to give up when I found these gorgeous dusky pink suits," Jhuliana remembers. "The girls wore ivory dresses with crochet detail, which coordinated perfectly with my dress," she adds.

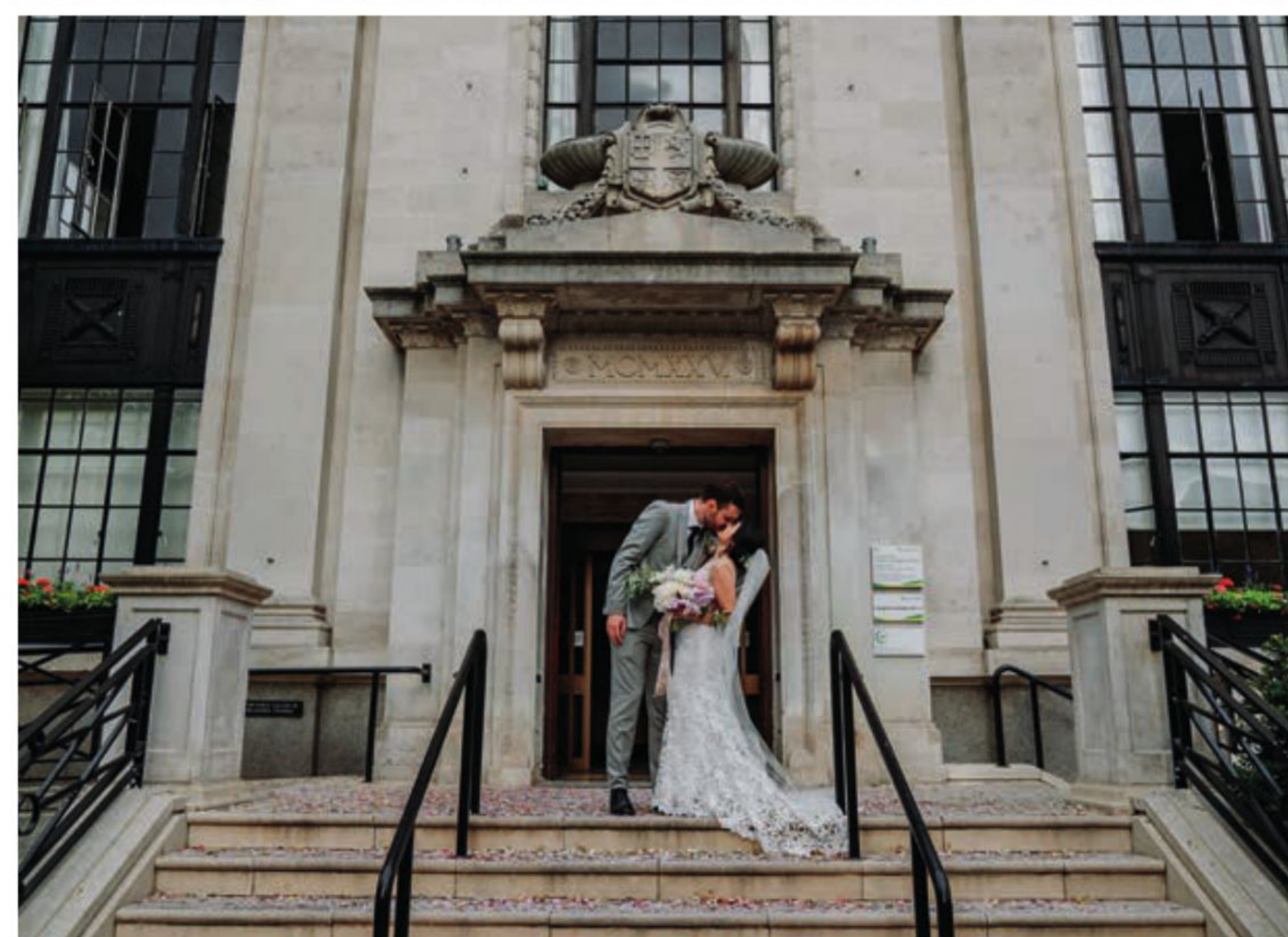
ENTERTAINMENT, THREE WAYS

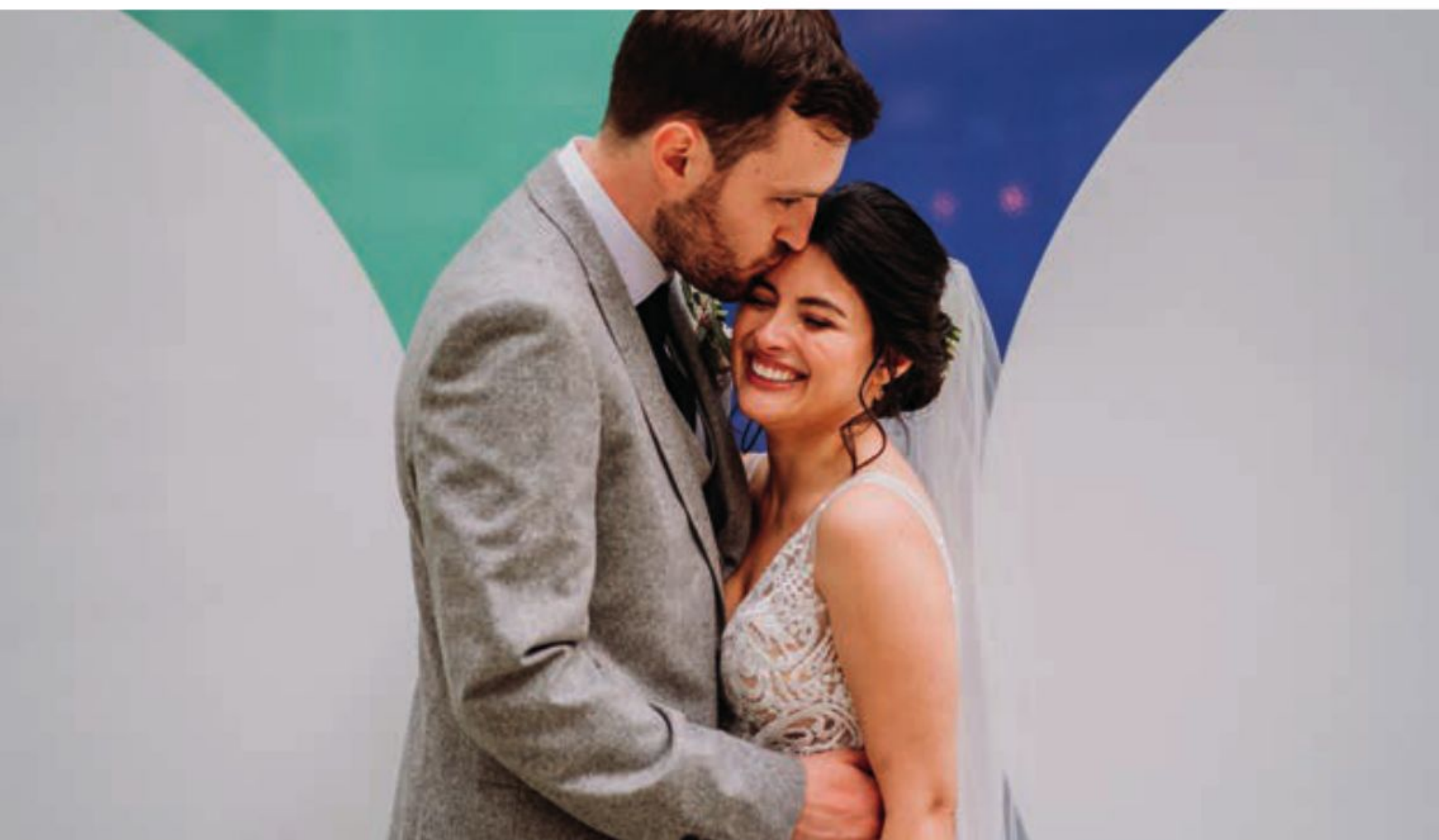
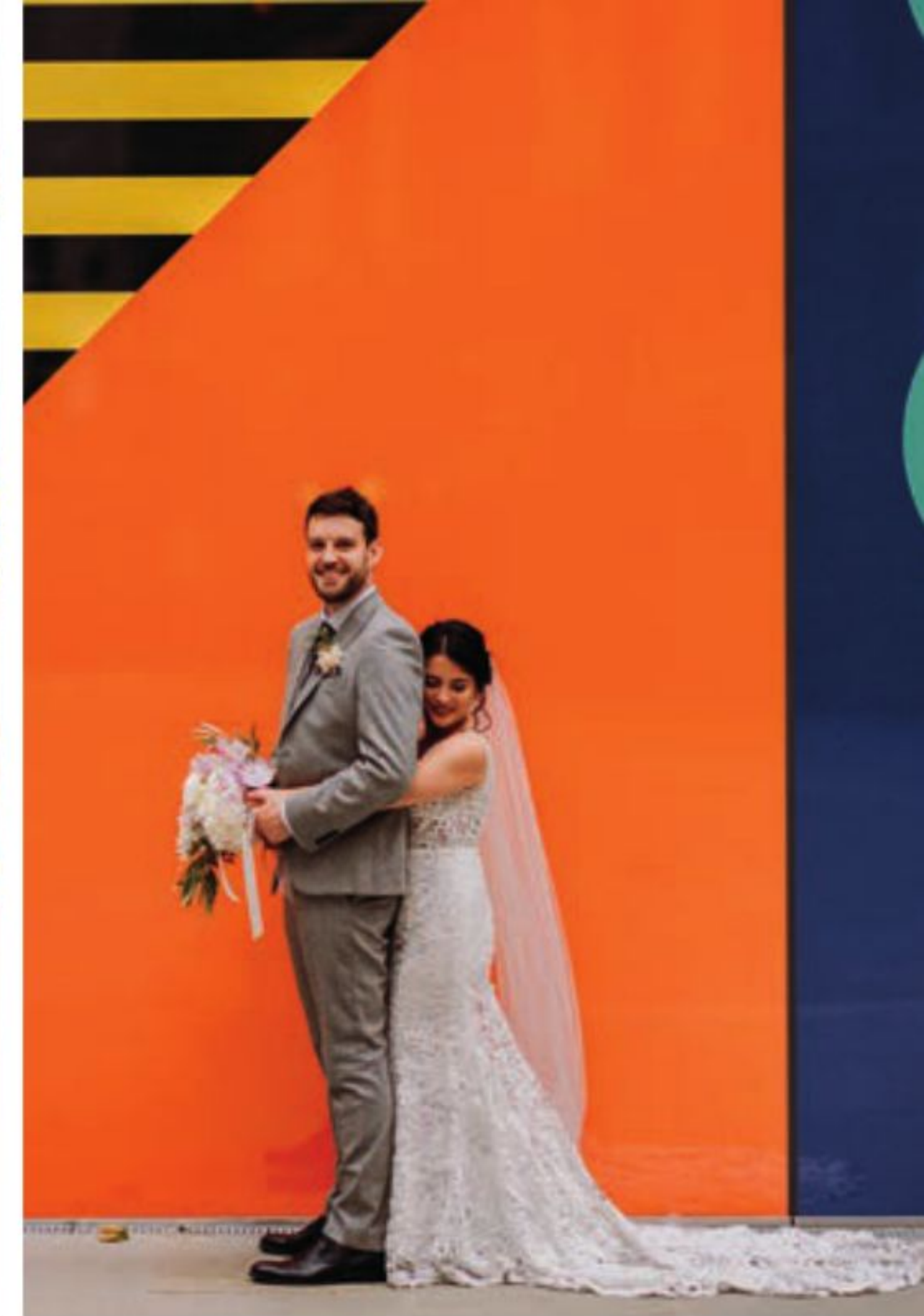
When it came to the entertainment, Jhuliana and Jonathan divided the day into three distinct periods – booking a prosecco van for immediately after the ceremony, hiring a neon sign designed to act as a backdrop for pictures at the reception, and a salsa band for the evening do.

"The prosecco van was perfect the ceremony – it kept our guests busy while they waited for the official wedding pics to be taken and we didn't have to worry about clearing up afterwards. And although Jonathan had been doubtful about the neon sign, even he started posing in front of it like a pro once we arrived at the reception venue and, finally, the salsa band was a great way to bring some Latin flair to our wedding and everyone had a go at busting out a few moves (encouraged too, of course, by the open bar)," Jhuliana reveals.

On the day, Jonathan says he felt quite relaxed, despite being charged with overseeing the set up, while Jhuliana confesses to 'a mix of stress and anxiety' which melted away once she saw Jonathan.

Among the most memorable moments from the day was the exchange of rings. "Our 18-month-old daughter cried when I put the ring on my husband and our photographer captured it perfectly," Jhuliana giggles. "Everyone was in stitches and we still laugh now whenever we see the picture."





JHILIANA AND JONATHAN'S CONTACTS

Photographer | Lex Fleming | www.flemingphoto.co.uk
Ceremony venue | Islington Town Hall | www.sayidoislington.com
Reception venue | Lino | www.linolondon.co.uk
Bride's dress | Heart Aflutter | www.heartaflutterbridal.co.uk
Bride's accessories | Sophia Webster | www.sophiawebster.com
Bride's hair and make-up | Laura Anne | www.lauraannemakeup.com
Groom's suit | Next | www.next.co.uk
Groomsmen's suits | Moss Bros | www.moss.co.uk
Flowers | Olivia Beattie | www.instagram.com/olivjb
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Prosecco van | Fabulously Fizzy | www.fabulouslyfizzy.com
Prosecco wall | The Walls of Prosecco | www.instagram.com/thewallsofprosecco
Salsa band | Combo Yanze | www.poptop.uk.com



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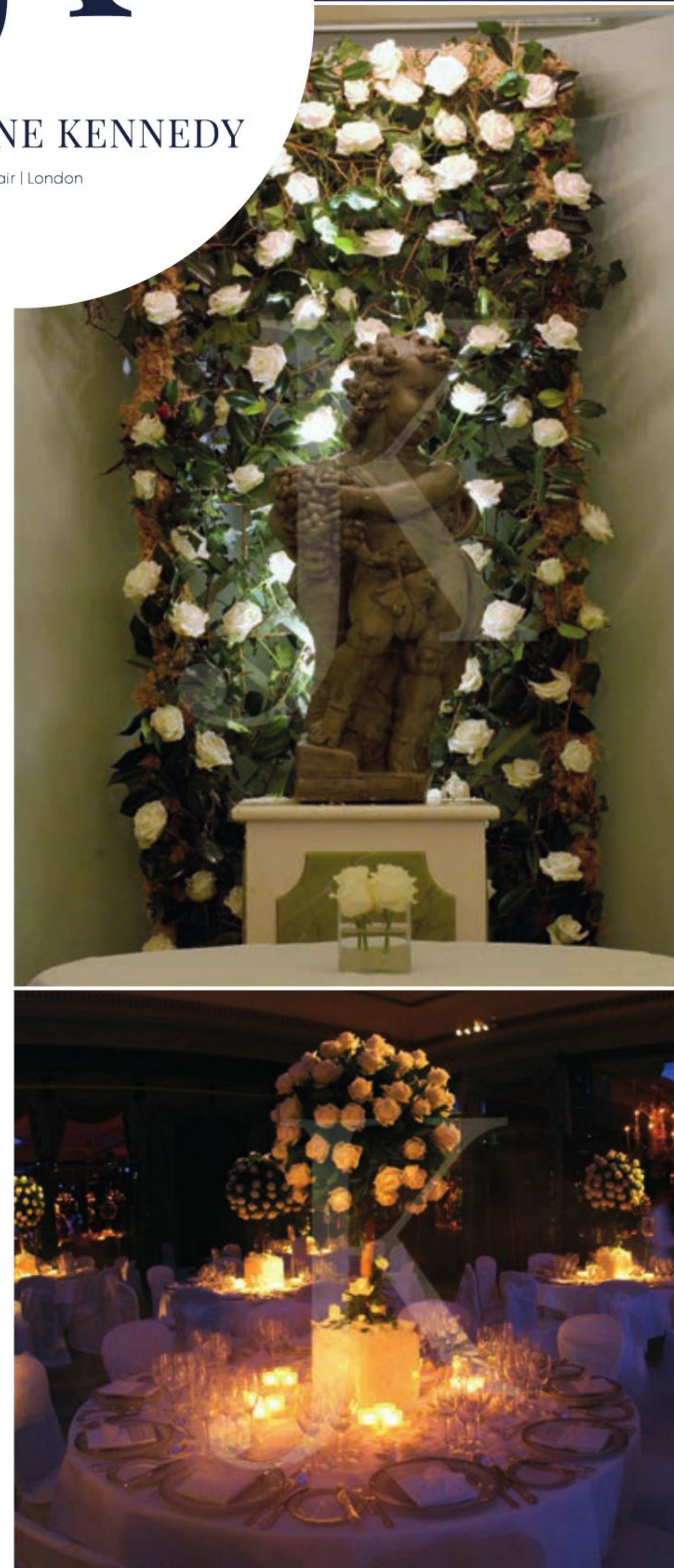
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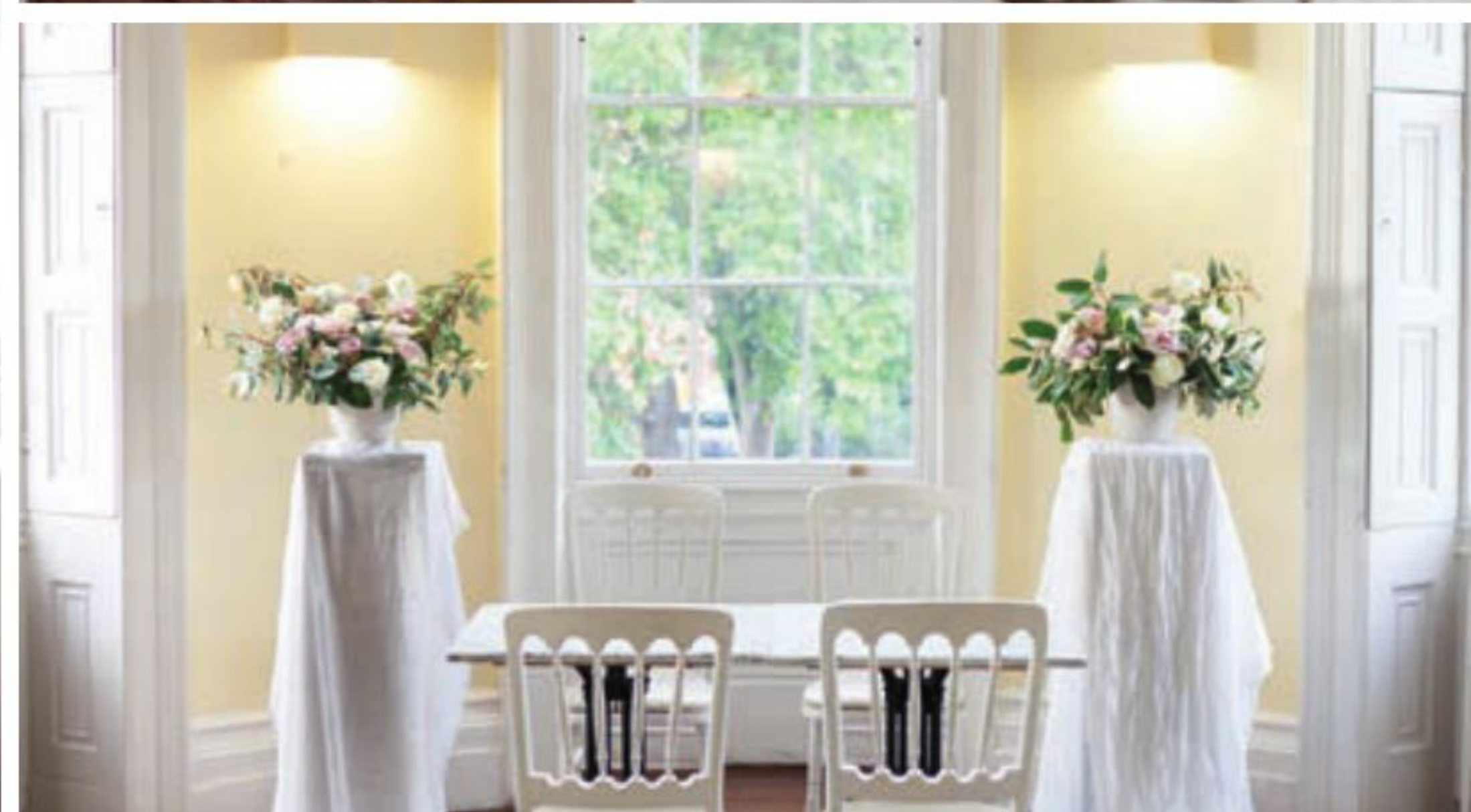
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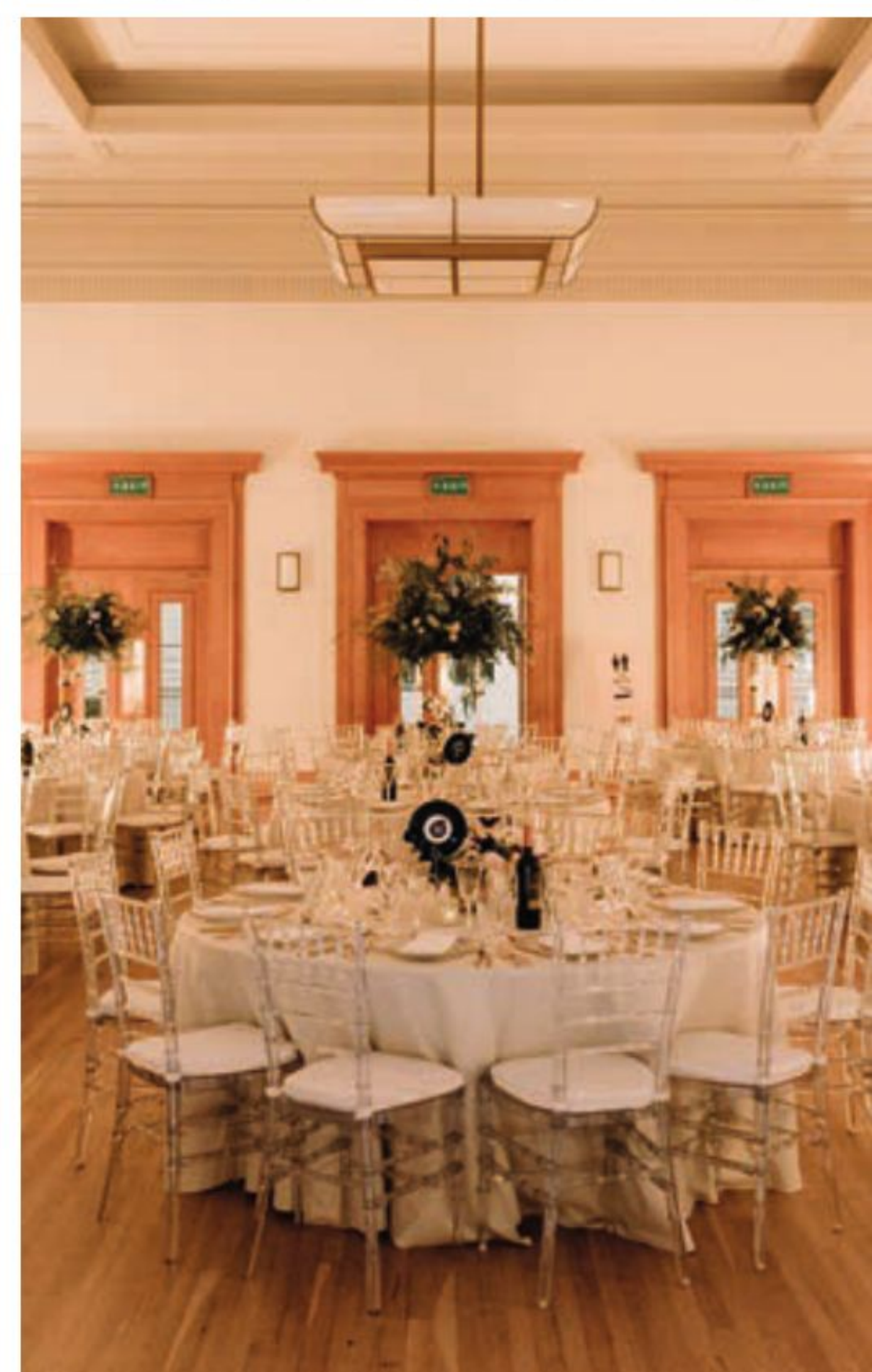
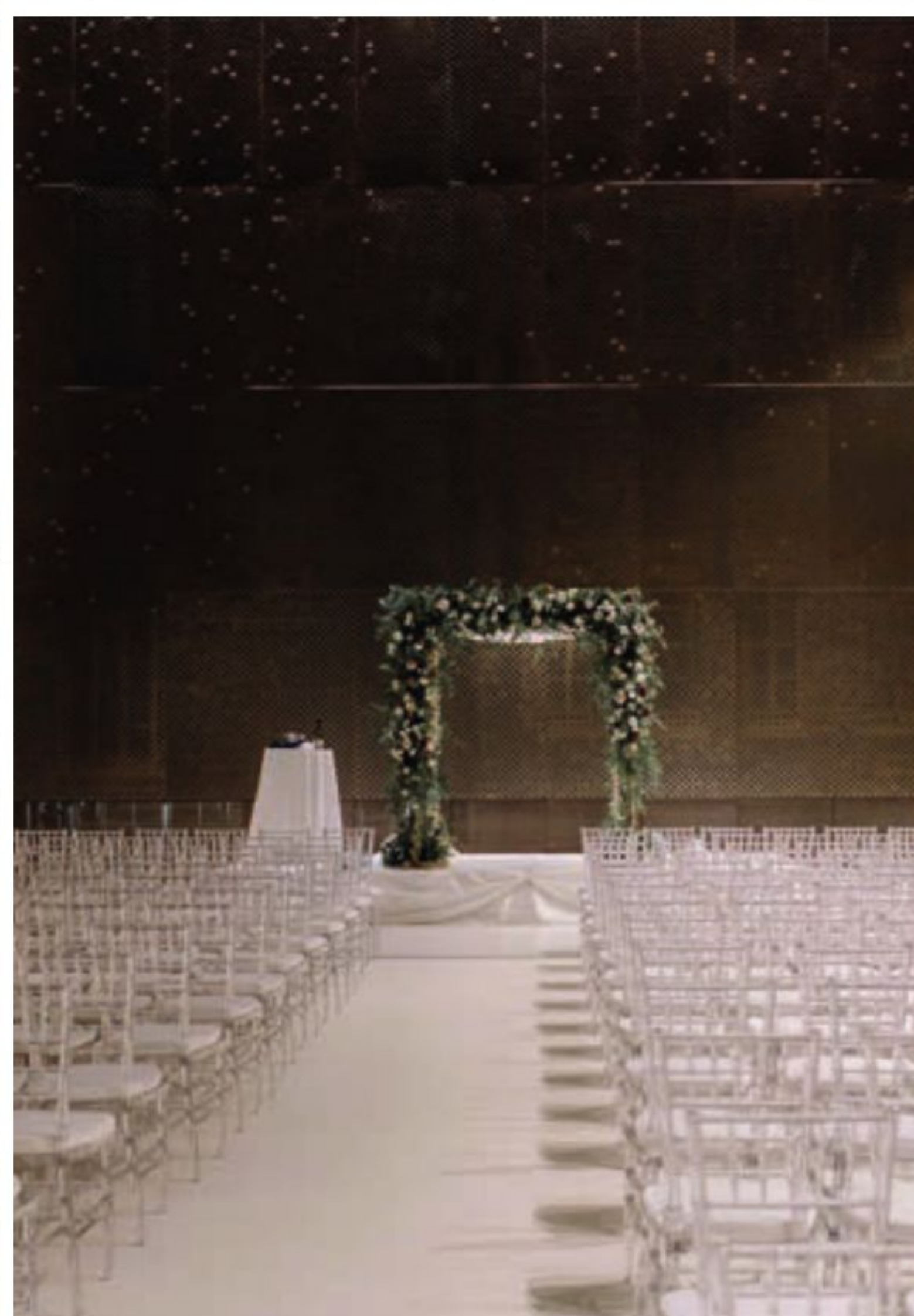
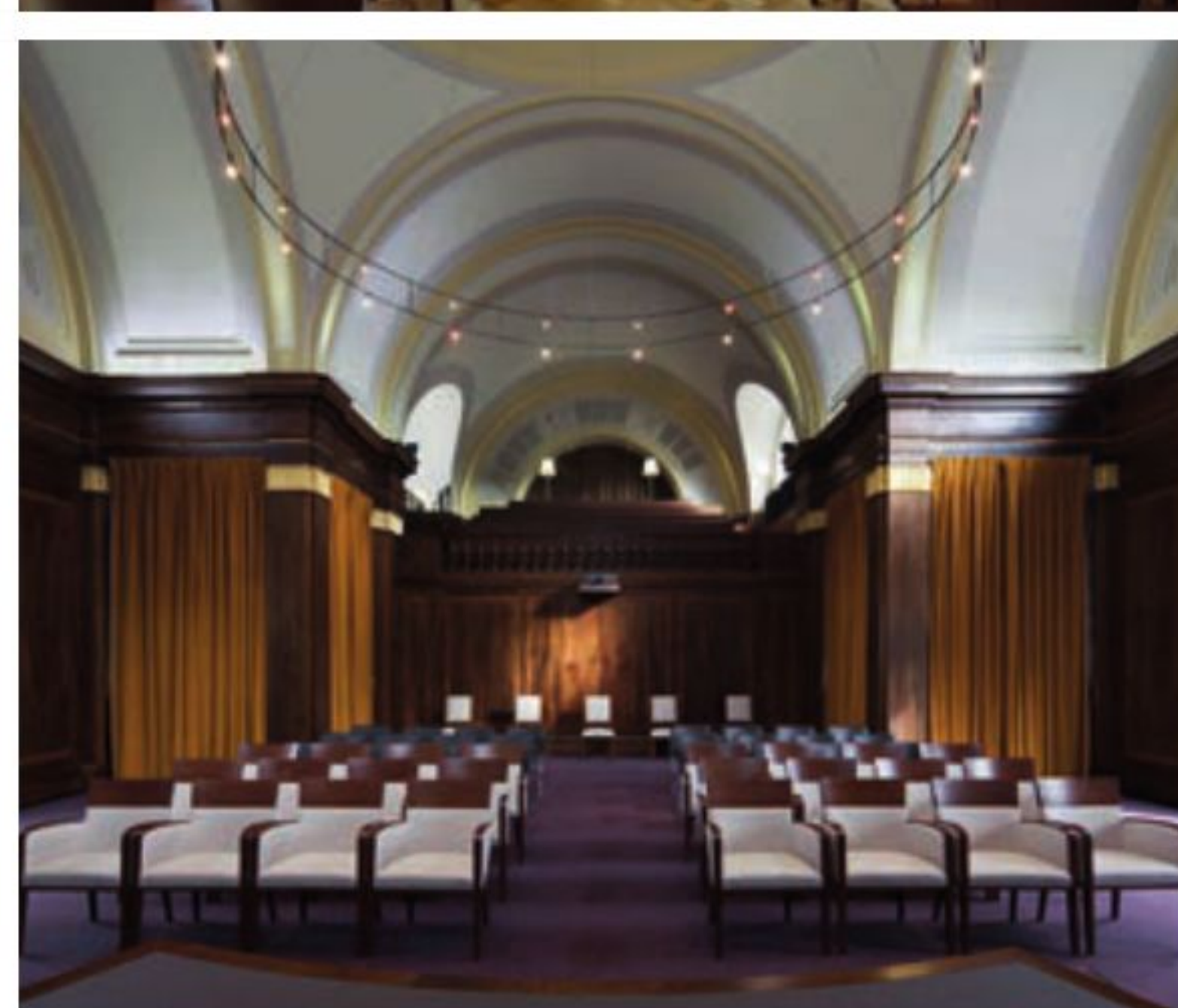


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I think I'm gonna *marry you*

Leanne and George
bought the outside in for
their east London do
Images courtesy of Emma Case

Admittedly, George may have had 'a few' when, on their very first meeting, he told Leanne's dad that he'd marry her one day but, to be fair, he did make good on his promise – eventually!

"We met at Newmarket Races in 2012," Leanne explains. "I was there with my family and George came over to chat to me and my family. He ended up telling my dad that one day we'd get married. We swapped numbers but didn't manage to go on a date and we fell out of touch for a few years. In 2016, we started speaking again and finally went on our first date."

And despite his earlier pledge, when George surprised Leanne with tickets for the Belmond British Pullman to Bath, she hadn't considered that he was about to pop the question. "Halfway through the journey, I joked that, one day, he'd have to think of something even better if he ever wanted to propose. He went a bit quiet, pulled out the ring and asked me to marry him," she laughs.

With roots in East London, the couple wanted their wedding to reflect their family ties. Here, Leanne tells us more about their big day...

Leanne Leahy, 32, married George Donohoe, 28, at Hackney Town Hall followed by a reception at Mile End Ecology Pavilion on 29th June, 2019.



When we first viewed Hackney Town Hall, we loved how grand it felt and its beautiful Art Deco interiors but also how down to earth it was.



We hired double and single-decker vintage London buses to transport our families to the ceremony and then our guests between the two venues.



The Mile End Ecology Pavilion was the perfect setting for our reception; it feels like a hidden gem and is breath-taking inside.



We hired a Pimm's bike and some garden trellis to section off an area for the cocktail reception, which really enhanced our 'outside in' theme.



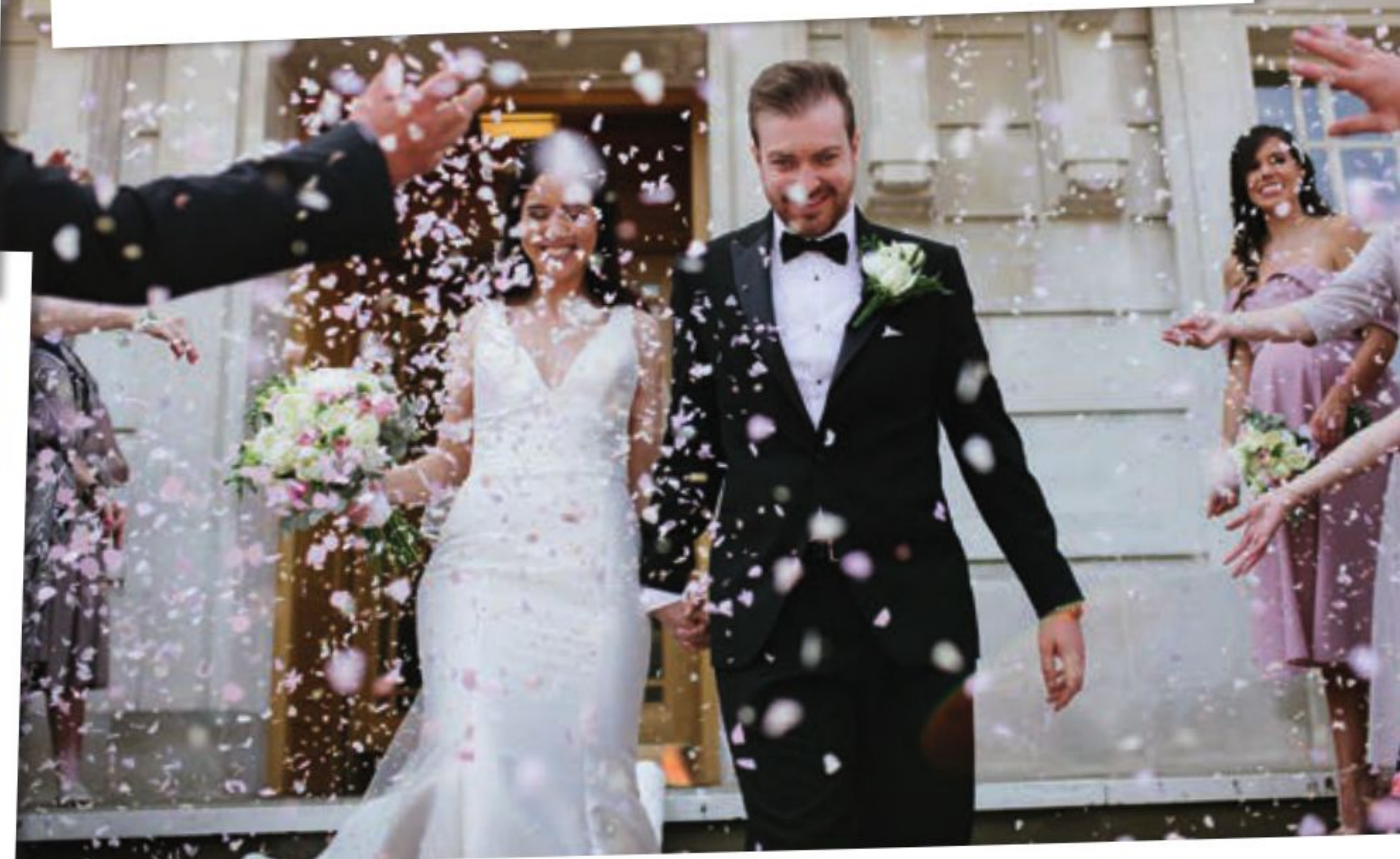
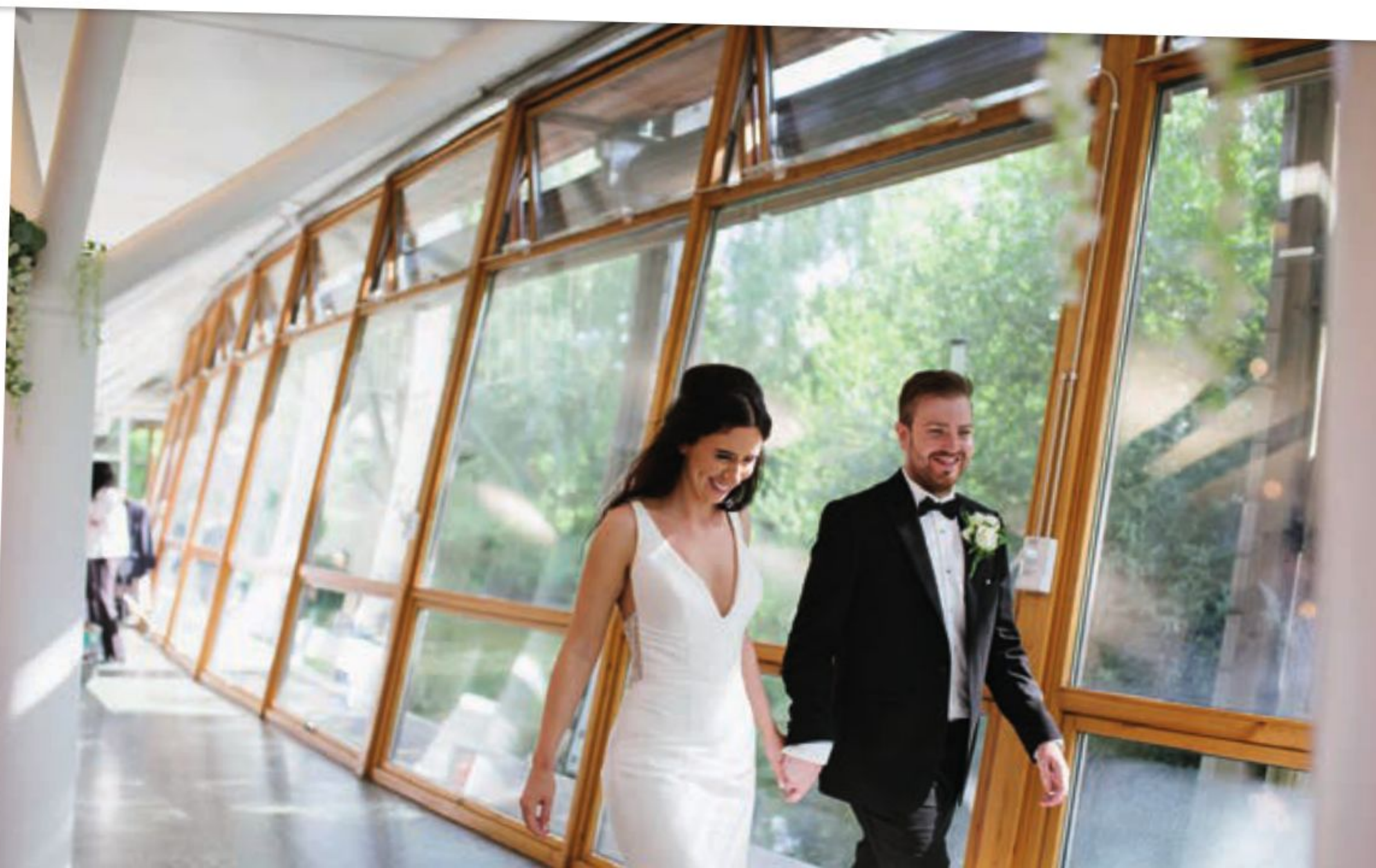
Mile End Ecology Pavilion has one huge wall of glass looking out over the nature reserve so we ran with that theme and chose a Perspex tableplan with calligraphy by Mother Wild.

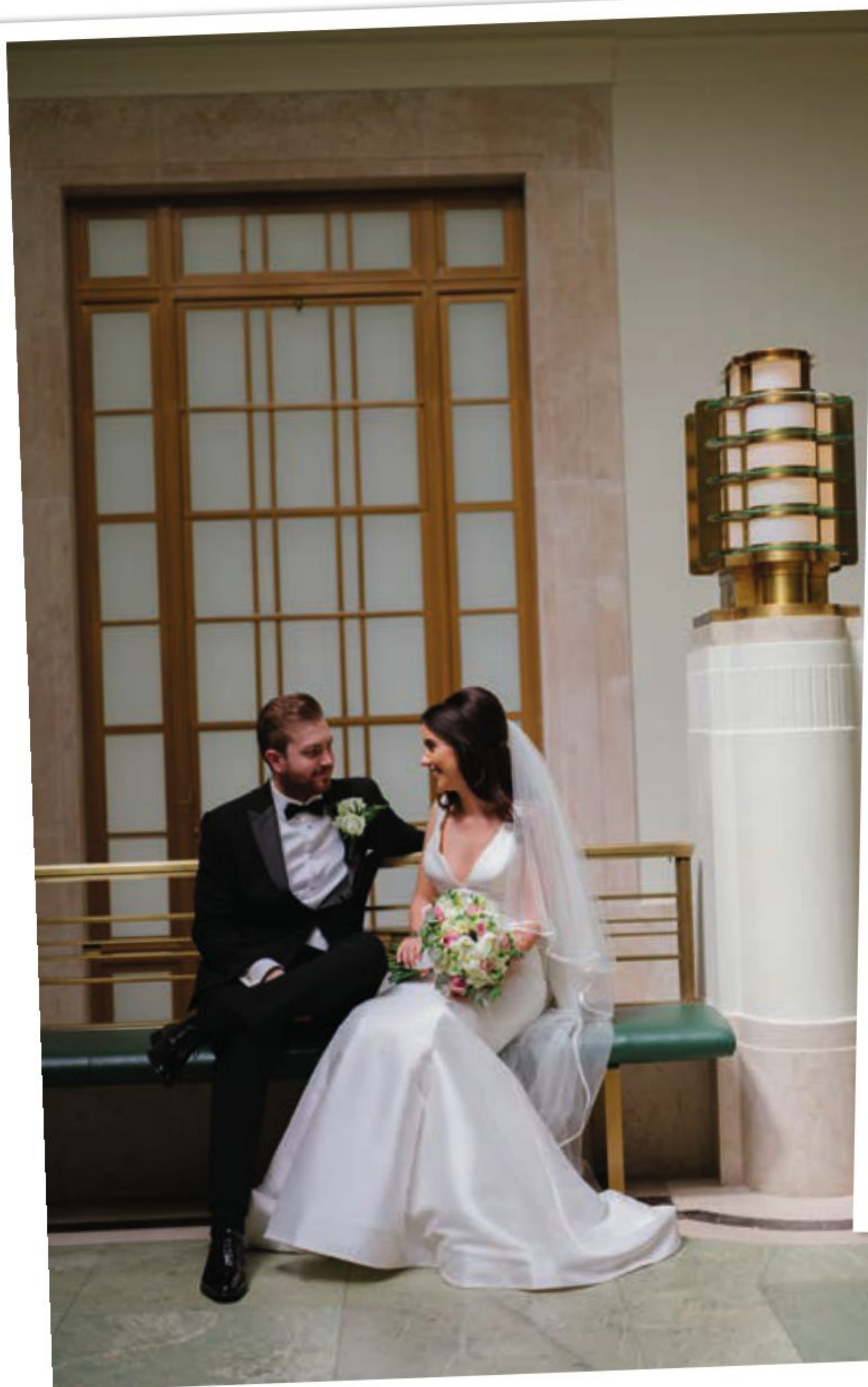


Our favours – pink iced biscuits made by our cakemaker – doubled as place names, each was tied with a name tag and eucalyptus to match the venue décor.



Our cake had three tiers, one of Victoria sponge, one chocolate and one fruit – it looked and tasted amazing.





My bouquet was composed of peonies, roses, eucalyptus and freesias.

I wore the Marlina dress by Mori Lee paired with a cathedral-length veil and Emmy London shoes. I loved the simplicity of the design. George wore a black Moss Bros tuxedo – and despite the heat, kept the jacket on all day!



An Irish band played during the cocktail reception while a DJ and Saxophonist helped everyone get into the party mood as night fell.

LEANNE AND GEORGE'S CONTACTS

- Photographer** | Emma Case | www.emmacasephotography.com
- Ceremony venue** | Hackney Town Hall | www.hackneyvenues.com
- Reception venue** | Mile End Ecology Pavilion | www.towerhamlets.gov.uk
- Bride's dress** | Confetti and Lace | www.confettiandlace.com
- Bride's accessories** | Emmy London | www.emmylondon.com
- Bride's hair** | Tanners Hair & Beauty | 020 8500 0018
- Bride's make-up** | Make up Lightbox Studio | www.thelbstudio.com
- Groom's suit** | Moss Bros | www.moss.co.uk
- Flowers** | Sewell's Florist | 020 8534 5182
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- Stationery** | Mother Wild | @mother_wild
- Entertainment** | DJ Ross Mac | www.facebook.com/djrossmac
- Pimm's bike** | The Prop Boutique | www.thepropboutique.co.uk
- Photobooth** | Snapbooth Co | www.snapboothco.com
- Band** | Nevin Irish Band | spnevin@hotmail.co.uk
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THE GREATEST SHOWMAN

Performers Emma and Matt were in their element at Wilton's Music Hall on their fun-filled big day
Images courtesy of Nikki Van der Molen Photography

Emma Arden, 28, married Matt Hamlin, 30, at Wilton's Music Hall on 10th August, 2019.



Both performers, it was utterly fitting that Matt should ask for Emma's hand while the pair were watching The Blue Man Group in Las Vegas and their plans for a full-on celebration progressed from there. Having decided to tie the knot in London, the hunt for a venue that could reflect their passion began.

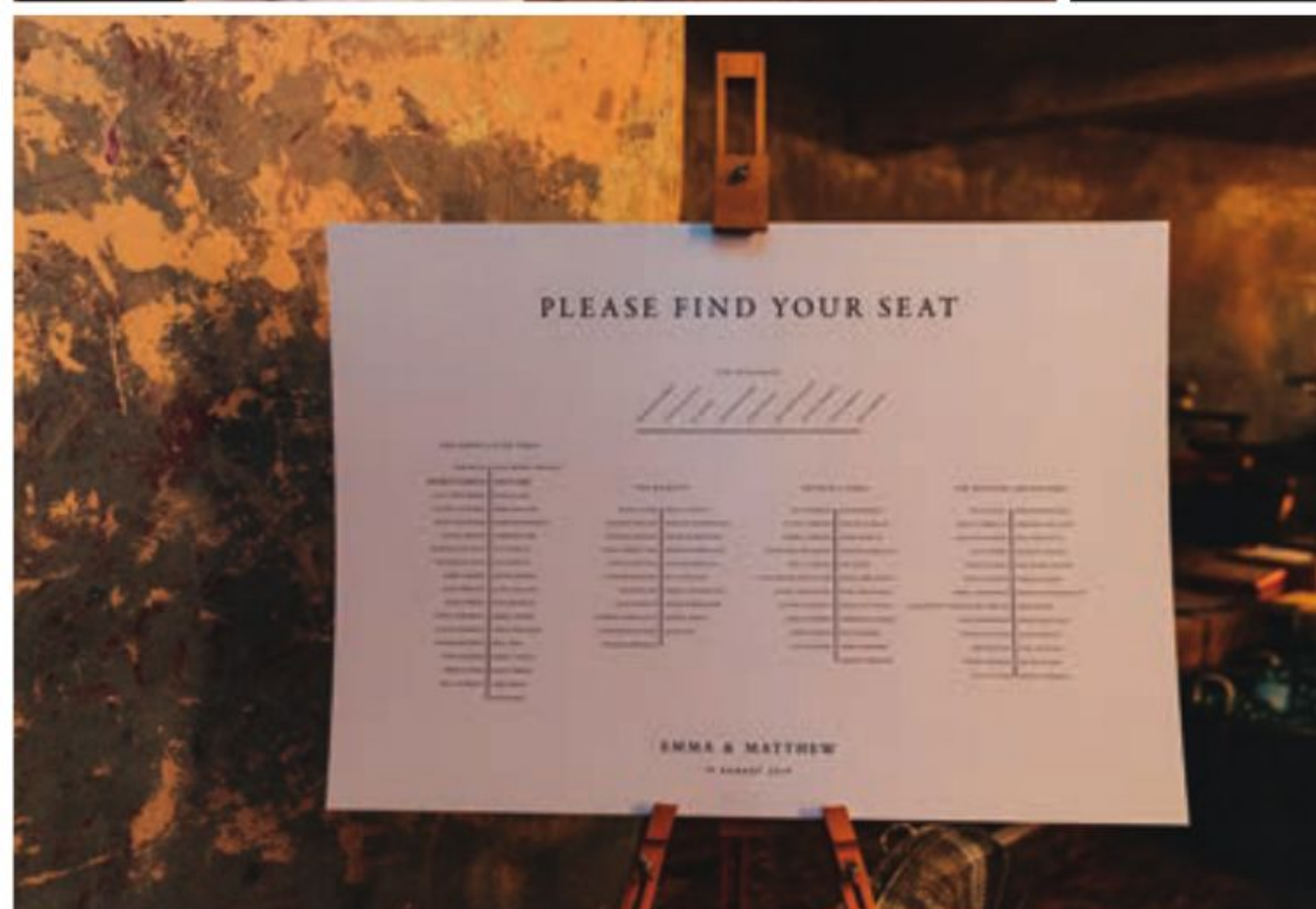
"We were both immediately drawn to Wilton's when we went to see it," Emma explains. "It seemed only natural that we should hold our wedding in a theatre and the building spoke for itself."

Their dusty pink, gold and grey colour scheme was born from there – with the building's rough and ready bohemian-style renovation informing their décor. "We wanted to create a relaxed atmosphere, perfect for a party," Emma explains. "Nothing too neat."

To that end, they kept their venue décor simple, with tables dressed with flowers and dusky pink linen and each guest given a cracker filled with bubbles, temporary tattoos and tea lights to kick start the fun.

#OOTD

And it wasn't just the décor that was drawn from their love of theatre – Emma's choice of dress was also influenced by a performance past. "My wedding outfit was inspired by a design from a show I did at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in 2018," she reveals. "Designer Jonathan Fensom made this fabulous mustard jumpsuit with floor-length sleeves and I knew right then that I wanted dramatic sleeves for my wedding."



Matt, meanwhile, opted for tweed, teaming his green colourway with a bow tie while his groomsmen wore brown paired with regular ties in purple linen.

THE ENTERTAINER

It will come as no surprise that this outgoing couple maxed out on the entertainment side. From a live guitarist accompanying songs during the ceremony to a finale led by Box 9 Drumline, live piano at the reception and an evening band – not to mention glitter artists transforming guests' faces – there was atmosphere aplenty.

"My favourite part of the day was definitely the party when Groove On Up came on," says Emma. "They absolutely tore the house down and held their own in a wedding filled with musicians. Great energy, great songs – we never wanted the night to end."

Other highlights for the pair include Matt's best man's speech, which was topped off with him singing a rendition of *Side by Side*, a family favourite.

And for couples thinking of a similarly jam-packed schedule, Emma advises, "I thought I didn't need a wedding planner but I'm so glad that we ended up getting one. As I'd already found most of the vendors, Krysta and her team provided a 'stylist' service and were instrumental on the day making sure everything was in the right place, the day was running to time and even dealt with the fallout of our collection van not turning up in the evening. This took all the stress away from our family and friends so they could just sit back and enjoy the day."





EMMA AND MATT'S CONTACTS

Photographer | Nikki van der Molen Photography | www.nikkivandermolen.com

Venue | Wilton's Music Hall | www.wiltons.org.uk

Bride's dress | Pronovias | www.pronovias.com

Bride's accessories | Harriet Wilde | www.harrietwilde.com

Dolecka at Mirror Mirror | www.mirrormirror.uk.com

Bride's hair and make-up | Lolo & Co | www.loloandco.uk

Groom's suit | Well Suited | www.suited-well.co.uk

Stationery | Bureau | www.bureaudeSIGN.co.uk

Flowers | Petal HQ | www.petalhq.co.uk

Cake | Jen's Cakery | www.jenscakery.co.uk

Band | Groove On Up | www.grooveonup.co.uk

Entertainment | Box 9 Drumline | www.box9d.com

Glitter Artists | Poppy & Perle | www.poppyandperle.com

Catering | Easy Gourmet | www.easygourmetcatering.co.uk

Planners | For the Love of Weddings | www.fortheloveofweddings.me

The Stars Inside | www.thestarsinside.com

Rings | Kitty Stopps | @kittystopps

Videographer | Irene Piera Films | www.irenepiera.co.uk

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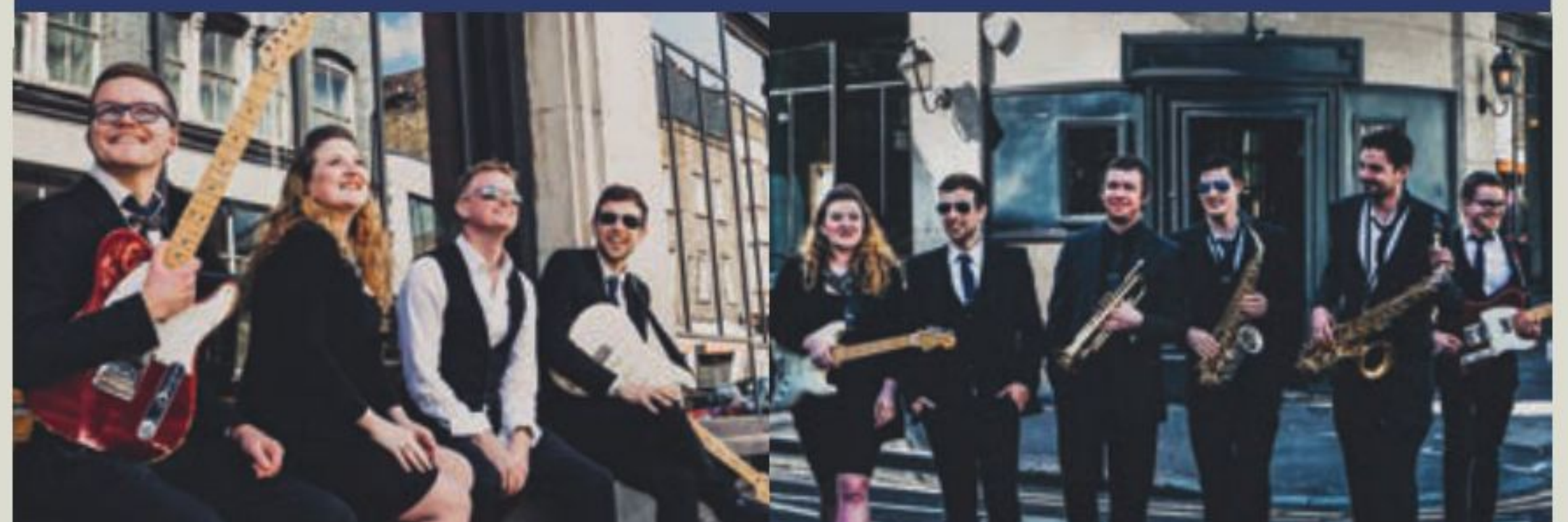
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Your A to Z guide to wedding entertainment

FOR AGENCY

It often pays to get expert help and an established entertainment agency should have a whole database of tried and tested acts. Great for time-poor couples and stress-free planning.



www.cdmlerphotography.com

FOR CARTOONIST

Ever heard of a wedding cartoonist? No, we hadn't either but we love the sound of Ollie Randall's invention. As he explains, "I turn up with my sketchbook, find a discreet place to sit and produce a series of quirky, detailed cartoons to capture the laughter and sense of fun from your big day. The aim is to produce a lasting souvenir with real personality. My work tends to cause a bit of a buzz, with guests peering over my shoulder and trying to spot each other." For more information, visit www.randallwriting.com



FOR BAND

There's nothing quite like a live band to get the party going and keep the dancefloor busy all night. Seasoned professionals offer a different take on the norm taking you on a journey of pop, indie, rock, funk, dance and soul.

We love... Blue Lion Band |
www.bluelionband.co.uk

This fully customisable two- to 14-piece live band play everything from jazz to high-energy festival-style covers – the band's huge repertoire is constantly updated and each couple is offered a dedicated music consultant to create the best possible soundtrack for their big day, as well as liaising with the venue on logistics such as finishing times, sound restrictions and equipment. Musicians usually dress in classic black and white but can co-ordinate their outfits to suit your colour scheme or theme. www.bluelionband.co.uk



FOR DUO

An eclectic duo lends that live music atmosphere without overpowering the room – ideal during drinks or dinner. With a repertoire of quality acoustic, piano and vocal covers, duos are infinitely versatile, suitable for a wide range of wedding styles and themes.

E

FOR EXTRAS

It's the little things that make a difference. Think goodie bags, a popcorn cart or ice cream van to keep your guests happy while you're having your photos done. Activity packs are a great idea to keep the little ones amused too.



G

FOR GAMES

Think croquet on the lawn, traditional fête stalls like a coconut shy, hook the duck or splat the rat; great for an English country-garden theme. Or how about a mini sports day with egg and spoon or sack races to let off steam?

FOR INTERACTIVE

Get your guests talking with added extras designed to create buzz. How about a chocolate fountain, interactive seating plan or a welcome water wall? Check out all of these and more at bookings@mirrormeuk.co.uk

FOR JAZZ

The ideal accompaniment for a sophisticated al fresco drinks reception or swish Gatsby-style celebration. Don't forget the cocktails!

J

N

N FOR NO-KIDS-ALLOWED

If you want your day to be child-free, make it clear from the get-go and include a polite note on the invites. It might raise a few parental eyebrows at first, but guess who'll be the last ones on the dancefloor at the end of the night?



F

FOR FIREWORKS

For a chorus of oohs and aahs to round off your day, what could be better than a fireworks display? Opt for a professional pyrotechnics business with a fully trained team – they'll know a thing or two about creating a wow-factor spectacle.

FOR HARPIST

Many harpists are happy to perform inside or out, as long as there's a suitable shady spot with a level surface where they can play. Wonderfully romantic for the ceremony, it can add a serene vibe to the post-vows drinks and reception too.

H

FOR LESSONS

Not everyone's a whizz on the dancefloor. For some, instead of a wedding highlight, it's a moment to dread. Beat the fear factor and book some pre-wedding lessons so you can entertain your family and friends with a jaw-dropping routine.

K FOR KARAOKE

If karaoke's a step too far on your big day, how about marryoke instead? You and your loved ones can mime to your favourite tunes for great video footage without the cringe!

K

M

M FOR MAGICIAN

A magician can keep your loved ones enthralled during the post-vows drinks, before and after the wedding breakfast or during any lulls in the proceedings.



Check out... Duncan Swan (www.duncanswanmagic.com) Whether close-up or stage show, Duncan's award-winning tricks are guaranteed to wow.

O FOR OWLS

Surprise everyone with a *Harry Potter* moment and have your rings delivered by owl. Accio marriage!

MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT

FOR PHOTO BOOTH

Looking for something different for your big day? Mirror Me's 2020 HD Magic Mirror Booth's subtle antique-mirror design would suit any theme, but the technology is all modern. Guests can touch the mirror and pose to take pics, then tailor their prints with emojis, play games or sign the mirror. For more information, email bookings@mirrormeuk.co.uk

FOR QUARTET

If you're looking for that extra something special to enhance your day, a string quartet is a romantic and memorable addition. Ideal for creating the perfect mood during the ceremony, drinks reception or at any point of the day.

Check out... Siren String Quartet (www.sirenstringquartet.com)

FOR ROUTEMASTER BUS

Not only great for transporting friends and family from the ceremony to the reception venue, a traditional Routemaster bus makes a great addition to the wedding photos and helps your guests to mix and mingle too. Lay on some drinks and nibbles for the journey to add to the fun.

S FOR SWEETS

A sweet table will keep guests of all ages happy and can complement the venue décor too. Style it to match your wedding theme and colour scheme for extra wow factor.



FOR THEATRE

Add a touch of theatre to your day with live-action food stations. Think giant paella dishes, sizzling stir-fries, a pancake or waffle bar, ice creams with help-yourself toppings or a hog roast – great for feeding a crowd.

Check out... Oyster Meister (www.oystermeister.com), this foodie favourite provides mobile oyster shuckers and roving caviar girls for wedding receptions across London.

FOR UMBRELLAS

Don't let the weather spoil your fun. Have a few brollies to hand so rain doesn't stop play.

V FOR VOCALIST

A professional singer can work wonders at all stages of the day, interacting with your guests and creating a buzz.

FOR ZONES

A chill-out zone is a great idea for those that want time out from the hurly burly to chat and relax. A kiddies' corner can also be a godsend for parents looking to cut some shapes on the dancefloor. You could even hire a professional child-minder or book a crèche to keep the little ones safe and happy for hours!

Check out... Captain Fantastic (www.captain-fantastic.co.uk) – the superhero that saves the day for children (and their parents) at weddings.

Y FOR YAWN

If it's getting late and it's time to go, make sure your guests have transport and accommodation booked well in advance. Include details of local hotels and car-hire companies with the invites so no one's left stranded.

X FOR X-CITEMENT

Build up the fun-factor with unexpected surprises like singing waiters, a rap or flash mob routine. To really impress, you and your best girls could even book a class to work out the moves as a fun hen-party activity.

2019 has been quite a year for County Wedding Magazines and Events HQ, the launch of our Signature Wedding Shows were such a huge success that the 2020 dates are bigger and better than ever. Here's what to expect when attending one of our events...

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

Our Signature Wedding Shows are held in some of the most recognised sporting and event venues in the UK. Brides- and grooms-to-be will be in awe of the sleek and stylish setting of Mercedes-Benz World, Surrey, sited on the famous Brooklands race circuit – you can even have an on-the-day driving experience should you wish!

Follow in the footsteps of royalty at Ascot Racecourse, Berkshire, situated on Crown Estate, it's the Royal Racecourse frequently visited by the Queen and hosts some of the biggest meets in the racing calendar; and, from one world-renowned location to another, why not attend our wedding show at Wembley Stadium, London, for a truly spectacular setting – from England to Brazil, all the greats have played here.

Finally, regular reality TV watchers will be familiar with The Brentwood Centre, Essex, a regular feature in Sam and Billie Faiers' *The Mummy Diaries* and the home of our very first Signature Wedding Show.

ON THE DAY DELIGHTS

When attending one of our Signature Wedding Shows couples and their entourage are in for a treat. Each event will boast up to 150 exhibitors comprising a huge range of specialists who will be on hand to talk through your planning ideas and requirements; venues, bridal boutiques, photographers, florists, cake makers and more, there's everything you could need under one roof.

On the day, visitors can enjoy fashion catwalks of the latest bridal, groom and mother-of-the-bride collections, partake in styling demonstrations and watch live entertainment, all whilst enjoying samples and tasters from our exhibitors. Refreshments are also available to purchase from each of the venue's on-site restaurants, bars and cafés.

What's more, by attending our exhibitions couples will benefit from free entry, will receive a goody bag including a copy of a County Wedding Magazine as well as be entered into a competition to win a honeymoon to a luxurious destination.

From sampling cocktails to tasting ice cream, listening to live musicians and watching the fashion shows, it's an exciting day for all who attend.

We look forward to seeing you at one of our Signature Wedding Shows!

Sarah x

Sarah Ellis, Sales and Events Director County Wedding Events.

Psst! The first 100 couples through the door will receive a free Wedding Journal Keepsake, and our pre-registered visitors will have the chance to win a £250 gift voucher courtesy of Spabreaks.com



SPABREAKS.COM



A date for your diary...

THE BRENTWOOD CENTRE, 13TH SEPTEMBER, 2020
MERCEDES-BENZ WORLD, 27TH SEPTEMBER, 2020

WEMBLEY STADIUM, 4TH OCTOBER, 2020
ASCOT RACECOURSE, 25TH OCTOBER, 2020

Pre-register for all of our events at countyweddingevents.com



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- Win a luxury honeymoon
- Huge number of wedding specialists including venues
- Up to 200 stands
- Bridal fashion shows
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- Entertainment
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Pre-register and attend the show to have a chance to win a £250 gift voucher courtesy of



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Sunday 4th October 2020, 11.00AM – 4.00PM

Hosted at Wembley Stadium London



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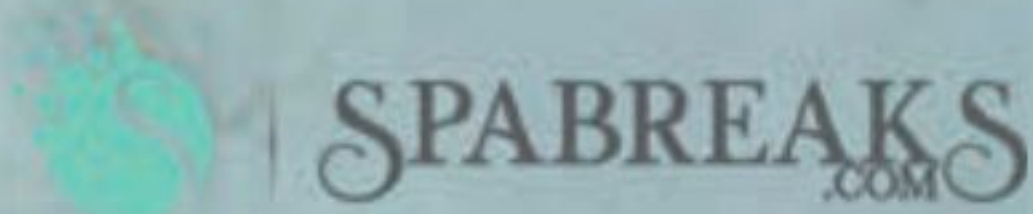
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- Bridal fashion shows
- Demonstration areas
- Entertainment
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A date for your diary...

Sunday 13th September 2020, 11.00AM – 4.00PM

Hosted at The Brentwood Centre, Doddinghurst Road,
Brentwood, Essex CM15 9NN

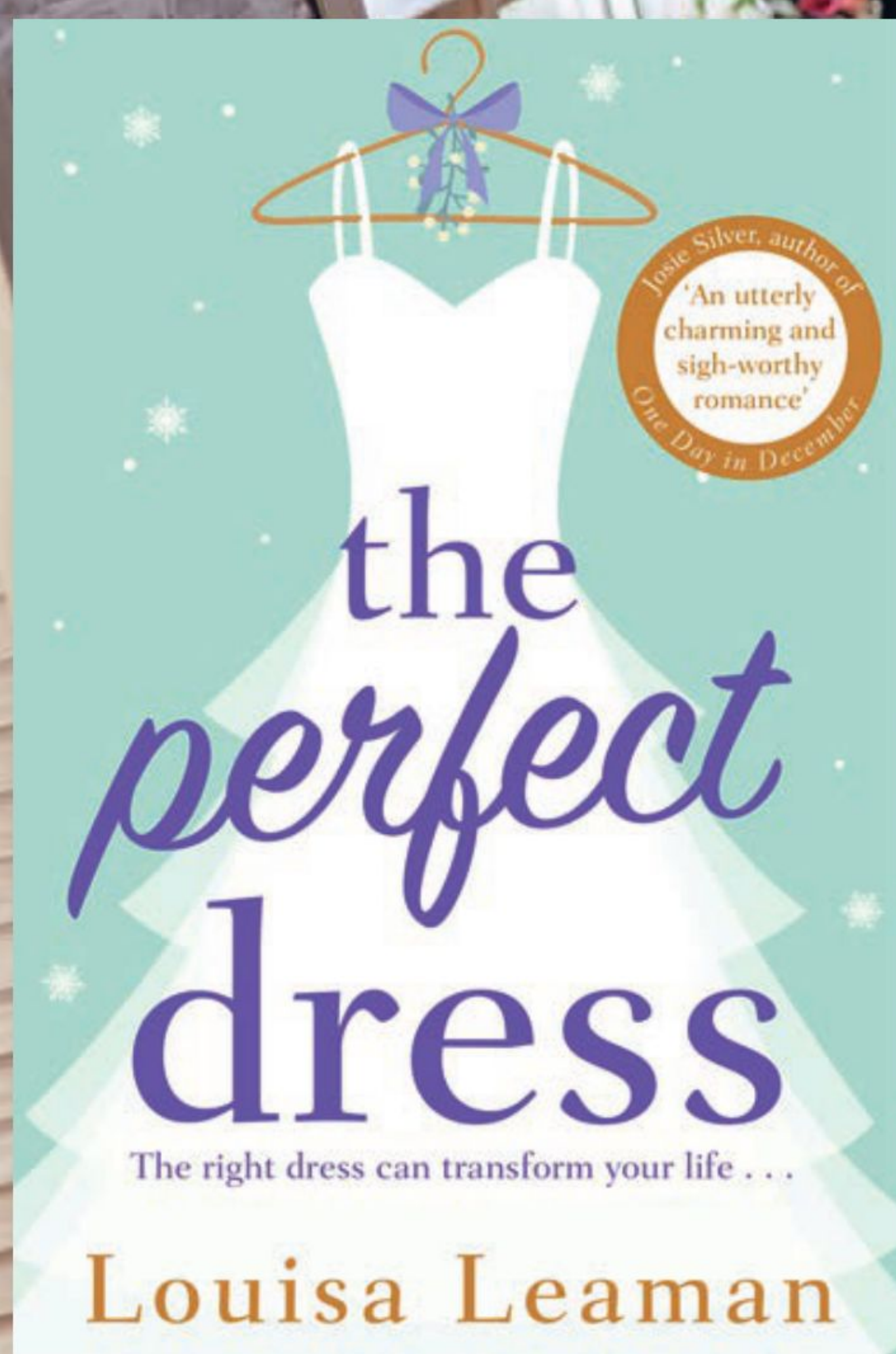
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Dressed TO PERFECTION



Author Louisa Leaman shares her inspired guide to finding *the one*



Francesca Delaney, the wedding boutique-owning character of my novel, *The Perfect Dress*, has a particular mission in mind when choosing dresses for her brides. From 1930s full-length satin to crepe minis from the 1960s, she has the ability to ‘feel’ the wisdoms and stories woven into these vintage gowns, which she then matches to her customers, depending on what she thinks they need to make them happy. I had enormous fun researching the book and learned so much about wedding dresses and what they mean to their owners. Here is my guide to finding your own ‘perfect’ wedding dress – the one that sums you up and makes you feel amazing, whoever you are, whatever you’re into.

There are many codes and conventions surrounding the concept of the wedding dress, some as old as time, some defined by fashion blogs and trends, so it can be hard to know where to start. Do you know your sheath from your empire line? Your mermaid from your trumpet skirt? If you’re not sure what shapes and cuts suit you, study the clothing you already have in your wardrobe. That favourite top or dress that you love, the one that makes you feel super confident and beautiful – what is it that works so well? The waist? The fabric? The neckline?

One of the most important garments you’ll ever wear, your wedding dress is a chance to really

express yourself. All eyes will be on you and your image will be captured in photos that you'll want to keep forever. Naturally, you'll want your look to be perfect. The key question is: what does perfect mean to you? Start asking yourself questions – a bit of self-exploration to bring your true wedding dreams to light. Here are some ideas (get your journal ready!):

What would I wear if I wasn't afraid of wearing anything?
 If I had no limits (budget, shape, etc.) what kind of dress would I choose?
 Who do I admire most in the world?
 What are the things I'm most passionate about?
 What do I like/not like to do?
 What makes me unique?
 What are my greatest accomplishments in life so far?
 What are my values?
 What would I want people to say about my dress?
 The wedding dress genie gives me three wishes: what would they be?
 What would I wear if I knew no one would judge me?
 What do I like most about myself?
 What do I believe in?
 What or who would I be if I knew I couldn't fail?

In the past, wedding dresses were often designed and worn to imply a sense of wealth or purity. Today's brides have a lot more social freedom. Anything goes and this is our privilege. It's your wedding, your marriage, your life, so let your bridal wear be a presentation of the best version of your individual self. There's nothing wrong with impressing an audience – an aisle is a big old stage to walk down – but impress for the right reasons. Make your dress about you, the heart of you. Maybe a fairytale vision is what you desire, or a bohemian statement. If you want to go down the traditional line and marry in a white dress and veil, embrace it. If you want to wear a red swing dress, that's fine. If you love super short leather mini dresses – great! Or maybe you never wear dresses at all, so how about a trouser suit? The point is to wear what makes you comfortable in your skin, so that you can be happy, relaxed and free to enjoy your day.

Talking of enjoying the day, your overall wedding plans may need to have a little bit of sway over your choice of ensemble. That white silk fishtail gown might not be the most practical apparel for a marquee on a farm. How hard will your dress have to work? Are you hoping to limbo dance on a beach at sunset or do you intend to glide gracefully around a polished ballroom? Perhaps you'd like to wear multiple dresses – something long and formal

for the ceremony, something short, glitzy and dance-proof for the after-party, in which case you've got double the challenge – and double the fun.

Armed with this knowledge, it's time to key into your feelings. If a gown ticks your criteria but doesn't make you burst into smiles and shout 'OMG! THE ONE!' then it's best to keep looking. That magic moment, you'll know it when it happens. It doesn't have to involve tears, but it should at least get you glowing inside. What then, if you have the 'moment' with lots of dresses? Step away, let the dust settle. If the special one is among the crop, it will come to light. It'll be the one you can't stop thinking about it or that you keep coming back to. So take a second look.

Wedding dress shopping is a lovely experience for everyone involved, but if you're something of a people-pleaser, it can be hard not to bend to what your mum, sister, chief bridesmaid, or shop assistant gets excited about. So it's crucial to listen to your own instincts. Keep bringing it back to: how does this dress reflect my personality and values? And remember, there's nothing wrong with throwing out the rulebook!

Did you know that the white dress has only been common convention for a short time? Throughout history and around the world, colour is widely worn. Just look at the amazing, boldly coloured Asian wedding saris. Or how about exploring the historical wedding dress collection at the Victoria & Albert Museum, where dresses of colour and pattern are abundant? You could also consider vintage. In a pre-owned gown, you may be able to find something unique, timeless and beautifully crafted, at a fraction of the cost. It's never been chicer to make your wedding dress your 'something old'. Retro clothing is experiencing a boom, not just because of its nostalgic silhouettes, but because the sustainable principles are good for the planet.

Perhaps the future of the wedding dress is individualism. This doesn't mean your ensemble has to become some kind of novelty Disney Princess meets *Game of Thrones* affair (unless, of course, that's what you want!) – the aim is to filter away any misguided beliefs and deceptions, so that you can begin your wedding dress-finding mission with a clear, truthful vision of what matters to you. It's about knowing yourself and not fearing judgement – which is surely wise advice for life itself, not just bridal couture.

The Perfect Dress by Louisa Leaman is published on 14th May by Corgi. Available from www.waterstones.com, RRP £7.99.



Weddings

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lbhf.gov.uk/weddings



IT'S ALL ABOUT THE JOURNEY

It's about the journey, not the destination as the saying goes – in which case, you'd better make it count on your big day

What bride doesn't want to make a grand entrance on her big day? One way to guarantee heads will turn is to arrive in style via a mode of transport that speaks volumes about your personality or your wedding theme. Is your big day quirky and rustic? Why not rock up in a VW Campervan? Is your wedding style glam and elegant? Wave to your guests from the comfort of a classic Beauford.

There are more options out there than you might think. We've scoured the capital for the best – your carriage awaits...

A Routemaster will never go out of style – this London classic is ideal for crossing the capital with your guests. Real couple Fiona and Adam wanted to showcase the capital in all its glory for their big day so one of these beautiful buses was the natural choice.

Check out www.rentaroutemaster.co.uk

When your taxi looks like this, is it any wonder that the ride is one of the highlights of your day? As real wedding couple Chloe and Adam attest, "We travelled between venues in a flower-decked car from Karma Kabs – the seats were lined with beautiful Indian fabric and there was even a chandelier inside. The journey was so special – a chance to be together and take it all in." We love www.karmakabs.com

www.emmahare.com



www.alicethecamera.co.uk

Kyriaki and Adam hired a canal boat to ferry guests from their ceremony venue to Camden's Glasshouse on the Lock. Contact www.walkersquay.com

www.jameswhitephotos.com





Real wedding couple Greg and Nadine tied the knot and celebrated their union at Eltham Palace, but that didn't stop them hiring a Tuk Tuk and taking a turn around the drive after they'd said 'I do'. Try www.londontuktuks.co.uk

www.flemingphoto.co.uk



Let's face it, a little part of all of us wants the chance to ride in a real-life fire engine. Photo opportunities abound with this stand-out vehicle and it'll double as entertainment for the kids to boot. Win-win. Visit, www.hothire.co.uk



Why grab an uninspiring uber when you could travel in this adorable vintage mini? Hire cars are a great option for those looking for something a little bit special. Rope in a groomsman to act as chauffeur à la real bride Natasha and your wedding transport is sorted! Visit www.smallcarbigcity.com



How about a high-speed catamaran to cross the capital on your big day? Guests will be able to sink into a comfortable leather seat and drink in the fabulous riverside views as you travel between venues – in total, some 220 loved ones can climb aboard. Discover more at www.thamesclippers.com/private-hire



Is it a bird? Is it a plane? No, it's a helicopter! Extravagant it may be, but there's no danger of getting caught in traffic. Just make sure there's somewhere to land for the ultimate in Bond-style arrivals. Find out more at, www.batterseahelicopter.com



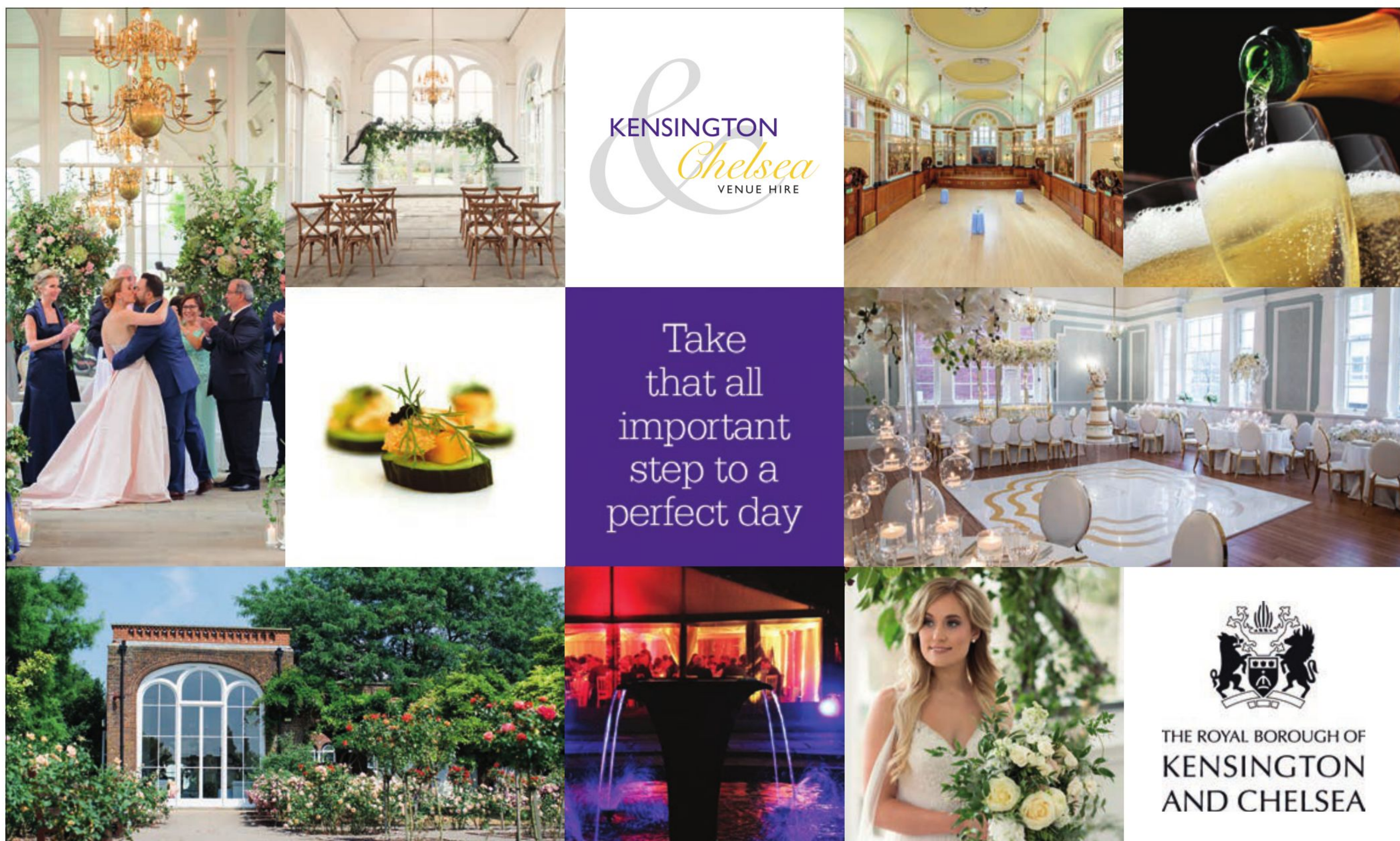
A limo's impressive capacity means you can bond over the journey to the ceremony with your bridal party and calm those last-minute nerves with a glass of bubbly to boot.

Contact, www.ladyfoxlimousines.co.uk



Davy's Wine Vaults, located in historic Royal Greenwich, brims with unique character and charm featuring carefully restored original features, antique curiosities and historic wine artefacts. With a spacious bar and dining area, outdoor terrace, two private rooms and a separate function area with its own bar, Davy's Wine Vaults is the perfect venue for weddings big and small.

A: 161 Greenwich High Road, SE10 8JA T: 02088587204 E: EventsDWV@davy.co.uk W: www.davy.co.uk



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For further information, contact our sales team on 020 7361 2220 or visit www.rbkc.gov.uk/venues.

Images courtesy of Eva Tarnok, Lucy Davenport, Lloyd Dobbie and Tino Antonou. Wedding Planner: Cristal Olivier



TOUCH OF SPARKLE

Online jewellery store Ruby & Oscar has launched a debut wedding jewellery collection featuring contemporary and classic styles in eight different categories. Pieces include a mixed-metal pearl necklace with matching earrings and a tanzanite penda

nt perfect for that *something blue*.

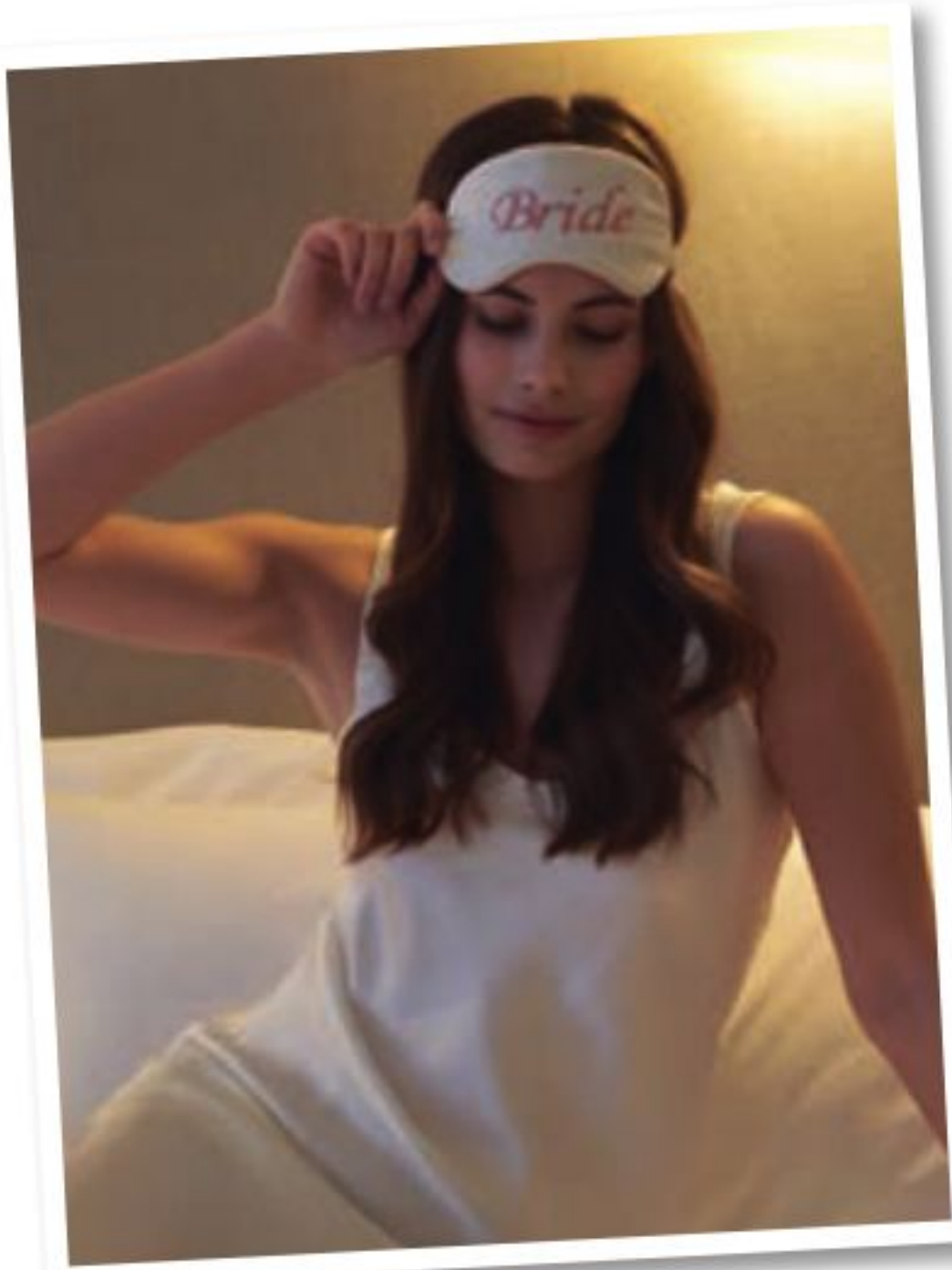
There's free delivery and a lifetime warranty on all orders. To shop, visit www.rubyandoscar.com/wedding

rubynoscar
DRESS UP

Bridal and women's evening wear brand Rowley Hesselballe London has launched in the UK. Co-founded by friends and former fashion buyers Rosie Poole and Canan Hesselballe, this online label offers modern and affordable bridal, bridesmaid and evening wear directly to customers with next day delivery available in the UK and across Europe. The collection has been carefully made allowing for minimum alterations and includes silk, lace, and chiffon dresses and jumpsuits featuring draping, soft pleating and other elegant detailing. There are white and champagne tones for brides, and red, navy and emerald shades for bridesmaids and guests. Sizes range from XS to XL and prices start from £249 to £999.

Hand-crafted pearl, feather and silk headpieces and hair accessories complete the collection with prices ranging from £129 to £329.

To shop, visit www.rowleyhesselballe.com



BEAUTY SLEEP

Luxury British sleepwear brand, Bonsoir of London, has launched a bridal collection consisting of silk separates, a vintage-style silk nightdress, a kimono short gown, and a *Bride* and *Mrs* eye mask in blush and ivory.

The collection has been made using premium materials hand-crafted in Somerset. To shop, visit <https://bonsoiroflondon.com>
 bonsoirlondon

Shape of you

Popular bridal brand Grace Loves Lace has launched three new dresses featuring a stretch bustier providing traditional shaping and full bust support without the restriction of traditional boning and corsetry. Sizes range from 28A to 42E, and the three new gowns are called *Palm*, *Poppy* and *Izabel*, with prices starting from £1,400. Each style comes with an assortment of armbands and straps, included in the price, for brides to create their own individual look.

To shop, visit <https://graceloveslace.com> grace_loves_lace



Editor loves

This 18-carat rose gold vermeil bracelet with rainbow moonstone, £100, by jewellery brand Katie Belle is a wonderful wedding keepsake. Other items include gold, sterling silver and rose gold vermeil necklaces that can be engraved with the wedding date, a name or a message. To shop, visit <https://katie-belle.com>

katiebellejewellery



FASHION focus

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

Designer-inspired

Mackays has launched a new occasionwear brand called GL/AMOUR, a collection of designer-inspired dresses and separates available in flattering silhouettes with embellished details. Sizes range from 8 to 18 with prices starting from £59. To shop, visit www.gl-amour.co.uk glamourofficialuk



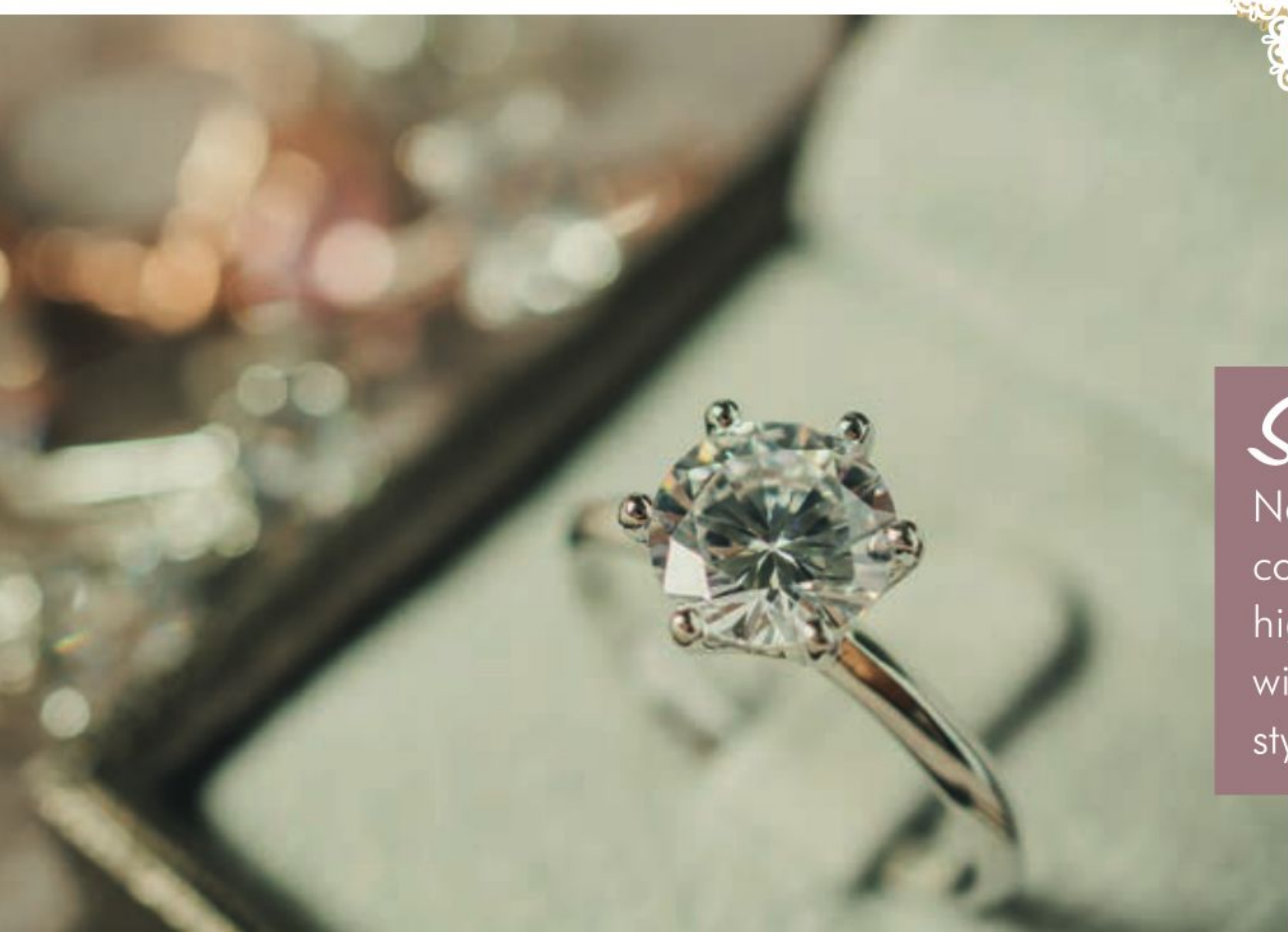
EDITOR'S FAVOURITE

Children's formalwear brand Roco offer a great selection of stylish yet affordable pieces for weddings, like this blue suit ideal for pageboys priced between £39.99 and £44.99, depending on size. To shop, visit www.rococlothing.co.uk
 rococlothing



Shine like a diamond

New online custom diamond service The Orange River offers couples the opportunity to design a ring that's shipped directly within weeks. Both high-quality, naturally mined diamonds and lab-grown stones are available, all with a certificate of authentication, and there's also a collection of ready-made styles. To shop, visit www.theorangeriver.co.uk orangeriverstore



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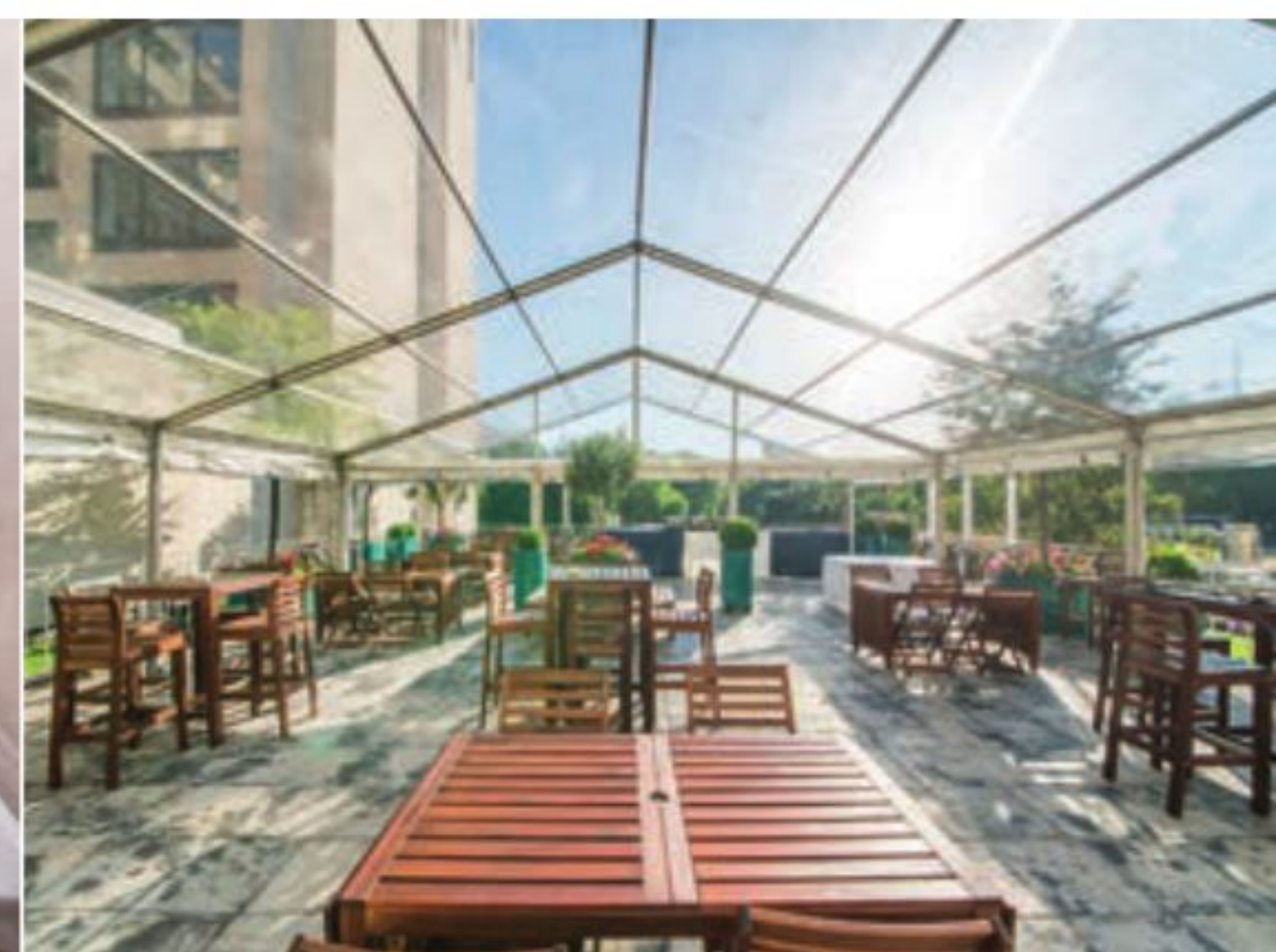
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A woman with long dark hair is standing in front of a large, multi-paned window. She is wearing a wedding dress that is white with a ruffled shoulder detail and a long, flowing pink train. The window behind her shows a city skyline with several tall buildings. The overall lighting is bright and natural.

A splash OF COLOUR

These wedding dresses in shimmery metallic shades and soft pastel tones are the perfect pick for brides not wanting to wear white

Style no 20-54 by www.bera.com



Look 27 by Morilee Madeline Gardner, www.morilee.com



Vienna by <https://phillipalepley.com>



Carrington by <https://kitrystudio.com>



Emery by www.katyakaty.co.uk



Elsa by www.motasem.co.uk

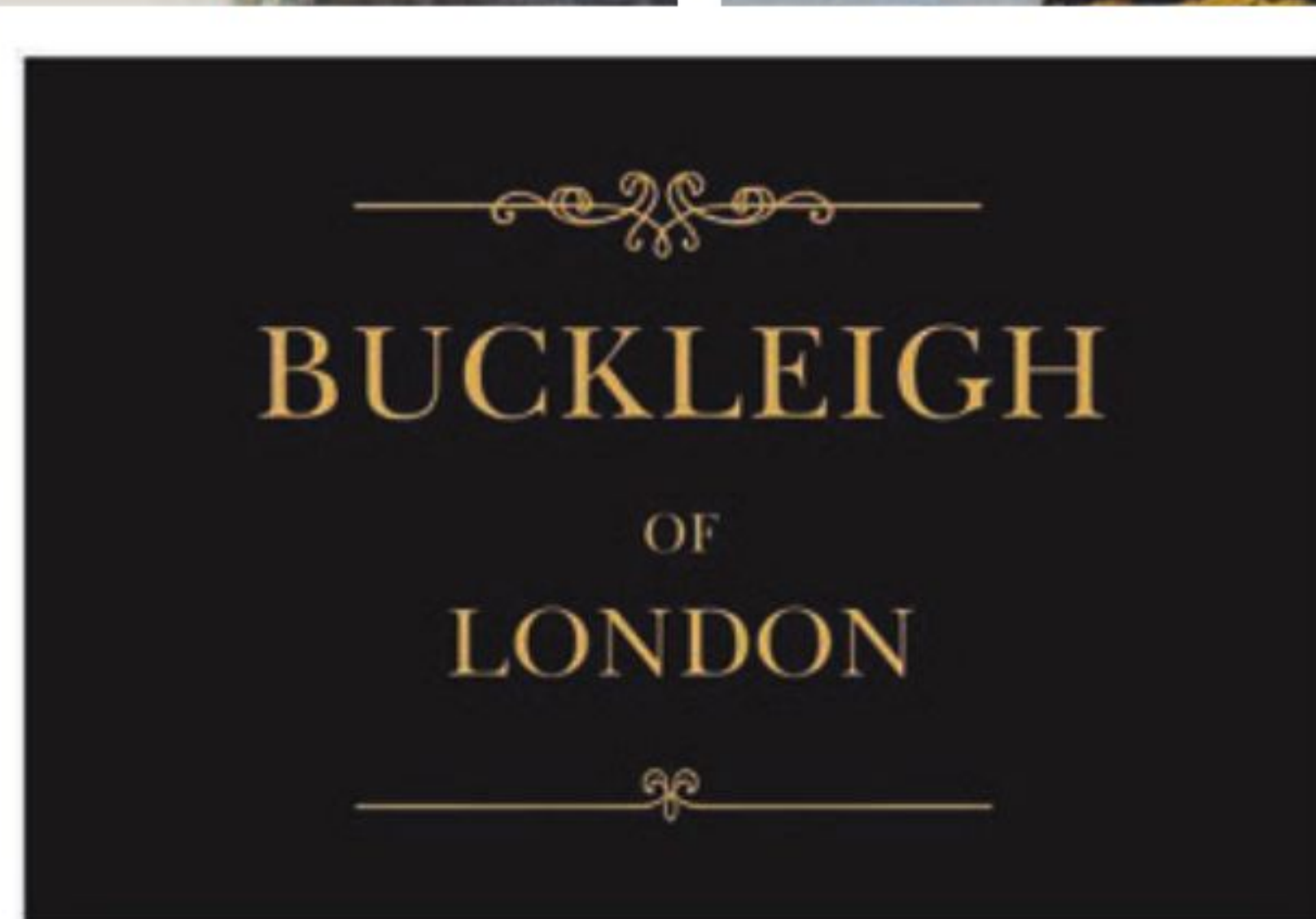


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www.whistles.com



www.kateedmondsonbridal.co.uk



www.justinaalexander.com



www.halfpennylondon.com



www.suzanneneville.com



www.lauredesagazan.fr



BRIDAL FASHION

<https://phillipalepley.com>



www.katyakatya.co.uk



www.rosaclaras.es



www.temperleylondon.com





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www.emmylondon.com



Blush lace court shoes with crystal butterflies, £660,
<https://arunaseth.com>

Embellished styles this season from
www.renecaovilla.com/gb/



Satin peep-toes with organza ties, £220,
www.harrietwilde.com



Flower embellished shoes, £310,
<https://dianehassall.com>

Platform peep-toes with crystal back detail, £84.99 per pair, Lulipa London at
www.zalando.co.uk



White embroidered Mrs pouch bag, £40,
<https://uk.monsoon.co.uk>



Shoe-spiration, from a selection,
www.sophiawebster.com

Best foot forward

These Insta-worthy styles feature #feathers #crystals #butterflies and #bling



Embellished court shoes, £175, matching clutch bag, £80,
www.dunelondon.com



Wifey For Life court shoes, £495, matching bag, £295,
www.sophiawebster.com



Crystal-encrusted T-bar sandals with ostrich feathers, matching ostrich feather bag, from a selection,
www.jimmychoo.com



Pearl and crystal-encrusted T-bar shoes, £85, coordinating silver bag, £35,
www.paradoxlondon.com



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Lemon yellow dress, £75, www.chichiclothing.com

Sterling silver cubic zirconia ring, £30, www.jonrichard.com

BRIDESMAID FASHION

Peach and ivory earrings, £18, www.oliverbonas.com

Feather pom pom fascinator, £40, Jasper Conran at www.debenhams.com

Lemon tiered dress, £99, <https://uk.monsoon.co.uk>

Sorbet shades

This season's bridesmaids' dresses and accessories come in gelato-inspired colours of peach, raspberry, lemon and pistachio

Gelato Italian silk georgette tiered gown, price on application, www.bnvcouture.com

Silver-plated toggle bracelet, £20, www.jonrichard.com

Ice cream purse, £1.99, www.bhf.org.uk

Pastel gelly hi-shine nail paint in Lavender, Iced Latte, Berry Sorbet and Candy Floss, £3.99 each, <https://barrym.com>

Personalised smash cup in strawberry pink chocolate, £24.99, www.gettingpersonal.co.uk

Peach satin sandals, £89.99, www.lulipashoes.co.uk

Pistachio green chiffon dress, from a selection, Lipsy at www.next.co.uk

Pink chiffon halterneck dress, from a selection, Essentials Collection by www.truebride.co.uk

Great gift idea!



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Bridal photography, concept & styling: Cecelina Photography, The New Wonderful Weddings, Miriam Faith Floral Design. Dress: Zuhair Murad.

SAY A *little* PRAYER

We see Andrea Bocelli's Music for Hope in Milan's Duomo Cathedral
and we raise you Baroque bridal fabulous at St Paul's

Images courtesy of Graham Lacdao



Top and skirt, Catherine Deane, www.catherinedeane.com

Dress, Catherine Deane, www.catherinedeane.com

Dress, Sottero and Midgely at Morgan Davies Bridal,
www.morgandaviesbridal.co.uk

REGIONAL SHOOT





Dress, Ellis Bridals, www.ellisbridals.co.uk



Dress, Bariano, www.asos.com

CONTACTS:

Photographer, www.lacdao.com | Photographer's assistant, Ruta Juozaityte | Styling, www.emmalightbown.com
 Assistant stylist, www.thestylesessions.net | Florist, www.hybridflowers.co.uk | Make-up, <http://makeupology.co.uk>
 Candles www.moheenipauldesigns.com | Hair, www.facebook.com/bespokebridalhairbynicola
 Nails, www.facebook.com/sophiescosycorner | Model, @impensjulie | Jewellery and accessories, www.julieimpens.com
 BTS Videographer, www.martinespijksma.co.uk



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LTG
WEDDING
AWARDS 2019
WINNER

Inspired by the stately elegance of Watermen's Hall, this team of local creatives put their heads together to create a look that would be at home with the historic feel of the venue and its surrounds. As photographer Natalie Crouch explains, "There's nowhere else like it in the City of London. It's an 18th-century Georgian hall and just screams 'old fashioned classical romance from a bygone era'. It's an intimate venue packed full of the proud history of the Watermen and Lightermen of the River Thames."

The sea mist-esque, grey dress was chosen to reflect that naval heritage. A sophisticated, fairy tale gown with a sweetheart neckline reminiscent of royalty, it's guaranteed to make an impression, especially when offset with the crystal and pearl necklace and earrings from the Oliver Weber Collection chosen by the team.

Make-up artist Clare Lake then picked out soft, romantic shades for the model to chime with the period feel: "Warm caramels and rose gold from Charlotte Tilbury's Pillow Talk collection allowed Maddie's natural beauty to shine through, against the regal background of this fantastic venue," she explains.

As for the hair, romance just begs for curls, does it not? "I wanted to create some classic voluminous curls for Maddie to complement the princess feel of the dress," says hairdresser Nicoll Moss. "I added some clip-in extensions to add length and volume, then quickly converted these curls into a textured, soft updo. This style is ideal for brides who just can't decide on the eternal question of hair up or hair down!"

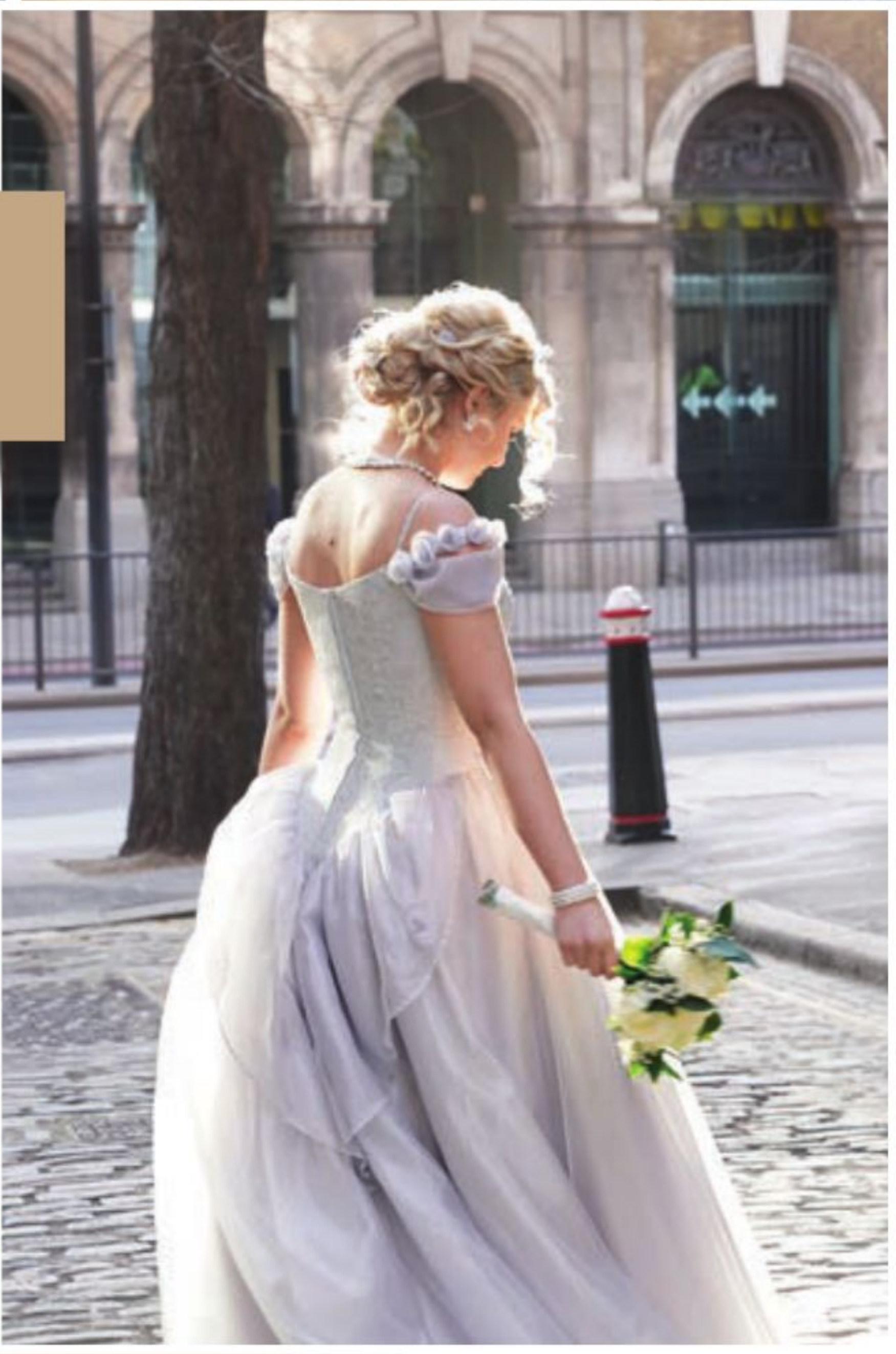
From the elegant spiral staircase to the impressive oak-panelled rooms, chandeliers, magnificent fireplaces and stained-glass windows – there's backdrops aplenty throughout the venue, which can cater for some 80 guests. "Every room has its own feel and is a treasure trove of fascinating artefacts; backboards, oars, carvings, model boats, uniforms and badges. It's a striking setting for wedding portraits," continues Natalie.

And that setting was enhanced by catering firm The Cook and The Butler who decorated the table in the Freeman's Room picking up the soft grey tones from the dress and pairing them with complementary shades of blue, silver and cream.



OLD FASHIONED *romance*

Inspired by the stately elegance of Watermen's Hall, this crack team of suppliers created a look worthy of a period drama
Images courtesy of Reflections Photography



CONTACTS:

Venue, www.watmenshall.co.uk | **Photography,** www.ncrouchphotography.com

Make-up, www.clarelakemakeupartist.co.uk | **Hair,** [@bridalhairstylists](https://www.instagram.com/bridalhairstylists) | **Videographer,** www.maymedia.online

Table décor, www.thecookandthebutler.co.uk



NUTHING TO SEE HERE

Let's be honest, removing unwanted hair is a totally laborious task for us ladies, and boring bad-smelling products do nothing to improve the situation. That's where Nuthing comes in. In bright colours of pink, blue and yellow, infused with non-plastic shimmer, and available in three fruity fragrances, hair removal is set to become something you look forward to.

The debut range available at Superdrug includes Shimmer Hair Removal Jelly (£9.99), Shimmer Hair Removal Wax (£12.99), and Simmer Shave & Shower Sorbet (£6.99). Discover more at www.nuthing.co.uk

BATHED IN LUXURY

This luxurious hand-whipped bath and shower wash is a real luxury for any pamper routine. Beautifully mild with no SLS or sulphates, it's kind to the skin and gently cleanses without drying. Soft and fluffy, it's bestowed with a light dusting of eco glitter for a touch of glam, and will leave you delicately fragranced with a scent of mimosa, jasmine, rose and white musk.

Check out www.prettylittlethings.co.uk where you'll find this beauty priced at £7, as well as many other little wonders available as super-cute wedding favours.



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

Beauty BUZZ

Scrub up well

Meet Sand & Sky's first body product: Australian Pink Clay Smoothing Body Sand. A whole new territory direct from the shores of the Aussie beach, delivered straight to your bathroom.

Not your average body scrub, this super smoothing four-in-one formula purifies, exfoliates, moisturises, and illuminates. Simply scoop a chunk of sand and massage over your body in circular motions. A little goes a long way. Rinse off and check that golden hour glimmer.

Priced at £29.90, find out more at www.sandandsky.com



BRIGHT EYES

BeautyBio's The Quench Eye is a breakthrough buildable balm that fills in fine lines and helps firm up the under-eye area. Persian silk tree bark addresses dark circles, while macadamia, olive and jojoba oils provide hydration, and create a shield against future damage from environmental aggressors.

Four skin lipids restore the critical protective layer for skin's elasticity and allow the delicate eye area to snap back into place after the daily strains. Your eyes will thank you for it.

Available at Harrods in-store or online, priced at £95.

GLOWING BRIDE

If a gorgeous wedding-day glow is the look for you, check out this lavish new launch from Payot. Suitable for all skin types and gorgeously fragranced, it dresses the skin with a long-lasting, natural-looking tan. The ideal addition to your spring skincare regime, it nourishes dry winter skin and gives your complexion a healthy streak-free glow, with a gradual tanning effect.

Its cocktail of precious oils hydrate the skin, with colouration results visible from the first day of use.

Visit www.payot.com/GB/en to find out more.



LOVE LASHES

In a Strip lashes have introduced two new light and fluffy styles, taking inspiration from Lash Perfect British, the new natural eyelash extension trend. This collection of 10, super-soft, luxury strip lashes can be moulded to the shape of the eye thanks to the flexible band, and are easily applied with lash glue.

We're excited about the fact that they're available in brown as well as black, making them absolutely ideal if you're a fairer bride or prefer a more subtle big-day look.

Check out www.yourbeautyhive.co.uk where the lashes are available priced at £12.95.



Luscious locks

When it comes to big-day hair, extensions are a must in order to achieve many of the trending looks. Whether you're a long-time wearer or the idea is completely new to you, Great Lengths' new Own The Day collection showcases versatility and the possibilities you can achieve. From a full head of bonds adding length and texture, to a few Great Lengths tapes at the side for volume and lift, your wedding day is the time to go big, own it, and leave your guests in awe.

For more style ideas and stunning images from the Great Lengths team, head over to county.wedding and check out our Beauty News section. To find a certified salon or stylist near you, head over to www.greatlengthshair.co.uk/salon-locator

www.josephscanlon.co.uk

Lip service

Burt's Bees latest range sees the brand utilise the deeply hydrating benefits of hemp seed oil. We love the 100 per cent natural origin lip balm (£3.99), which hydrates and conditions dry lips. Formulated with hemp seed oil and infused with beeswax plus other naturally nourishing ingredients, its luxurious texture offers smooth application in one easy swipe, ensuring a big-day ready pout.

Find out more about this and the rest of the range at www.burtsbees.co.uk



SPARKLE AND SHINE

Ted Baker's Midnight Bloom Shimmer Collection will keep you and your bridesmaids smelling and feeling fabulous on W-day. Ideal for adding a subtle glow to sun-kissed skin, choose from Shimmer Body Soufflé, Shimmer Body Oil, Shimmer Body Wash, and Shimmer Body Spray. You'll fall in love with the rich floral musk fragrance, which boasts exotic hints of green tea and lime blossom, floral notes of honeysuckle and snowdrops, with spicy undertones of cardamom, pepper and liquorice.

This gorgeous range is part of the Harmony Blossom Bath & Body Collection available exclusively in Boots.

BLOSSOMING ROMANCE

I was over the moon to hear that my beloved Jo Malone London has introduced a new limited edition Blossoms Collection. The cologne range features two news scents of yuja and waterlily, accompanied by the ever-popular osmanthus blossom, returning for a limited time (£52 for 30ml).

The playful scent of nectarine blossom and honey has been reimagined in a limited-edition cologne pen (£26). A great addition to your big-day supplies, it boasts a cooling ceramic tip allowing you to roll the fragrant gel onto the skin whenever you're ready for a freshen up.

Available at www.jomalone.co.uk and boutiques nationwide from May 2020.



EDITOR LOVES

It's logical when you think about it: think purple shampoo, but for your teeth. Billion Dollar Smile's Purple Tooth Polish (£10.99) brings colour spectrum technology, with a blend of purple pigments and whitening ingredients, to reflect a brighter and whiter smile. It also contains added vitamin E and natural papaya enzyme, which work together to break down stains.

There's something fun about putting this purple paste on your toothbrush, and its unusual yet pleasant taste left my mouth feeling fresh and ready for the day. I was impressed at how, after just one use my teeth already seemed brighter.

Check out the website www.billiondollarsmilecosmetics.co.uk



SUN-KISSED beauty

Our beauty editor, Kelly Andrews, chats to Olivia Buckland about all things wedding, tanning and feeling flawless



All images courtesy of James Rudland

Love Island's Olivia Buckland shot to fame alongside her now-husband, Alex Bowen, as one of the show's best-loved success stories. The pair tied the knot at Gosfield Hall in Essex in September 2018, so the star certainly knows a thing or two about big-day beauty. Now, a huge celebrity social media influencer, her 2.2 million Instagram followers hang on her every word when it comes to beauty and fashion tips, and her TV work on shows such as *Olivia & Alex: Happily Ever After* and *Second Chance Dresses* has won her a fan base outside of the popular dating programme. We caught up with her to find out more about her latest project.

GOLDEN GLOW

Olivia's latest venture sees her become brand ambassador for Cocoa Brown, a match made in heaven she explains: "I love being tanned all year round and this brand

allows me to do that. The range is amazing, and I love being able to share such a fab and affordable product with my social media followers."

To tan or not to tan? It's a question many a bride has asked, especially when not feeling overly confident about the application process. Olivia suggests Perfect Fade Self-Tan, and says, "It's amazing. It's so easy to apply for first-time tanners and doesn't leave a biscuit smell, which can often be a little off-putting."

"To ensure my tan lasts, I always exfoliate and moisturise before I apply and continue moisturising every day. When the glow starts to fade, and I feel I want to start again, I use Cocoa Brown Fresh Start Self-Tan Eraser to get rid of any old lingering tan. For the perfect bridal look, I'd recommend using the Miracle Mist to achieve a natural glow for your face. It doesn't need washing off, which is a bonus. The 1 Hour Tan Mousse

in the original medium shade is also great, it isn't overpowering, and gives a lovely glow, which always looks gorgeous against a white dress."

NATURAL BEAUTY

The star is no stranger to posting stunningly fresh-faced make-up free selfies to her social media, and we were keen to know how she keeps her skin looking so flawless: "I always make sure I take my make-up off before I go to sleep. I also swear by using face masks once a week. My favourite is Skin Republic's Prep + Glow. I use it before I put my make-up on, and it makes the application so much smoother ensuring it lasts." With such a hectic lifestyle, you'd be forgiven for wondering how she gets the time for any skincare regime, but Olivia says: "I am a sucker for a bath at the end of the day with a candle and face mask. After a long day, it's what I look forward to."



wanting to know her beauty secrets and how she constantly looks so flawless."

DRESSED TO IMPRESS

Post-*Love Island*, Olivia is grateful for every opportunity she's had and understandably feels a great sense of achievement. She says, "My clothing brand with Alex, Exempt Society is something I'm incredibly proud of. Also, having our TV show, *Happily Ever After* on TLC was incredible." Speaking of the star's television career, here at CWM towers we're huge fans of her other TLC venture, *Second Chance Dresses*, being wedding obsessed as we are. "I loved watching the brides' reactions when they found their dream dresses," she says. "It was such a lovely feeling because I could relate, I know how magical that moment is. My dress is currently being stored in the loft. I do toy with the idea of auctioning it off for charity, as I don't like the idea of it sat in storage, but I just can't decide!"

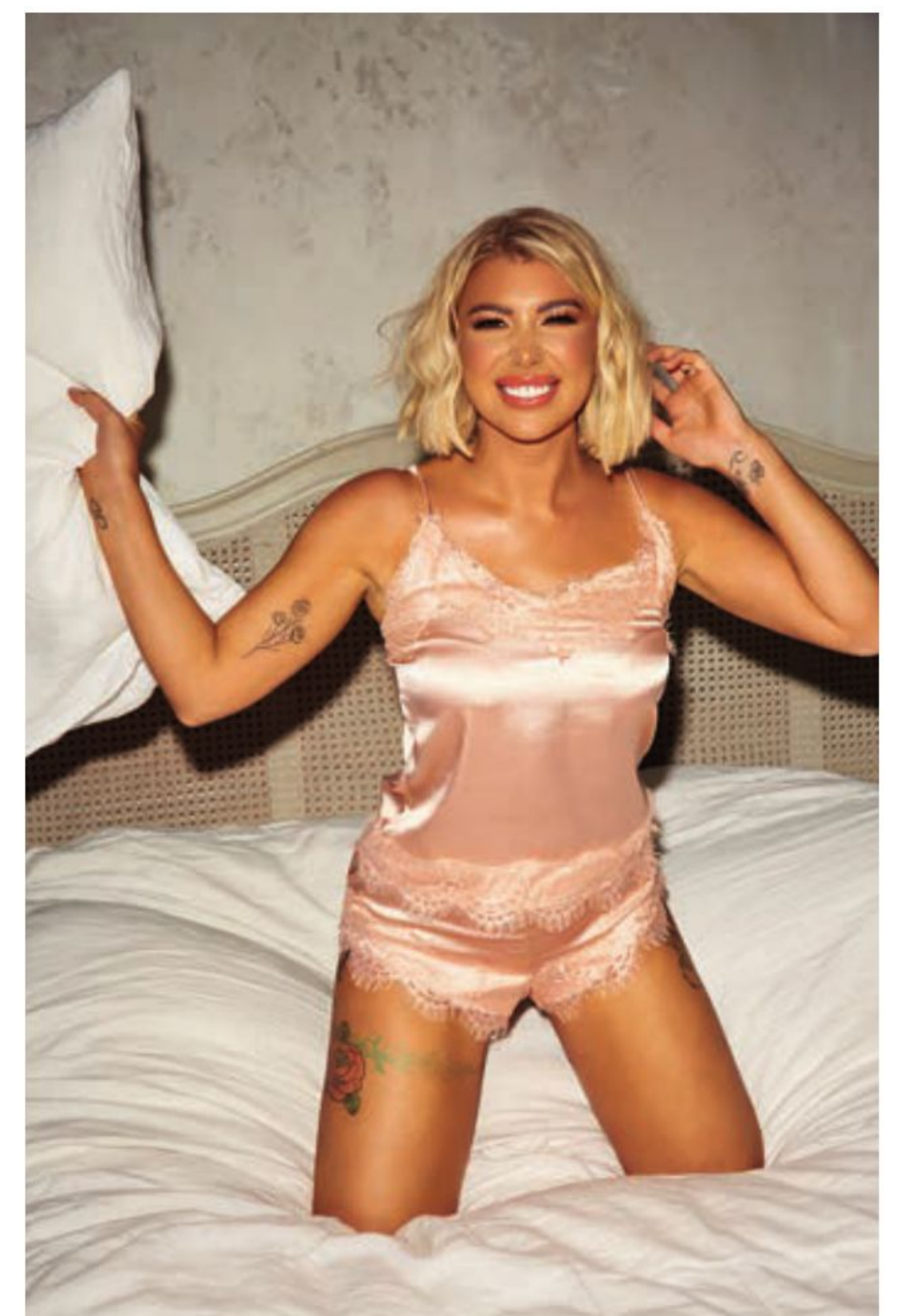
Having been a high-profile bride, we were keen to find out if Olivia had any big-day wisdom to impart. "Get wedding insurance," she says. "I didn't have to use mine thankfully, but it's such an important safety net. You hear of so many disaster stories. It's always better to be safe than sorry."

So what's next? "Alex and I have just bought a new house together, so we're mainly getting ready for the big move. I'm so excited to get settled in. We've such an exciting 2020 planned, so keep an eye out for new and upcoming projects."



Describing her day-to-day look as very natural, "if I'm not working I generally won't wear make-up at all," she says. When it comes to beauty must-haves though, she tells us, "My go-to product is the W7 Honolulu Bronzer. It gives me instant cheekbones!"

Having worked with some incredible make-up artists such as Anna Lingis and Lo Dias, Olivia finds a wealth of inspiration in the beauty industry. She explains, "It's full of people I look up to, but my main influence has got to be Rosie Huntington-Whiteley. She always shares her latest make-up must-haves, which I love. I always find myself



Olivia Buckland is the face of Cocoa Brown, which is available in Superdrug and Primark stores nationwide.



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"Writing this during the coronavirus outbreak, my strict hand wash regime has left my skin extremely dry, so this hand cream was sorely needed. The cream smells absolutely divine – just like a spa – and the silky-smooth texture absorbs quickly into the skin leaving it feeling nourished. It's packed full of organic ingredients, the hero of which is Ishga's potent seaweed formula." – **Hannah Faulder**



Mavala, Chill & Relax Collection, Beige Chill £5.20, www.nailpolishdirect.co.uk

"The colour intensity is perfect, and after only two coats your nails are ready for anything. I have Beige Chill which is an ideal bridal shade, and it doesn't chip as quickly as most of my other nail products do. If you're in a rush, there's no need to worry as this polish doesn't take long to dry which is a big bonus." – **Olivia Gibson**



TRIED AND TESTED

Jo Loves Eucalyptus & Cedar Woods A Hand Collection
£78, www.joloves.com

"I've seen handwash and moisturiser duos in hotels before, but I've never even used the moisturiser, let alone considered having both indoors! However, this Jo Malone duo is truly divine, providing a fragrant burst with each use, my hands are left soft and supple – effects which last for hours. This is certainly a new, must-have in my bathroom." – **Danielle Harvey**

Leighton Denny Expert Nails, Rejuvenate Hand Mask
£6.50, www.leightondennyexpertnails.com

"Along with most of us, I've been scrubbing and anti-bac'ing my hands like crazy recently, so this intense hydrating treatment mask proved a real saviour. After 20 minutes encased in the special serum-infused gloves my parched mitts felt super soft and my ravaged nails and cuticles looked instantly revived. I kept my hands tucked under the duvet overnight for maximum absorption and was thrilled with the results." – **Sarah Reeve**



THAT'S HANDY!

Show off that engagement ring to full effect with the help of these hand and nail care heroes

Naio Nails, Gel Polish Starter Kit – Snow White
£32.99, www.naio-nails.co.uk

"This professional gel kit is incredible value for money. There are five – count 'em – five full size bottles! I love the stone cuticle pusher, the most effective I've ever used, and these gels work with UV or LED, so will suit whichever lamp you have. My white nails look super-chic and neat. If you haven't used UV gel before, I'd just advise researching application before you use." – **Kelly Andrews**

L'Atelier Green, #NakedNailsCollection in True Innocence
£15.99, www.lateliergreen.com

"This nail paint went on smoothly with no brush marks, right from the first coat. The brush is nice and thick, with the usual strong smell of regular nail varnish minimal. After applying two coats, I can tell you the shade is stunning, and ideal for brides. A soft shade of grey with a shiny finish, even without a top coat it hasn't chipped yet." – **Claire Ridley**





Q & A

We quizzed make-up artist and nail technician Peghe Yianni on bridal beauty

1. Tell us about your background

I came from a very strict Greek Orthodox background so my father chose my A levels and business diploma. I then joined the family food business and worked there for 20 years. I travelled a lot to source different products and wherever I went, I was asked whether I was a make-up artist. I used to visit MAC counters weekly, would always aspire to be like the professionals there. In 2013, we sadly lost our food business and I completed a make-up diploma and then landed a job at MAC's Chelsea store. I'm now freelance and living proof that you should never give up on your dreams.

2. What's your advice for brides and grooms preparing for the big day? Any dos and don'ts?

My main advice is don't be tempted to experiment or radically alter your routine in the immediate run-up to your wedding and book in any brow or lash treatments for a few months ahead of the big day. Skin care is paramount to that all-important 'glow' at your nuptials.

3. Who is your bridal beauty/fashion icon and why?

I'm torn between two looks that I absolutely love: one was created by Charlotte Tilbury

for Kate Moss in 2011; she created a toned-down sultry rock chick look, and then she came up with a more glamorous look for Poppy Delevingne with copper smoky eyes using her Dolce Vita palette.

4. What is your favourite area of London and why?

I just love Knightsbridge, it's usually busy, striking and vibrant. I absolutely love browsing the counters in Harrods' new make-up emporium.

5. What's trending for 2020 weddings?

The make-up this season is focused on enhancing your skin, not concealing it a la Megan Markle's minimal bridal look. Think barely-there foundations, soft blush and soft lip tints – Dior has launched some amazing lip glows in berry shades. And don't forget fluffy brows; to achieve this brush brows upwards and outwards and then use MAC's clear brow set to keep them in shape.

6. Talk us through your most requested bridal look...

As a general rule, brides will ask for medium-coverage foundation – they want a healthy glow with lots of highlighter and subtle contour. As for eyes, smoky is always popular.

Susan Pang

Collection

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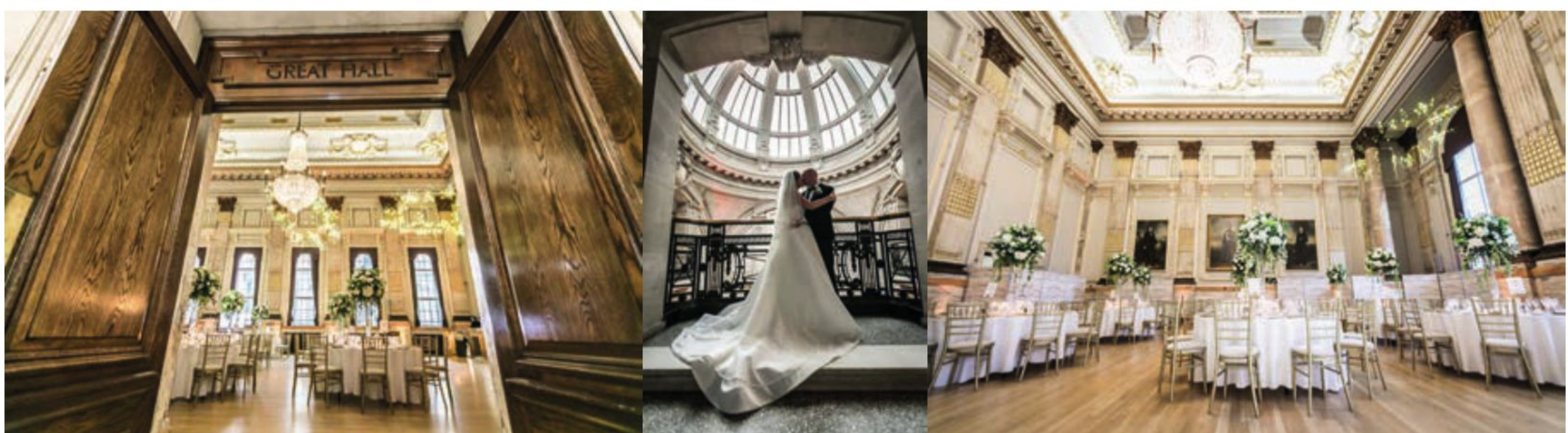


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DAZZLING COMPLEXION

John Lewis & Partners have unveiled plans to sell men's make-up brand War Paint for Men in its flagship Oxford Street store and on the company's website. The full range of products includes foundation, concealer, bronzer and powder. In addition, John Lewis & Partners also offer a range of men's personal styling services and a dedicated studio in its Southampton shop.

Daniel Gray, the founder of War Paint for Men, said: "This is a massive step in the right direction, not just for us but for the industry and men's make-up in general."

Check out www.johnlewis.com for more.



SCENTSATIONAL

We love Emporio Armani's new fragrance by Nicholas Hoult and Alice Pagani. The Stronger With You Freeze scent is made up of limes, apples, sage, chestnut and iced lavender to create an unforgettable smell.

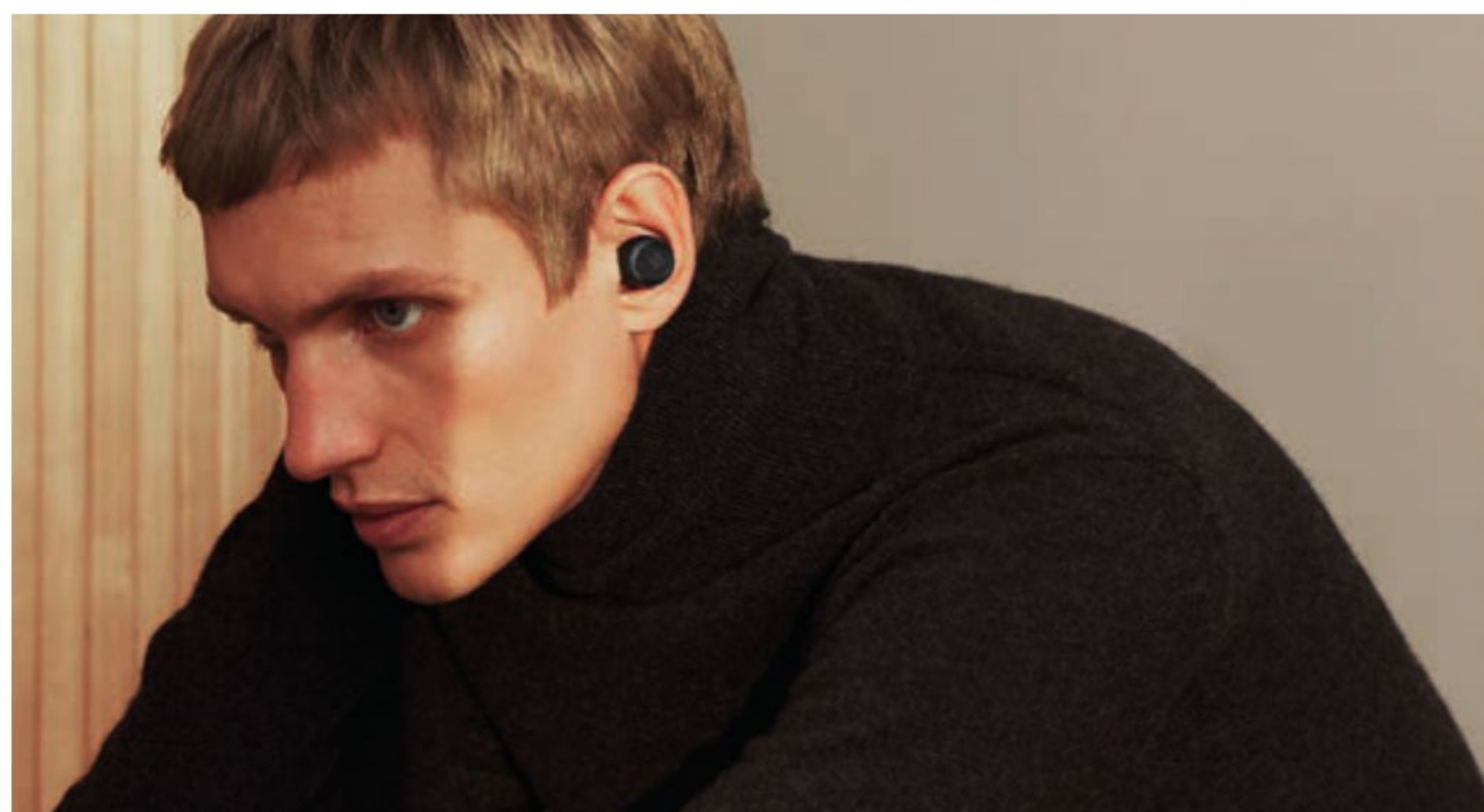
Brides-to-be can purchase the In Love With You version that's made using red cherries and jasmine.

Both are available to purchase from www.thefragranceshop.co.uk



Read all ABOUT IT!

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



DANCE TO THE BEAT

Bang & Olufsen has announced its next generation of Beoplay E8 earphones. The ideal gift for any groom-to-be, the product uses 3D-modelling to ensure it fits a large variety of ear shapes and sizes and boasts up to 35 hours of playtime.

Christoffer Østergaard Poulsen, the vice president of product management, said: "With the third generation of Beoplay E8, we have made the world's best-sounding true wireless earphones even better."

Visit www.bang-olufsen.com for more.

Sock it to me

Lincolnshire-based company, Sophie Allport has released its spring/summer 2020 collection. The homeware brand incorporates the founder's love of country living and wildlife to create beautiful products.

The collection is made up of kitchen and dining products, men's socks and wash bags, handkerchiefs and much more.

For more information, visit www.sophieallport.com



A CLOSE SHAVE

Award-winning barbers, ADAM, has revealed a new grooming experience. The brand wants grooms-to-be to step into a contemporary, uncluttered space, indulge in the artful hands of the highly-skilled barbers and walk out feeling restored while also looking sharp and polished. Customers will get to experience ADAM's exclusive product line which comprises of a beard balm, oil and hair paste.

Esat and Oytun, the co-founders, said: "We founded ADAM for the contemporary gentleman who works hard, plays hard and lives in a modern city but still seeks a classic and timeless experience."

To see more, visit www.adamgroomingatelier.com

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£92, www.harrisdistillery.com



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£59.95, www.annabeljames.co.uk

£185, www.fairfaxandfavor.com

£239, www.otarywatches.com

£45, www.laslettengland.com

A CHANGE OF PLAN

From managing anxiety to cancellations and postponements, London's experts answer your questions on weddings affected by COVID-19

FUTURE PROOFING

Our wedding is booked for summer, 2021 and, given the current situation, I want to support my chosen venues and suppliers in the interim. What can I do to help?

Tess says: How kind of you to think about your suppliers. Indeed, we could all benefit from supporting each other at the moment. Here are some ideas:

- ♥ Social media shoutouts are always so lovely and help us promote our venues. We adore being tagged in your photos on Instagram and also love seeing inspiration photos of what you are planning for your day.
- ♥ For any new clients, it helps enormously when they're flexible with dates. We try to accommodate everyone but, if you're flexible on dates, you'll have a lot more to choose from.
- ♥ Share your suppliers with the community. We love seeing and meeting new people and always love working with new suppliers in our venues. Everyone brings something different to the table.
- ♥ Share well-being tips with other brides – we're all in this together so it's important to reach out and look after each other too!
- ♥ Write a review or send a positive message. You could share how we've done so far; we really appreciate the support and kind words go a really, really long way, especially at a time like this.

Meet the experts: Tess Hillier is the Senior Wedding and Private Events Coordinator for Enable Leisure & Culture – the organisation behind Battersea Park's fabulous venues.

Enable Leisure & Culture | www.enablelc.org

WE'LL MEET AGAIN

Our wedding date is set for this July and we're wondering whether we should postpone now or sit it out and hope for the best?

Nina says: Do you really need to postpone? Think carefully about this, as it is a huge decision and something that could be quite costly and stressful. Take a look at your wedding date and the really important VIP guests, such as family and close friends. Will they all be able to make it without any issues if you don't change the date?

If you do decide to postpone, then the single most important factor is whether you have wedding insurance. If so, check what you're covered for.

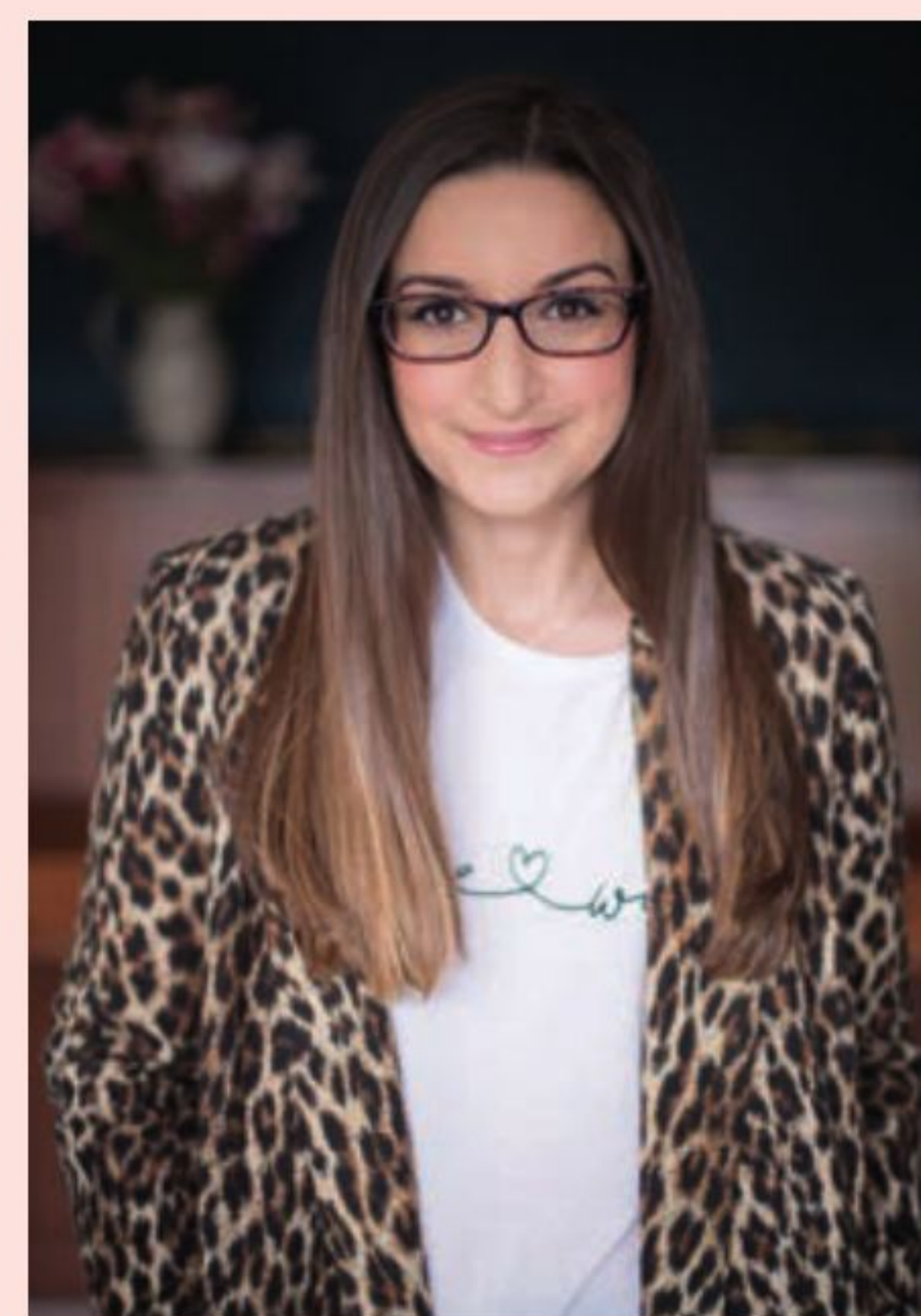
Work with your venue closely and look at what possible dates you could move your wedding to. Once you've decided on a new date, work with the rest of your suppliers to ensure they can make it too.

Once you've got a new date, communicate with your guests as soon as possible.

Last, keep calm. Remember, this is temporary and we're all in it together. The main thing is that, no matter what, you'll marry the one you love, just on a different day than you originally planned.

Meet the experts: Nina Beer is a London-based wedding coordinator and owner of planning service Occasion Queens.

Occasion Queens | www.occasionqueens.com





THE MASK

Q Our wedding date isn't currently affected by the lockdown but nevertheless we're wondering whether we should go ahead, postpone or scale back plans. Any advice?

Edwin says: It's likely that some form of social distancing will be in place for some time so 'business as usual' may not be a reality even for weddings due to take place later in the season. We'll all need to be practical and flexible – unfortunately, the outbreak of COVID-19 has put 2020 wedding couples in a difficult situation and we'd suggest you adapt your plans accordingly and scale back your big day.

As Robert Kiyosaki said, 'inside of every problem lies an opportunity' – the circumstances could be a blessing in disguise, allowing you to enjoy a more intimate day with your nearest and dearest. After so long apart, quality time together will be all the more precious and your suppliers and guests will be protected if you space your tables further apart.

You could, of course, get creative with the theme. Switch favours to hand sanitizer and distribute elegant masquerade masks.

Meet the experts: Edwin Marcow is an award-winning wedding photographer.

Edwin Marcow | www.edwinmarcow.com

KEEP CALM AND CARRY ON

Q We're trying to work, plan a wedding and home school our two children and it's not going well. Help!

Malminder says: Here's a few tips to help you stay sane while in lockdown.

- ♥ Create a family contract: this should lay out everyone's duties and help with sharing roles and chores. Parents can split their time, making one responsible for looking after the children while the other is working and vice versa.
- ♥ Draft an activity schedule: this could include meals, work and school and leisure times for both parents and children. Organise fun activities such as movie nights or cooking together – a great way to maintain a positive mindset.
- ♥ Keep moving: Whether it's a fitness challenge for the whole family, a dance session or playing in the garden, make sure everyone's staying active.
- ♥ Document the experience: A journal is a great way for both adults and children to understand the thoughts and emotions that this extraordinary situation brings up.

Meet the experts: Malminder Gill is an award-winning hypnotherapist and life coach.

Malminder Gill | www.hypnosis-in-london.com



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Photo: Torsten Dickmann



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PARADISE FOUND

The new Emerald Maldives Resort & Spa is the latest addition to the Emerald Collection. Located on the Ra Atoll in the northern Maldives, honeymooners will be wowed by its spectacular design and deluxe all-inclusive offering.

Following its opening, the resort is excited to launch a romantic honeymoon package. Highlights include a memorable beach dinner on the shores of the resort's crystal-clear lagoon as well as a complimentary couple's massage at the Emerald Spa, before enjoying the Indonesian-style pool, steam bath, sauna and Jacuzzi.

There's so much to do: water sports, guided snorkelling tours, boat excursions to discover turtles, manta rays, dolphins and even whale sharks – what more could you ask for? Visit www.emerald-maldives.com

TOTAL LUXURY

We had to put Villa Kasika on your honeymoon radar. On the island of Koh Yao Noi in Phang Nga Bay, between the island of Phuket and Krabi on the Thai mainland, it's a real brag-factor destination. You can stay in a beautiful treehouse-style villa with open-air rooms, private plunge pool, amazing views, a spa and direct access to the private beach. Known for its dramatic landscape, including limestone cliffs, lush and rich rainforests and little islands within it, Phang Nga Bay is an idyllic post-wedding destination. Find it on www.oliverstravels.com

HONEYMOON



It's going to be a tough year for the travel industry, but now is the perfect time to plan your dream honeymoon for 2021 and beyond. Here are our hot travel tips and product picks...

News

LA DOLCE VITA

With celebrities such as Emily Blunt and John Legend tying the knot in Lake Como, it has made the spotlight shine even brighter on this incredible setting. The prestigious Grand Hotel Villa Serbelloni is located on the shore in Bellagio and has welcomed guests such as John F. Kennedy, Winston Churchill, Clark Gable and Al Pacino.

Renowned for its elegance, the Villa is surrounded by flower-filled gardens that slope down to the water's edge, making it the perfect setting for a post-wedding getaway, and its honeymoon package is fit for such a romantic setting. Newlyweds can indulge in Michelin-starred dining, a Villa Serbelloni Spa treatment, a romantic tour of lake Como by private motorboat and entrance to the breathtaking gardens of Villa Melzi. For a truly once-in-a-lifetime experience, couples can book the Imperial Suite; the largest hotel suite in the region, it comes with a personal butler and exclusive gifts. Head to www.villaserbelloni.com



Greece is the word

Ikos Oceania in Halkidiki, northern Greece, is set to revolutionise honeymoons in 2020 with its award-winning luxury all-inclusive concept. The property will offer a tailored honeymoon experience for couples staying in the Deluxe Collection suites. The thoughtful touches include visits to wineries, an intimate candlelit dinner on the beach, a turn-down service with rose petals and chocolates and a couple's spa treatment. The Deluxe Concierge will take care of all your holiday preferences and even organise a bottle of champagne on arrival and a MINI to explore local hidden gems. Find out more at www.ikosresorts.com



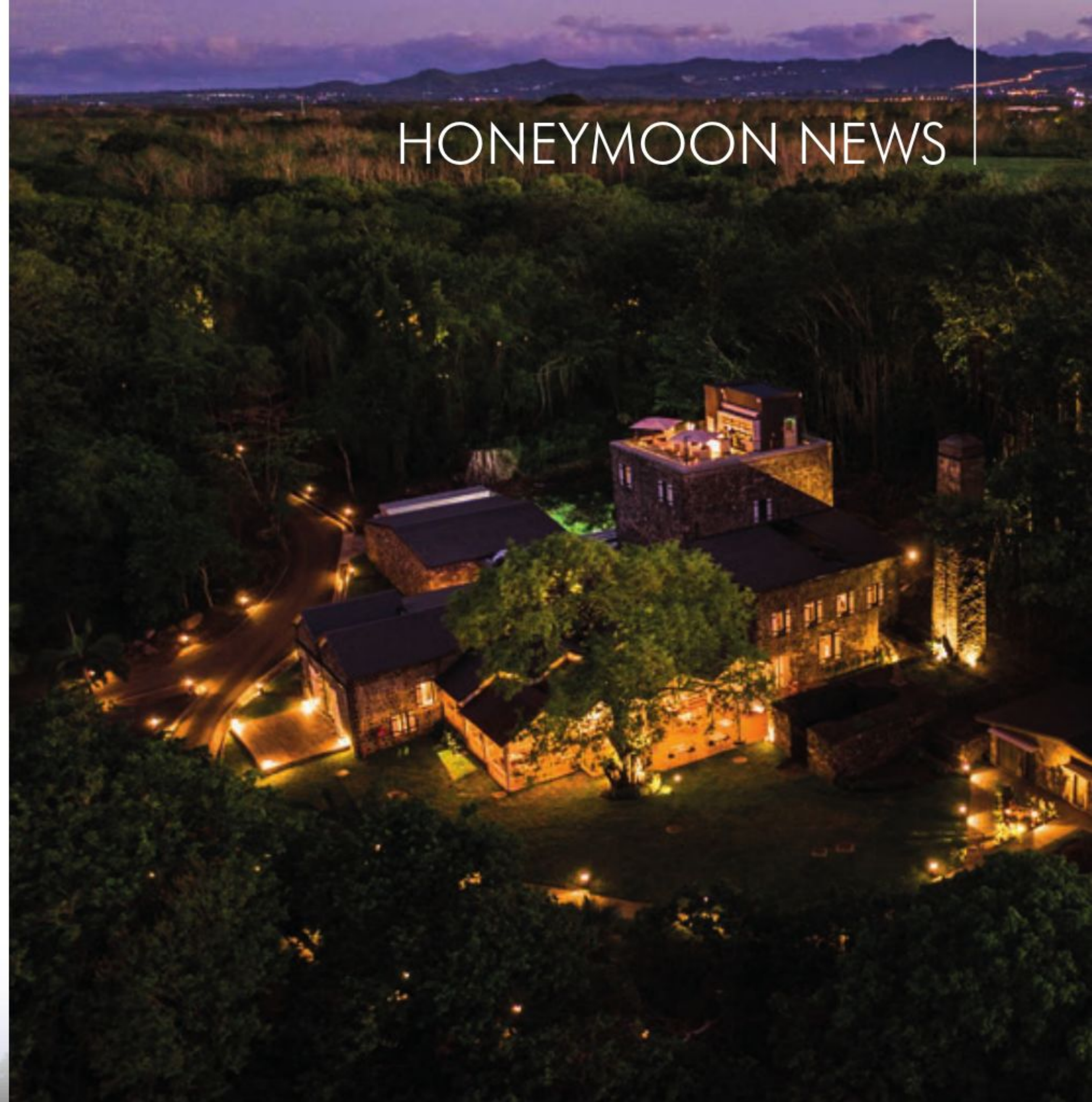
WILD AT HEART

Fairmont Hotels and Resorts Kenya has launched the most incredible eco-moon experience for newlyweds looking for a getaway that offers the chance to give something back. You can get involved with conservation and sustainable initiatives with an exciting three-stop circuit to explore the best of east Africa.

Each retreat has its own charm. Fairmont the Norfolk exudes classic style and is an oasis in the city. Fairmont Mount Kenya Safari Club, the former home of Hollywood actor William Holden, retains all of its silver-screen allure with pretty cottages and suites. The luxurious tented camp retreat, Fairmont Mara Safari Club, features four-poster beds, en suite facilities and private decks overlooking the hippo-filled Mara River.

Fairmont has added special experiences to allow guests to support the environment, local communities and endangered species. Couples can adopt an elephant, eat produce grown on land that was gifted to local women, plant trees and purchase mementos from locals to boost the economy, as well as enjoy luxurious accommodation and incredible safaris. Check out www.fairmont.com

HONEYMOON NEWS



MAGICAL MAURITIUS

Maritim Resort & Spa Mauritius is set to relaunch in December 2020 with 60 additional rooms, new restaurants, bars and pools. "This isn't simply a revamp," Mark Spivey, director of international sales at Maritim Hotels tells us. "This is a completely new product. Our well-loved five-star resort is having a complete face lift along with new rooms and facilities to ensure we continue to offer a premium experience for our guests."

One of the hotel's new restaurants has already opened. Anno 1743 is a brasserie-style restaurant tucked inside a national monument, the Ruins of Balaclava. Inside, couples will find the Distillery Bar, which has the largest collection of rum on the island – the perfect place to ease yourselves into married life! Check out www.maritim.com

TREAT YOURSELF TO THESE TRAVEL PICKS...



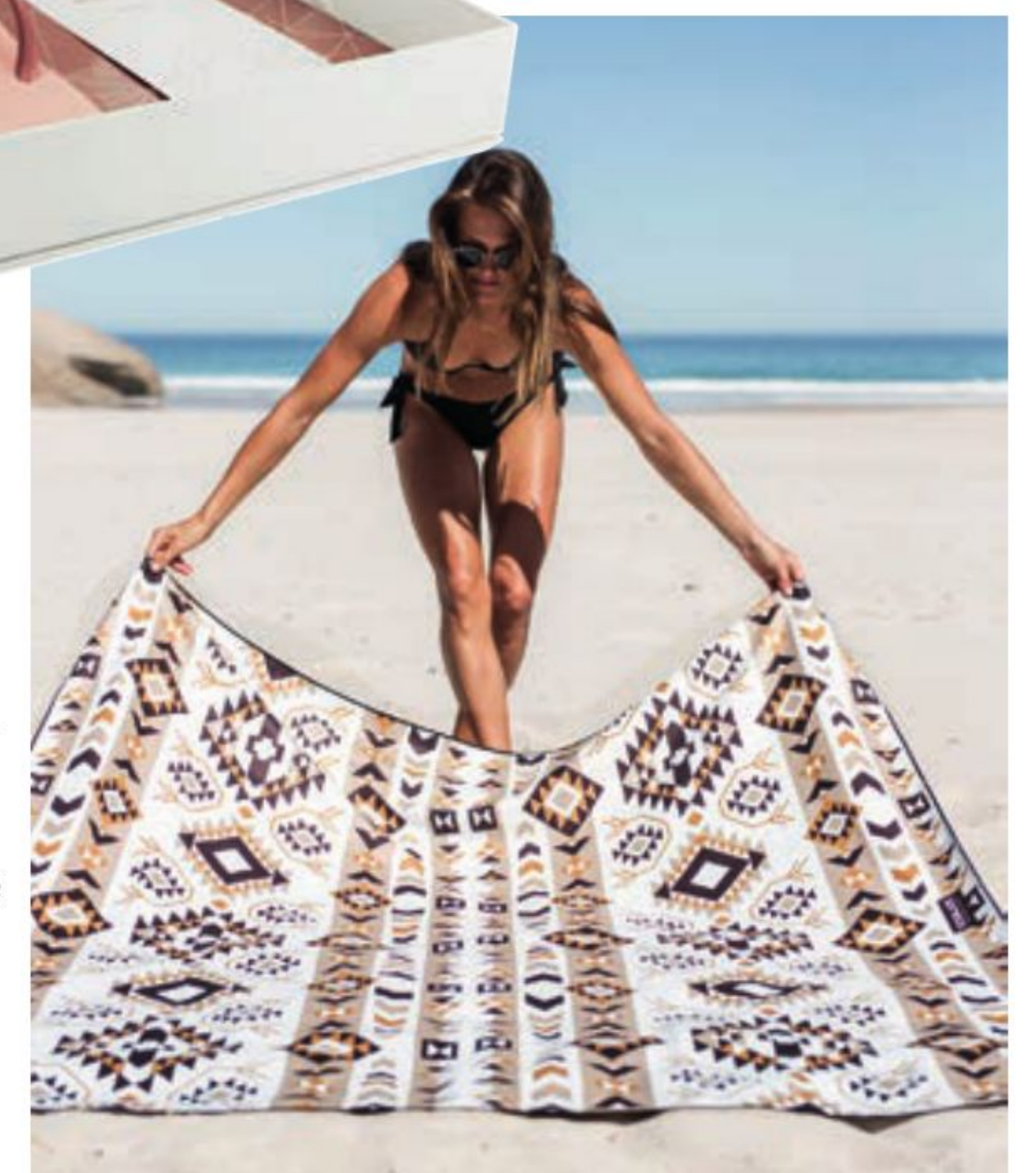
This versatile vegan backpack is the ideal hand luggage size. Made from recycled plastic bottles, it's totally eco-friendly. Find it at www.ucon-acrobatics.com

As much as I like to think I'm a grown up, I still love Barbie pink! This suitcase from www.americantourister.co.uk caught my eye.



Update your flip flop game with these fab options from www.havaianas-store.com. The Glam Box also includes four Swarovski charms for a little added bling.

This incredible beach towel is going to revolutionise your sunbathing! It's super-lightweight, dries really quickly and the clever engineering allows sand to slip off easily – so you leave the beach at the beach! Get it at www.tesalate.com



WIN!

A LUXURIOUS MINIMOON TO ALCÚDIA, MALLORCA

Enter now for your chance to win the ultimate minimoon at Zafiro Palace Alcúdia, with Zafiro Hotels

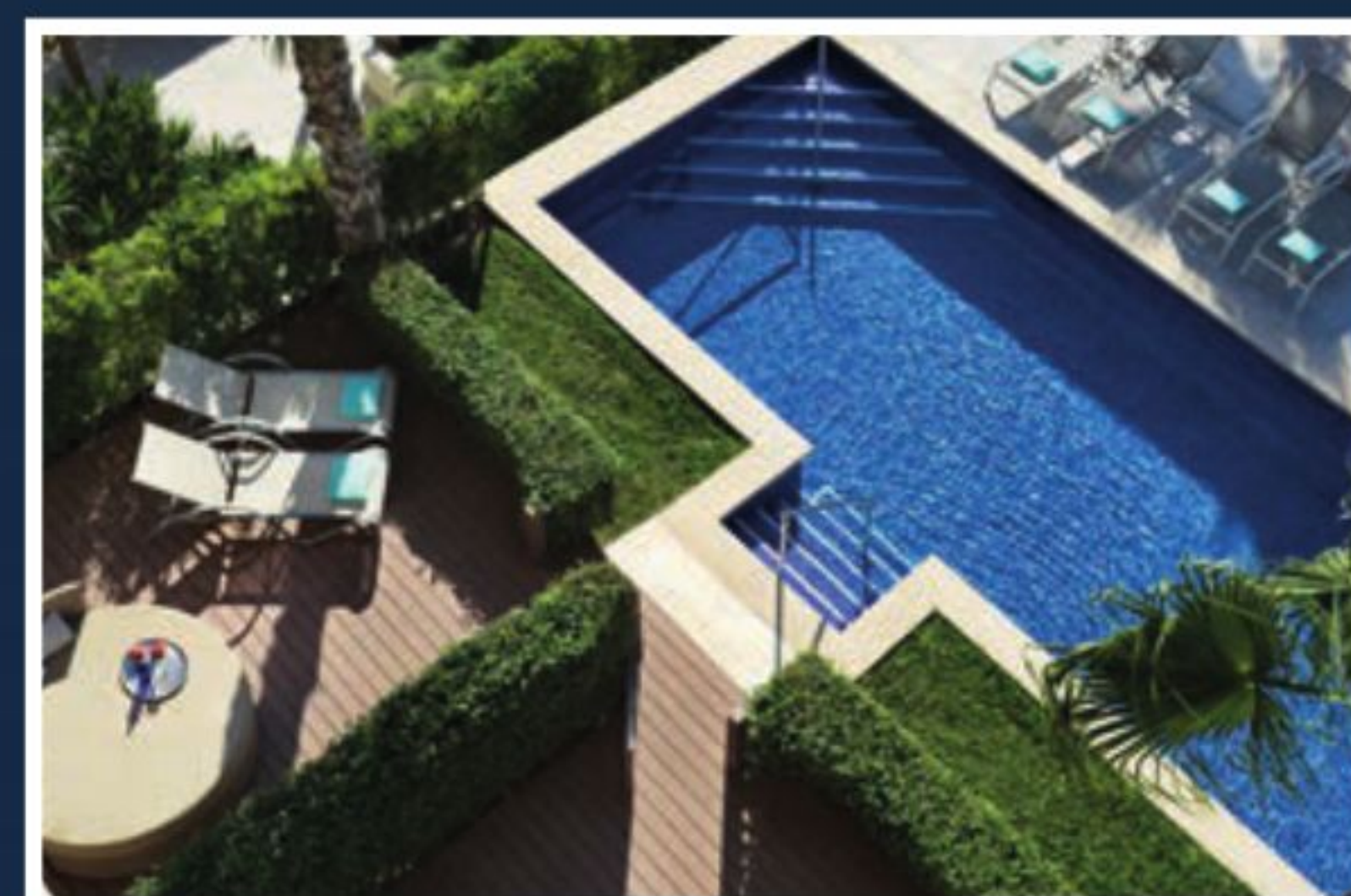
County Wedding Magazines has partnered with Zafiro Hotels to offer readers the chance to win a four-night minimoon at the five-star hotel Zafiro Palace Alcúdia. Situated on the authentic side of Mallorca, near to the medieval town of Alcúdia, Zafiro Palace Alcúdia balances luxury with mood-boosting experiences – all just steps away from the island's longest beach and its glamorous marina. The resort offers a selection of impressive suites to choose from, including the ground-floor Swim Up Suites, with private gardens and direct pool access.

Gourmet dining lies at the heart of

Zafiro Palace Alcúdia. Guests will be given the opportunity to experience five delectable themed restaurants, with a wide offering from local Spanish cuisine to further afield in the Mediterranean as well as Asian specialities.

The Zen Spa & Wellness Centre allows visitors to find inner bliss with a selection of luxury massage cabins, a sauna and two spacious swimming pools. The property also boasts a sensational kaleidoscope of pools – including an adults-only chill-out pool – along with excellent cycling facilities, a multi-sport court, high-tech fitness centre, volleyball pitches, aqua gym and putting green.

WORTH £2,500



THE PRIZE

- ♥ A four-night stay for two people sharing a Swim Up Suite at Zafiro Palace Alcúdia
- ♥ Full-board dining in the resort's five restaurants (breakfast, lunch and dinner included each day)
- ♥ Access to the hotel's Zen Spa & Wellness Centre
- ♥ Premium WiFi throughout the hotel

HOW TO ENTER

Simply answer the following question...

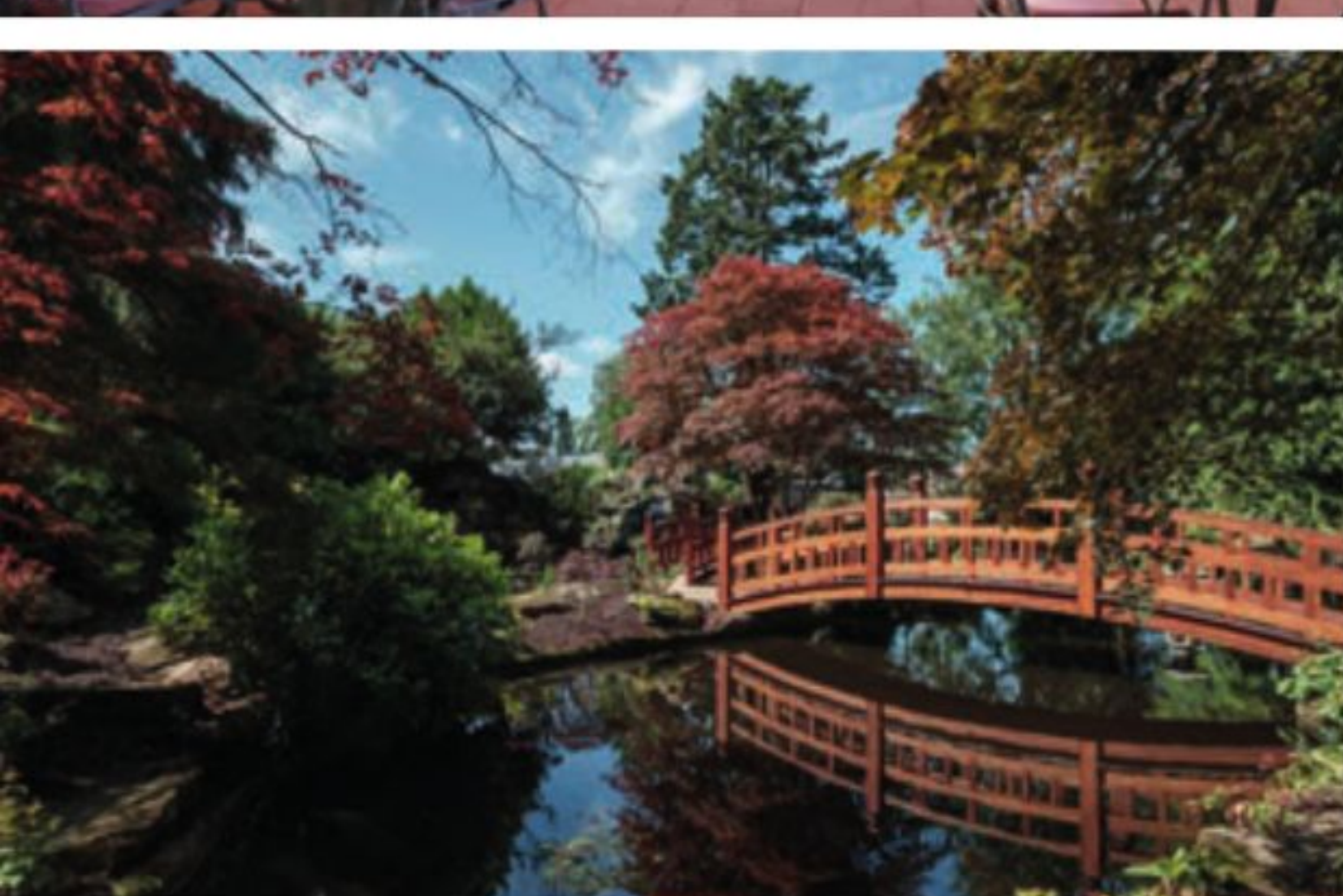
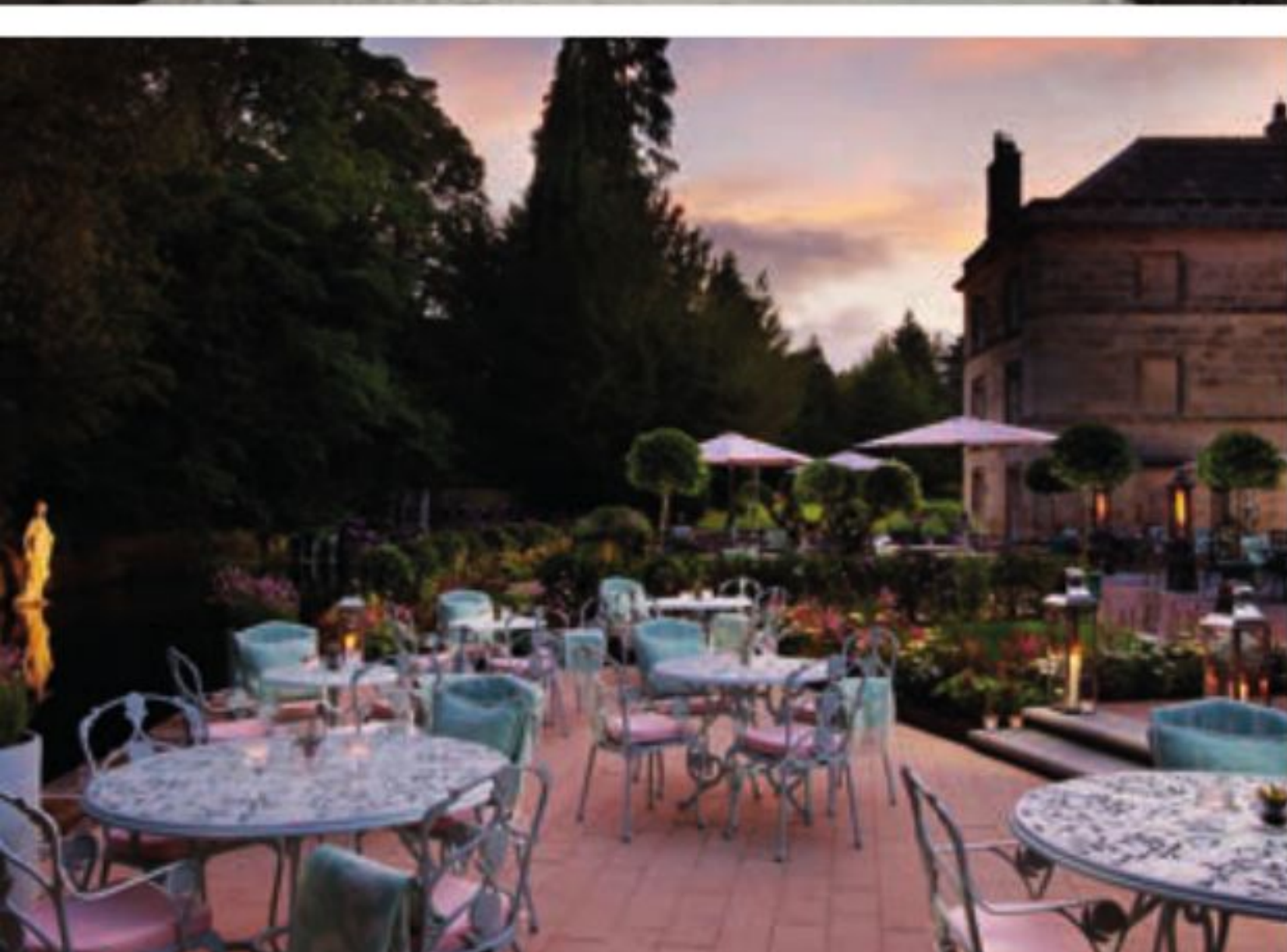
On which Balearic Island will you find Zafiro Palace Alcúdia?

Enter online at yourlondon.wedding

The closing date is 7th August, 2020. The prize can be claimed upon request based on the hotel's availability by November 2021. Terms and conditions apply. Please see our website for details.



Yorkshire's finest



EXPLORE

If you can drag yourself away from the luscious surroundings, there are plenty of things to do nearby to make the most of your stay...

- ♥ *History.* Go back in time at Fountains Abbey.
- ♥ *Town.* Explore the elegant spa town of Harrogate.
- ♥ *Nature.* Get outdoors and marvel at National Trust Brimham Rocks.

Hannah Faulder finds out why the north's most lavish new hotel opening is the perfect spot to spend time with your loved one

Passing through the ornate gates and heading down the sweeping driveway, the Grade II* listed Grantley Hall appears in front of you in all its historic glory. Nestled in the idyllic countryside, the hotel and wedding venue's grounds boast a kitchen garden and an English Heritage-listed Japanese garden.

Step inside, and you'll find this stately manor has been transformed into Yorkshire's most lavish and talked-about hotel. With 47 exquisite rooms and suites, the tranquil Three Graces Spa and four incredible restaurants all in an enchanting setting, it's hard to imagine a more romantic retreat.

STAY

My sister, Laura, and I stayed in a suite in the Fountains Wing Atrium, a fabulous semi-open-air space complete with olive trees. The walk there from the reception took in some breathtaking interiors, from a showstopping contemporary chandelier and Roman-style statues to a fabulous lounge decked out in jewel-coloured décor and a cosy wine cellar complete with seating.

We were blown away by the attention to detail in our room – everything had been designed to make our stay just that bit more perfect. I've seen a pillow menu before, but a robe menu? I must admit we got quite excited about the light settings, which gave the perfect ambience for the day, evening and nighttime.

Returning to the room before bed, we were treated to a wonderful turndown service including mood lighting and classical music filling the room – the perfect bedtime ritual.

UNWIND

Laura and I are avid spa fans, so visiting the hotel's Three Graces Spa was a must. Named after Zeus' three daughters, the space evokes a Roman feel with its vaulted ceiling and

stone pillars. Appealing to the most discerning wellness-focused guests, it's a haven of serenity.

We made full use of the pool, steam room and outdoor hot tub (which included a bracing shuffle across the terrace on a cold January day). We also braved the snow room, although it turned out to be totally invigorating standing in a freezing room in your swimmers. Lunch in the spa lounge was a nutritious smoothie and bulgur wheat salad. Don't worry – there was cake too!

There's an extensive range of beauty and holistic treatments available and residents can also make use of the daily yoga sessions. In short, you cannot help but feel the weight lifting from your shoulders while you're here. How perfect would that be as a post-vow break to give you time to reflect on the most important day of your life?

EAT

There are four restaurants here encompassing everything from traditional fine dining at Shaun Rankin at Grantley Hall to modern Pan-Asian at EightyEight. We dined in Fletchers Restaurant. A wonderfully cosy space, it offers for a warm, welcoming feel. Picture dark wood-panelled walls, rich furnishings, velvet-bound menus and soft lighting. The staff were attentive, but not fussy, even checking whether I was right or left handed before placing my wine glass down. We had an incredible three-course meal including a delicious mousse starter with pickled vegetables and truffle and a deliciously fresh salad made from local produce. The star of the show was the chocolate and hazelnut rocher; it was so decadent it could only be topped off with gold leaf!

For more information, and to book your stay, visit www.grantleyhall.co.uk



PARADISE ON OUR DOORSTEP

Kelly Andrews discovers the minimoon delights of Hampshire

The more real wedding features I have the pleasure of writing, the more couples I encounter who tell me their first port of call post-wedding is to take some much-needed R&R, not in some far-flung exotic location, but here in beautiful Britain. The rise of the domestic minimoon isn't at all surprising when you consider how much this country has to offer from heritage to culture, and everything in between. After all, there's a reason we welcomed more than 29 million overseas visitors to the UK in 2019 alone. One of the most delightful and characterful regions of our stunning sceptred isle is the New Forest, thanks in no small part to the gorgeous ponies. Despite staring down 40 I still found spotting them while out and about on our travels to be great fun!

Situated in the heart of the New Forest, Balmer Lawn Hotel & Spa cuts quite an impressive figure as it comes into view on the approach to Brockenhurst. Built in the mid-1800s as a hunting lodge, it's played a part in some of history's most dramatic chapters, such as being commandeered as an army hospital in WWI. It was here, at this classic country hotel, where we'd rest our heads for the next two nights.

I'm always like a kid in a sweet shop when I set foot into a hotel room for the first time, and being told that I'd be treated to a luxury balcony room, my excitement levels were already off the charts. The front-facing balcony, complete with garden furniture and its own (artificial) lawn was a real highlight. One that I was determined to make the most of despite it being mid-February, chilly, and pouring with rain. I was also immediately in love with the super king bed, so vast and

luxurious I was barely aware of my mum's presence way over on the other side of it! Balmer Lawn has a brilliant online booking system, whereby you can see pictures of each and every room before you book. Being the ultra-nosey person that I am, you can bet your bottom dollar I took them up on that! It's well worth checking out this feature to ensure your room has everything your heart desires, whether it's just the two of you, or if you're joined by your family or fur-baby.

The hotel offers a fabulous dining experience. I was particularly swept away by the seven-course chef's tasting menu, every bite of which was beyond delicious. Dishes included an artichoke velouté, Creedy Carver duck breast, and salted caramel fondant. With appetites well and truly satisfied, it was off to the comfortable bar and lounge for an espresso martini night cap, before reclining in front of Netflix back in our room.

MINIMOON AT BALMER LAWN FOR £530

- ♥ 1 night in a luxury room including breakfast
- ♥ Access to Leisure facilities – pool, gym, sauna and jacuzzi
- ♥ 7-Course tasting menu for two in the Beresfords Restaurant
- ♥ Bottle of bubbly and chocolates in your room
- ♥ Afternoon tea for two
- ♥ Bespoke couples' massage

The package can also be booked for a couples' retreat, birthday surprise, or a proposal. An extra night can be booked for £220 and payment is due in full at time of booking.

HAMPSHIRE'S HIGHLIGHTS

Exploring the New Forest, and indeed Hampshire as a whole, will no doubt be top of your agenda. Balmer Lawn is ideally situated, barely a stone's throw from Brockenhurst and Lyndhurst, as well as within easy reach of the whole county's attractions. Check out my highlights...

Bombay Sapphire Gin Distillery 01256 890 909 | www.distillery.bombaysapphire.com

Whether you're a gin expert or novice, you're sure to enjoy a day out here. With a variety of experiences on offer whether you want to be guided or left to your own devices, it's a fascinating visit. Crucially the experiences culminate in a cocktail, based on your own aroma preferences. We had so much fun.

It's also worth popping into the Whitchurch Silk Mill on your way back through the town.

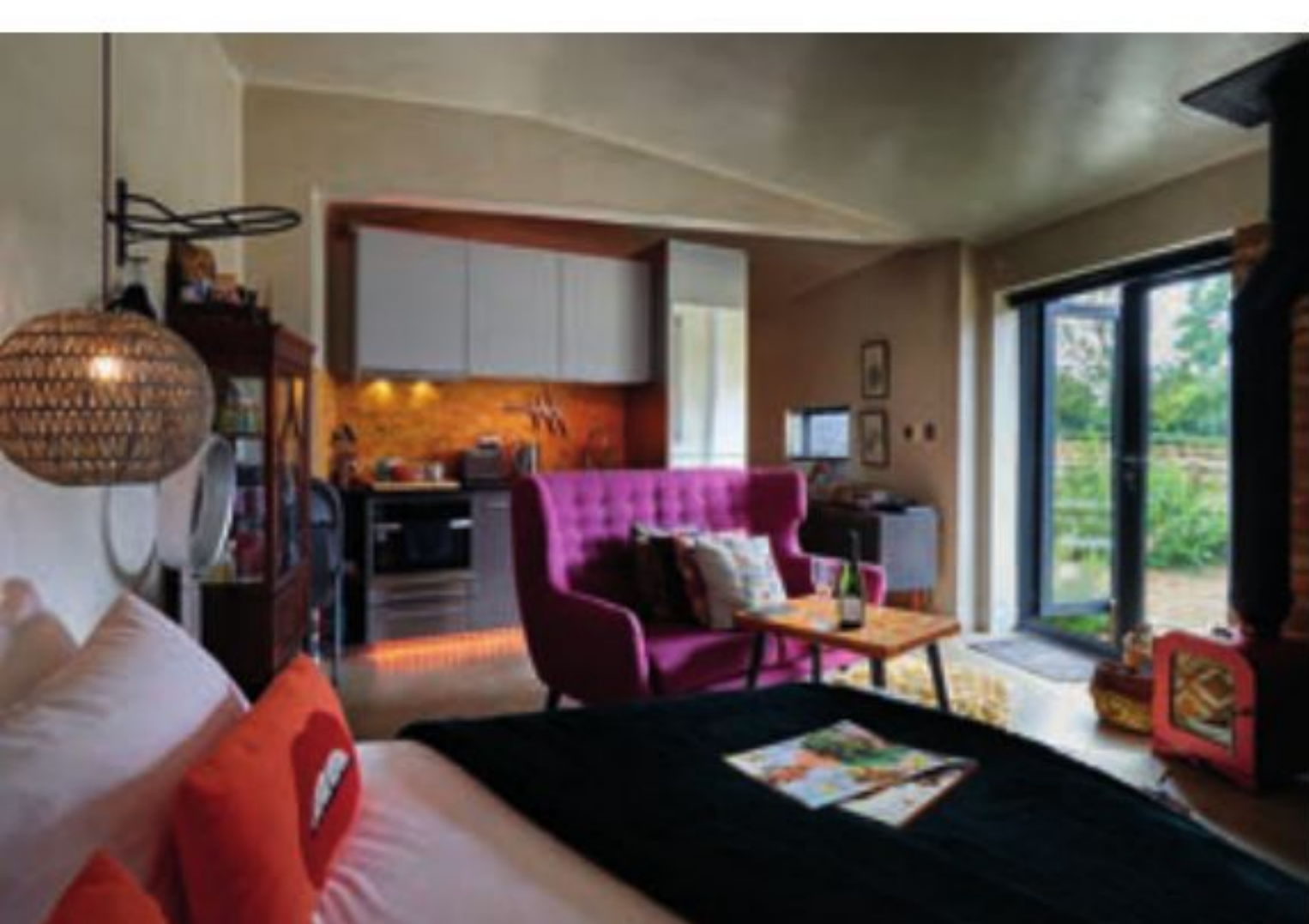
Burley Village www.burleynewforest.co.uk

The New Forest is bursting with traditional idyllic villages and Burley offers everything you'd expect. Witches, smuggling and dragons are all part of its character - a history which certainly hasn't escaped the local shops. What's more, if you're lucky you'll find ponies roaming freely as Burley is one of the few remaining villages still to practice the old tradition of commoming, allowing them to graze on the open forest. Burley is a wonderful place to while away some pleasant hours wandering around quirky shops and stopping for a bite to eat.



ESCAPE TO THE *country*

Cosy up with your partner and your four-legged friend at Bethnal&Bec – the ultimate hideaway in the Hertfordshire countryside



After the emotional rollercoaster that is planning a wedding, a relaxing minimoon is just what the doctor ordered. With so many couples now bringing their dogs to their nuptials, why not continue this trend and take your fur baby away with you too? Bethnal&Bec welcomes your pet with open arms to its luxury self-catering retreats.

Found in the idyllic village of Cottered in Hertfordshire, the two stable blocks have been reimagined into self-contained romantic boltholes, each with its own garden overlooking a wildflower-filled meadow.

A COSY RETREAT

I can't tell you how excited I was to take my little dog, Twig, on her first holiday at the grand age of 14. My husband, Cal, and I packed our luggage and the dog into the car and arrived at the retreat with plenty of time to enjoy our stay. Our retreat, Bethnal, was brimming with character – think Insta-worthy features, vibrant colours and quirky styling. I adored the freestanding bath right by the window so you can look out across the surrounding countryside, while Cal was taken with the record player and vast collection of records. We were treated to the Just Married Package, which adds that extra bit of indulgence for newlyweds with chilled champagne, balloons and super-cute décor touches to set the scene.

The modern styling and five-star luxuries are incredible, especially as this used to be a rural farm building. We could flick through Netflix on the TV, turn up the under-floor heating in the February chill, create the perfect atmosphere

with iPad-controlled Google Nest lighting and luxuriate in the vast his-and-hers rainforest showers with Aromatherapy Associates products. Twig was treated too, with organic dog treats, snuggly blankets, and even paw-secco – bringing a whole new meaning to the term 'pampered pooch'.

ROOM SERVICE

In the room, we found a fully stocked pantry including fresh ingredients for a full English breakfast. We couldn't wait until the morning, so we cooked it up for dinner. There were plenty of other yummy options; you could treat yourself to pizza, curry, burgers, or if you're feeling extra fancy, a personal chef can be arranged so you don't have to lift a finger.

Dinner was followed by a glass of bubbly in our hot tub, and we didn't see another soul all evening. This was exactly what we wanted – the space to reconnect and actively do nothing.

TIME TO EXPLORE

Heading out may be the last thing on your mind, but it will most definitely be on your dog's mind. After a few little whimpers we decided we'd best take Twig for a jaunt around the local area. We found a recommended walk in the retreat's guide and headed out across fields and meadows to find The Jolly Waggoner pub (what a great name!) for a pint. Returning after a wintry walk to the warmth and comfort of Bethnal was wonderful, and having our beloved pet there made it all the more perfect.

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

SHORT

stories

Don't want to spend hours or even days of your precious honeymoon travelling? We hear you! Check out these incredible short-haul destinations...

MONASTERO SANTA ROSA, AMALFI COAST, ITALY

This spectacular former monastery has been transformed into 20 sea-view rooms and suites, which are suspended over a cliff edge. Hidden away on Italy's iconic Amalfi Coast, the hotel is home to the finest spa in the region and a Michelin-starred restaurant. Honeymooners can while away the hours between the incredible heated infinity pool, the stunning landscaped gardens and glorious historic spaces. Visit www.monasterosantarosa.com

DOMAINE DES ETANGS, MASSIGNAC, SOUTH WEST FRANCE

Escape to rural France for a minimoon in a French castle, complete with an on-site art gallery, Michelin-starred restaurant, a floating lakeside tennis court and vintage cars to explore the 2,500-acre private estate. At the heart of the property lies a fully renovated 11th-century chateau, which boasts incredible interior design and numerous pieces of contemporary art from Matisse to Picasso. Foodies will love the bespoke dining options, from woodland picnics to dinner in the wine cellar. Visit www.domainedesetangs.com

KALESMA, ORNOS BAY, MYKONOS

Set to elevate the island to new heights, Kalesma is a new luxury hotel opening in 2020. Kalesma means *inviting* in Greek, a name that is perfectly suited to the boutique property's ethos. The whitewashed collection of houses has been designed to resemble a charming local village, tumbling down a slope to Ornos Bay and the beach.

Newlyweds will enjoy spectacular sea views, a private pool and the services of the hotel's private experience managers to help them discover the island's hidden gems. Visit www.kalesmamykonos.com



SANT FRANCESC, PALMA, MALLORCA

Situated in the heart of the historic city, Sant Francesc offers the perfect base for an exceptional city break. The five-star boutique hotel has been lovingly transformed from a Neoclassical Mallorcan mansion and houses 42 elegant rooms and suites, three restaurants and bars and a fitness and wellbeing centre. Minimooners can discover the romantic cobbled streets of Palma, before relaxing – cocktail-in-hand – on the panoramic rooftop terrace with its glistening pool. Visit www.hotelsantfrancesc.com



ROYAL CHAMPAGNE HOTEL & SPA, FRANCE

One of the world's great wine regions took on a new dimension with the launch of Royal Champagne Hotel & Spa in 2018. Set among the vineyards, the boutique hotel is the destination's first contemporary-designed luxury hotel, which embraces the lush bounty of the wineries and surrounding UNESCO World Heritage Site. Inspired by nature and the cultural heritage of the region, the design favours natural materials and a Champagne theme runs throughout, all creating a feast for the senses. Visit www.royalchampagne.com



HONEYMOON

SIX SENSES, DUORO VALLEY, PORTUGAL

Newlyweds staying here will find delicious local cuisine, high-spec interiors and an outstanding spa in the heart of Portugal's wine region.

For the ultimate in romance, you can book the Vineyard Garden Suite, the highlight of which is an expansive terrace with a hot tub, day bed and dining area with spectacular views. You can even curate your own mini bar stock ahead of arrival and taste delights from the state-of-the-art wine fridge. Visit www.sixsenses.com



FINCA CORTESIN, ANDALUSIA, SPAIN

This is one of the finest romantic boltholes in Europe. Spanning 532 acres, it comprises an award-winning all-suite hotel, contemporary villas, a championship golf course, outstanding spa and sports facilities, exclusive shopping area and beach club.

Located in one of the most tranquil and sought-after enclaves of the Andalusian coast, it's ideal for a couple's holiday. We love that most of the items found in the suite can be purchased as a memento. Visit www.fincacortesin.com



ALMYRA, CYPRUS

A symbol of cool, contemporary Cyprus, Almyra offers a laid-back and elegant take on Mediterranean luxury after its multi-million-euro refurbishment.

Occupying eight acres of landscaped gardens on Paphos' seafront, couples can book one of the signature seafront villas to hear the gentle lapping of the waves outside. For those who can drag themselves away from their room, there's the tempting adults-only Almyraspa pool. Visit www.almyra.com

SUVRETTA HOUSE, ST. MORITZ, SWITZERLAND

Emerging from the trees of the Upper Engadine Mountains as if from the pages of a fairytale, the impressive turrets and Belle Époque exterior of Suvretta House stand out against the rugged landscape. Known as the Grand Dame of the Mountains, it gives couples the chance to snuggle up in the snow on a romantic alpine break in one of Switzerland's finest hotels. Why not indulge in its wonderful activities from ice-skating under the stars to a champagne carriage ride into the mountains. Visit www.suvrettahouse.ch



THE VICTORIA INN, HOLKHAM ESTATE, NORFOLK

Escape to the north Norfolk coastline and treat yourself to a staycation at The Victoria Inn. Situated in the privately owned 25,000-acre Holkham Estate, it's the quintessential English minimoon spot. Nestled on one of the country's most stunning stretches of coastline, it provides a base for discovering the seaside villages nearby as well as a number of wildlife experiences. Hole up in one of the 20 bedrooms, and enjoy candlelit meals in the beautiful conservatory. Visit www.holkham.co.uk



GLENEAGLES, SCOTLAND

Want something a little more action-packed? The Gleneagles Hotel is the perfect spot to enjoy a range of country pursuits in this glorious playground. Think horse riding, falconry, off-road driving, clay-pigeon shooting and couple's golf. Its new adventure hub, Trail Yard, is ideally placed for outdoor adventures and for getting equipment and advice. Later, you can cosy up by the hotel's roaring log fire before an evening of glamour and fine dining. Visit www.gleneagles.com

NEXT ISSUE

JULY / AUGUST, 2020
ON SALE: 3rd July, 2020

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- 3 course wedding breakfast
- Half bottle wine
- Prosecco for toast
- Ornate reception and wedding breakfast space
- Room set-up including stage, lighting, cake stand
- Overnight 'wedding suite' stay for the happy couple
- Personal wedding coordinator
- Complimentary menu and wine tasting

SOULMATE PACKAGE

£130pp* highlights include:

- Unlimited prosecco for reception (1 hour)
- 3 course wedding breakfast
- Half bottle wine
- Prosecco for toast
- Late night snack - bacon & egg rolls
- Ornate reception and wedding breakfast space
- Room set-up including stage, lighting, cake stand
- Overnight 'wedding suite' stay for the happy couple
- Personal wedding coordinator
- Complimentary menu and wine tasting



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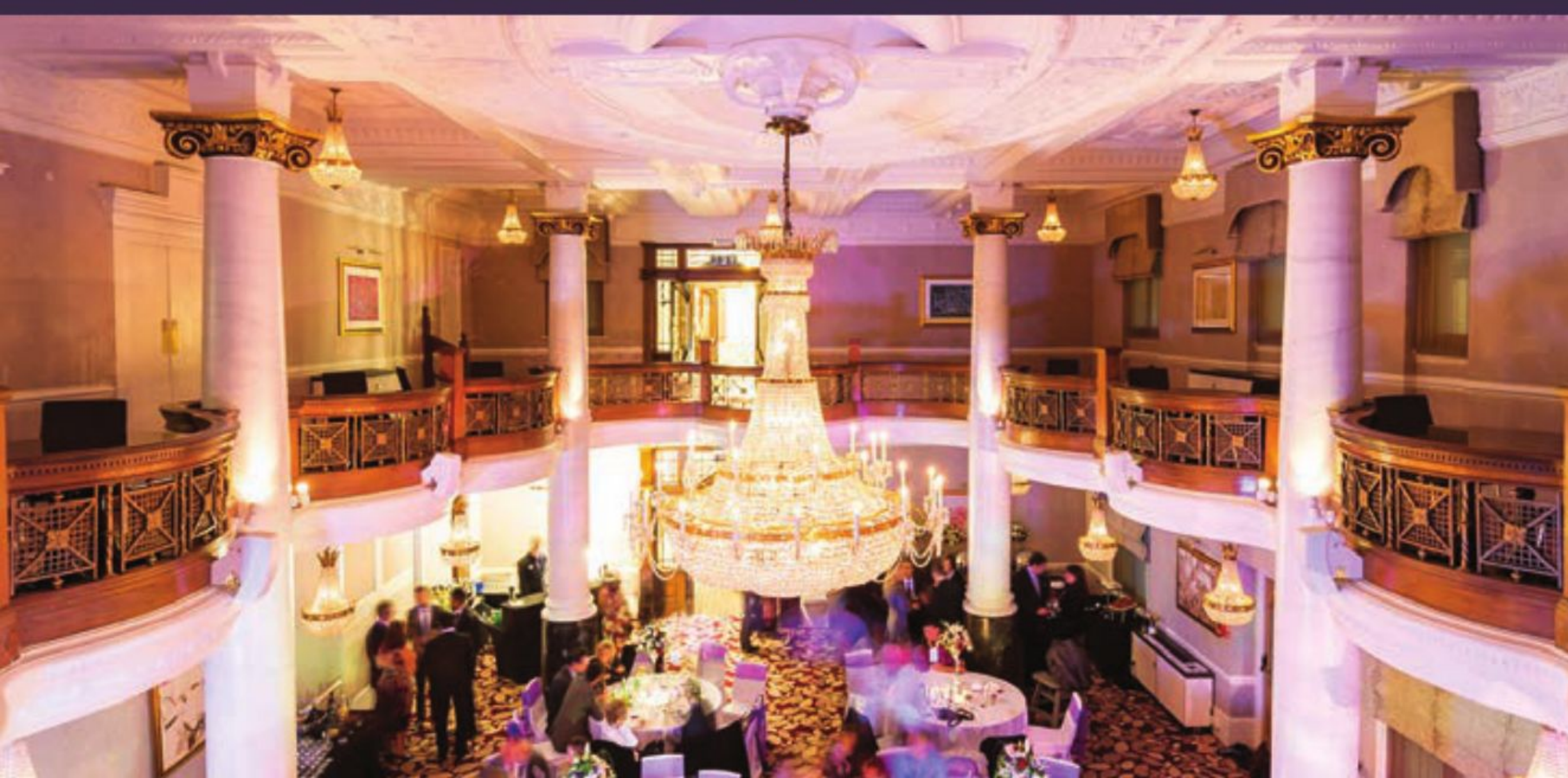
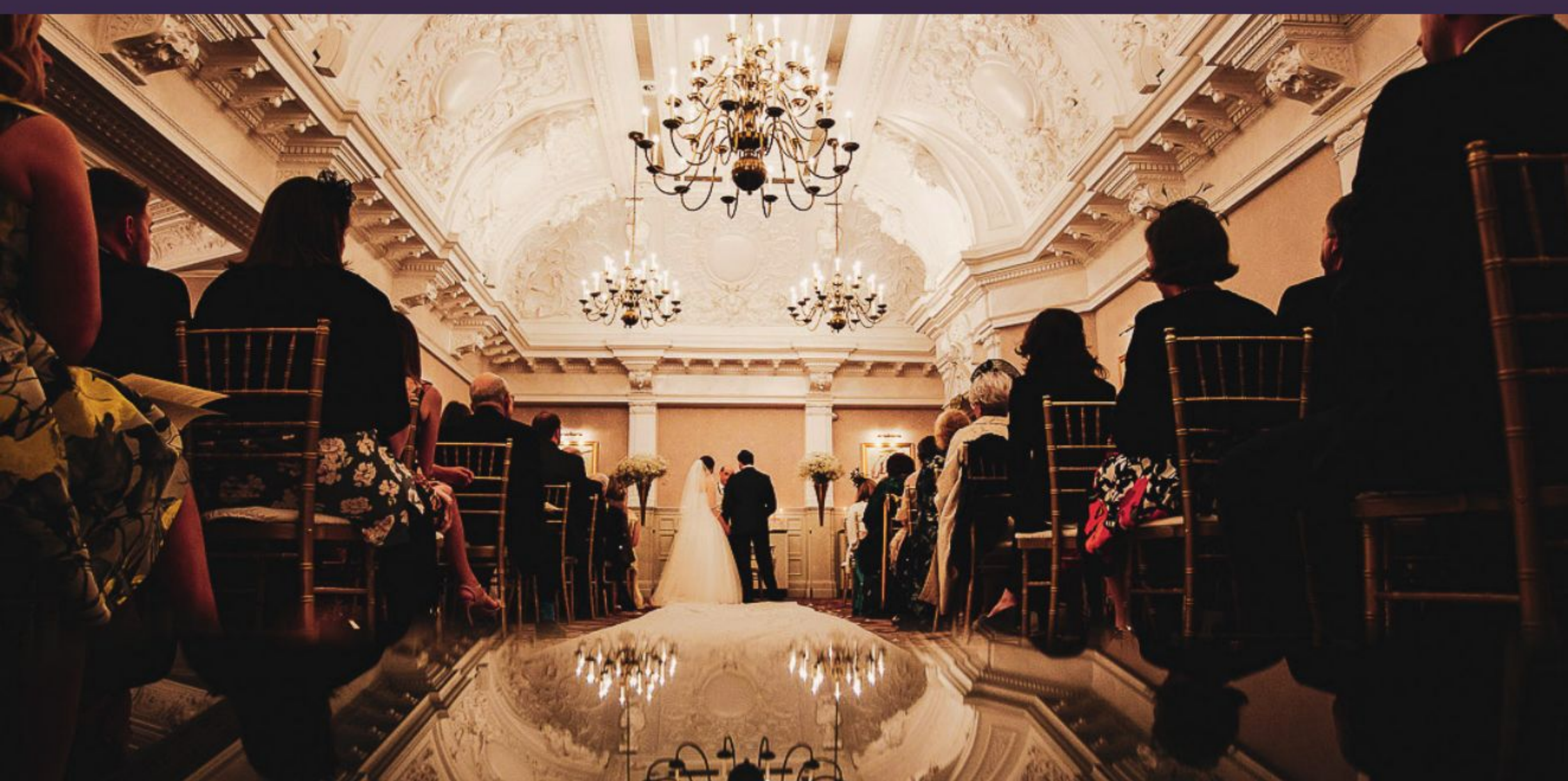
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