

YOUR NO1 GUIDE TO GETTING MARRIED IN KENT

WEDDING *Day*

INCREDIBLE
VENUES

SPRING/SUMMER 2012

INSPIRATIONAL
IDEAS

ROMANTIC
LOOKS

*Charming
themes*



Left Finishing touches in shimmering olive Right Happiness is... Being Fiona Hennessey



A grand Kent manor house and stretch limousine ensured Fiona Hennessey felt like a princess during her marriage to Dave Winney.

When Fiona Hennessey walked elegantly down the red carpet at Eastwell Manor to take her wedding vows she felt like a princess in a real-life fairytale.

Her sleek and contemporary flowing dress with stunning beadwork detailing was made by D'Zage in palest pink polydupion.

Her bouquet, a special gift from a guest, was pink roses with white bouvardia and viburnum foliage.

What few onlookers would have realised, is that just six months earlier she had been in a wheelchair after damaging her spinal column in a fall down some stairs and had undergone months of physiotherapy.

Fiona says: "When we got engaged at Christmas last year I was in a wheelchair and I really did not think I would be able to walk very far. I honestly didn't mind where we got married, but David, whose family live near Deal, is very romantic and had fallen in love with Eastwell Manor. He said he wanted me to be a princess for the day no matter what happened and we both loved the stunning setting."

The night before the wedding, Fiona stayed in the hotel's Northumberland Suite with her sister, Julie. Mandy, David's sister, who played the role of 'best man' stayed overnight in one of the hotel's mews cottages.

On the day of the wedding, David, sporting an orchid buttonhole in his olive green smoking jacket, joined family including Fiona's sons Drew, 20 and Max, 13, to head for the venue in a Hummer H2 16-seater limousine. The limo had plasma screen TVs, a complimentary champagne bar and colour-change optical lighting.

As both Fiona's parents have passed away, she took the arm of family friend John Debenham to walk her to the ceremony, held

THE FINEST FAIRYTALE



LATE-NIGHT CASINO

Feeling a little Monte Carlo... And why not?

in Eastwell Manor's Italianate walled Maids' Garden with its gazebo.

Guests watched, while John and a very nervous Fiona walked over a romantic bridge over a lily pond and down the red carpet to the strains of Someone to Watch Over Me by Patti Austin.

Then Fiona and David, both 40, took their vows in front of 78 guests.

Readings from family and friends were Yes, I'll Marry You My Dear by Pam Ayres and the lyrics from Perhaps Love, by John Denver. Looking back on the day, Fiona says: "We were both a bag of nerves. Sharing the day with our nearest and dearest was most the important thing for us."

She said of their photographer, Darryl Curcher: "He really helped make the day special - he made everyone feel at ease and took an amazing variety of shots of us, our guests and the venue. The whole photo experience through to creating the album was just great."

She added: "It was a really special day with so many lovely moments. The readings made it very personal and the registrars were really good and made it feel very special."

The couple, who will live in west Kent, spent their honeymoon in Jamaica.

And one piece of advice for the big day? Fiona says: "It was a bit of a mistake not having any ushers, you do need them to run about."

THE CAKE

A CHEESE TOWER DECORATED WITH A MOUSE BRIDE AND GROOM BY DAVID'S PARENTS FREDA AND DENNIS

EXTRACT FROM YES, I'LL MARRY YOU MY DEAR

by Pam Ayres

'Yes I'll marry you, my dear,
You may not apprehend it,
But when the tumble-drier goes
It's you that has to mend it,
You have to face the neighbour
Should our labrador attack him,
And if a drunkard fondles me
It's you that has to whack him.'





Left Fiona Hennessy and Dave Winney in a cascade of confetti



THE BOUQUET

PINK ROSES WITH WHITE BOUVARDIA AND VIBURNUM FOLIAGE



EXTRACT FROM PERHAPS LOVE
by John Denver
Perhaps love is like a resting place
A shelter from the storm
It exists to give you comfort
It is there to keep you warm
And in those times of trouble
When you are most alone
The memory of love will bring you home

Eastwell Manor, resplendent inside and out



THE MENU

STARTER: CARAMELISED ONION TART WITH GOAT'S CHEESE AND A PESTO JUS
MAIN: STUFFED LAMB, SEABASS
DESSERT: PASSION FRUIT BRULEE



Eastwell Manor - and the bride stayed in the Northumberland Suite with her sister the night before Below The romantic grounds are perfect for pictures



FINER DETAILS

FIONA AND DAVID'S WEDDING BREAKFAST AT EASTWELL MANOR WAS IN THE WOOD-PANELLED ROSE GARDEN ROOM WITH PALE GREEN AND PINK CEILING DETAIL AND MAGNIFICENT VIEWS OF THE GARDENS

IN FACT, IT WAS THE COLOURS OF THIS CEILING THAT GAVE FIONA AND DAVID THE COLOUR THEME OF THE DAY

AT THE MEAL, GUESTS TUCKED IN TO CARAMELISED ONION TART WITH GOAT'S CHEESE AND A PESTO JUS, STUFFED LAMB, SEABASS AND A PASSION FRUIT BRULEE

TABLE DECORATIONS WERE SIMPLE FISHBOWL VASES DECORATED WITH GRASSES AND FAVOURS WERE SMALL PINK BOXES WITH CHOCOLATES INSIDE

THE COUPLE BOTH ADORE CHEESE AND CHOSE AN UNUSUAL CHEESE TOWER, INSTEAD OF THE TRADITIONAL CAKE. FROM THE NO NAME DELICATESSEN IN DEAL HIGH STREET THE TOWER WAS DECORATED WITH A MOUSE BRIDE AND GROOM BY DAVID'S PARENTS FREDA AND DENNIS WHO LIVE IN WALMER

MUSIC WAS A FRANK SINATRA TRIBUTE BY JACK VALENTINE AND GUESTS SPENT THE LATER PART OF THE EVENING ENJOYING A CASINO IN THE CHAUCER ROOM

THE FACTS

For full list of Kent stockists of D'Zage dresses see www.dzage.co.uk

Eastwell Manor, near Ashford. More details at www.eastwellmanor.co.uk

The cheese tower was by the No Name Delicatessen in Deal, chairbacks were from www.wegotitcovered.co.uk, limo from www.wildstretch.co.uk. Jewellery was from Debenhams and Fiona's tiara was from www.confetti.co.uk. David's jacket was from www.favourbrook.com



THE DRESS

WITH BEAUTIFUL BEADWORK DETAIL
MADE BY: D'ZAGE IN PALEST PINK
POLYDUPION