

Melanie & Daryl Kingwill

05 August 2006

When one visualises red roses, it conjures up images of romance, passion and delicate attention to detail. Add some lavender, and your senses soon turn to hot steamy nights, exotic smells and a strength of commitment. No wonder this was the chosen theme for Mel and Daryl, a perfect cocktail of warmth and love, something that embodied the day and the couple

– Lisa Lait, Maid of Honour.

After nine months of planning, organising and searching for perfection, our wedding day drew near in the coldest week of 2006 in Johannesburg. It had snowed all over the country, a few snowflakes even fell at Oakfield on the morning of our rehearsal, and the bridesmaids had chosen summer dresses! The fireplaces were going to have to work overtime.

But on Saturday the sun shone. There are no words to describe the feeling of walking down the aisle, looking at your groom, and knowing that you are about to commit the rest of your life to this man. You watch his face light up when he looks at you. You are shaking so much that you have to hold onto him tightly. You turn around and see all your friends and family members beaming with happiness for you. Everything slows down as you look deeply into each other's eyes to say your vows. Nothing can be heard but the sound of your hearts beating.

And as soon as we said, "I do," everything speeded up to a frantic pace. Although there is an old saying that a bride never feels the cold, it was chilly, so we greeted our guests inside the Homestead around the massive fireplaces. The venue was beautiful, filled with roses, candles and the scent of lavender. We cut the cake, toasted with French Champagne, and the part began.

After tears and laughter during the speeches, Henk from Blas Music got everyone on to the dance floor, and from 9 until 2 in the morning it was packed. Notwithstanding a short intermission as the bestman streaked across the dance floor, mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, nieces, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends boogied the night away.

I took the advice of others and paused a moment to appreciate it all. It was truly everything I could have asked for and more – the happiest, most magical, wonderful day of my life!

Photographer - WM Studios
 Videographer - DVI
 Florist & Décor - Wild At Heart
 Candelabra - Chelly B
 DJ - Blast Music Specialists
 Cake - Mrs Kingwill

