

Photographs by  
JJ Photography & Hush Photography

# Our 1930's Wedding

**Bronwyn & Brandon Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> Feb 2008:**

Every couple would like to have a wedding that is unique and one that reflects the character of the couple. When, however, you have explored all the options in terms of colour, décor and draping and find that your wedding is still without character it may be time to 'leave the box' and try a theme wedding. This couple were able to enjoy a traditional wedding in a unique atmosphere embodied in the period. Theirs was unlike any other and it did not break the bank.

As we had decided on a 1930's themed wedding, the day's program designed itself, based on traditional wedding proceedings.

*I* always wanted a period-themed wedding, so it was really just a matter of choosing the right era—I settled on the 1930's as no other decade in the 1900's evokes the same old world movie star glamour and romance that was so typical of the art deco, big band jazz era. The elegance and flair of the dresses was also an attraction for me.

This choice meant that the guests could find appropriate attire within their own wardrobes so they could participate without feeling ridiculous. Brandon could also feel at ease in a contemporary suit. The long, elegant, fishtail silhouettes that defined women's evening fashions in the post world war one period would be flattering to my figure.



## Invitations

The old fashioned invitation card format with a black and white photograph of Brandon and myself dressed in 1930's attire on the front and the wedding details on the back. Appropriate dress style detail for the 1930's themed wedding was enclosed separately—our guests were very accommodating, and all dressed up beautifully for the occasion.

## The dress

I suspected that it would not be easy to find the right dressmaker. For first appointment with Arwen

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I brought a sketch of the dress that I had in mind. This consisted of a corset and a silk fishtail skirt in tones of champagne.

The choice of a colour was twofold; firstly, white against a pale skin is not a good combination and secondly I felt that the contrast between a white bridal dress and the groom's dark suit would not be ideal with sepia photos which were an essential part of my period wedding. My veil, lace gloves, pearl and Schwarovski crystal jewelry, stockings and suspenders to match my dress were hand-made by Arwen as were the dresses for my bridesmaids

Arwen's talent brought my vision to reality.

**“Something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue”**

Our 1930's theme allowed us to uphold old traditions. I wore my late paternal grandmothers pearl earrings, my own new pearls and borrowed my mother's string of pearls and wore the perfume Brandon has always bought me, Ralph Lauren's Blue. My bouquet, consist-

ing of cream tea roses strung onto a double string of pearls was made by my florist to match my dress and jewelry.

**The décor**

We kept our décor very simple and elegant with tiny silver baskets of the traditional wedding treats, sugared almonds and miniature bottles of perfume for the ladies and tiny bottles of orange wine for the gents—wrapped in old-fashioned handkerchiefs finished off with a black lace ribbon and a small personalized card.

**The venue**

Our 1930's wedding called for a beautiful, elegant venue, reminiscent of a 1930's country villa —the setting at Oakfield Farm was perfect.

**The music**

A pianist welcomed the guests to the chapel with light jazz music. There is no doubt that musicians can read the atmosphere of the moment in a way that DJ's find difficult. The live 5-piece jazz band maximized the 1930's big-band/jazz era atmosphere.



**The photographs**

Black & white and sepia photographs captured our 1930s theme and will allow us to re-live the atmosphere and essence of the day. We did still want a record of the colours 'real' look of the day and so we used two photographers, one who took more of the 'dated' photos and the other who took a more classic, contemporary approach.

It was fantastic to have different perspectives of the day captured by photographers each with their own style and who will keep our memories alive forever.



- Photographs**  
JJ Photography /  
Hush Photography
- Décor**  
Café Fleur
- Couture**  
Arwen Corsetry
- Rings**  
Studio C
- Soloist**  
Just Sing
- Flowers**  
Tickled Pink