

This bride and groom wanted something really different and changed some of the traditions. The MC with a 'special agenda' of making it really unique stepped in with a surprise that made this wedding like no other. An interview with Melissa and Eddie

Eddie & Melissa Ferreira
April 2009



The 'Survivors'



The Dream

Eddie & I are a very active, fun-loving couple. We are both down to earth and so we wanted a very personal and homely wedding that was informal and chilled. Our priority on our wedding day was not to get hung up on everything being perfect, but rather to enjoy the day as it unfolded. Going overboard with décor and trappings was not important to us. None the less, we wanted a wedding that was significant.

The Destination

We had seen pictures of Oakfield and assumed it was not within our budget, but on our way back from an alternative venue, we decided on a whim to pop in. Oakfield captured our emotions immediately. The staff were extremely helpful and kind. Although slightly out of our budget, but yet affordable, "This was it, this was the perfect setting for one of the most important days of our lives".



The Dress

This I bought a long while before the wedding. It was the first dress I saw and it fitted perfectly. The dress was white, simple, yet elegant and my bouquet of yellow orchids was a perfect complement.

The Day

Our day included having our wedding photographs taken together before the wedding, which gave us a wonderful, personal moment alone together instead of the usual hype that goes with the normal entrance in to the church. Melissa's beauty still brought tears to my eyes when she came down the aisle. Instead



SUPPLIERS
Photographer
 Patrick Furter
Décor & Flowers
 Coral, Blooms on the Boulevard
Minister
 Andrew Christie
Invitations
 Bibi's Crafts
Wedding Cake
 Nadine Blamire
Make Up
 Cindy Dewey
Hair
 Equus Salon
Music
 Marco Dos Santos, Sounds Gr8



of the candle lighting ceremony, we had two glass containers, one of white sand and the other yellow which we mixed together to signify the joining of two unique people into a new entity. Our informal and fun day unfolded just as we had planned—full of surprises. Our opening dance *What a Beautiful Song* by the Parlotones lasted only a minute before being rudely interrupted with a scratch and the music of *Shake It*—it was a real challenge for me to keep in sync with the whole thing subtly choreographed by Melissa! Not for us the traditional bouquet and garter. All our single friends were called up to perform *So, You Think You Can Dance*—Melissa and Eddie style. We have priceless memories of our friends and family doing things that we never thought were possible. The winner of the garter and bouquet was none other than Nuno and Chanel, our very good friends.

Our friends clearly know us well because the biggest surprise was on us. We were asked to leave our own reception. We waited with some trepidation, before being summoned to sit. We were handed *Survivor* lanterns and yellow bandannas (our décor exactly) which were placed 'Rambo-style' on our heads. Who would be crowned 'Survivor'? With the theme music, commentary from Victor and banter from our guests the intimidating tasks



began. Finally the votes were cast—and the loser told to "leave the Tribal area immediately". With tasks such as folding clothing, cutting carrots and cleaning dirty mirrors, guess whose flame was extinguished? It was brilliant fun and something everyone would remember.

The Difference

I have been to 10 weddings, all good friends in a very short time. I feel that weddings are boring, you get married, eat the food, cut the cake, throw the garter and go home! I was invited to be MC at four of these weddings and tried to do something to rectify the situation! I know Eddie and Melissa well and knew they would be OK with the 'Survivor' idea. I set the whole thing up and surprised them in the middle of their wedding. It was not a spur of the moment thing, it had been very well planned and thought out. I had a particular end in mind, and wanted people to interact, unwind and enjoy themselves. I wanted to engage everybody, young and old to make this a unique wedding. —Victor Gomes, MC