

The International Lang

The word 'wed' comes from the Greek word 'to pledge', and no matter what country it takes place in, no matter the culture, this is exactly what every wedding is. Here is an act so beautiful and so pure that no other relationship can compare. Here is an everlasting joy that springs from the well of a true love, and the blessings of a lasting marriage.

Gazing into the eyes of our soul mate, we touch the precious love that orchestrates universes, ignites our imagination and breathes life into our hearts. In the language of love, a mere glance speaks a thousand words. And, in answer to the Creator of the Universe who ordained marriage before time began, then irrespective of culture, race or traditions, lovers will feel compelled to express their desire to be faithful, loving and true to their soul mate forever.

This union, so individually unique and yet inextricably a part of each other, transcends our differences and unites us in our humanity. With every marriage we witness, we all feel unified and blessed in some way.

"Love really does make the world go round."

At Oakfield Farm, we have been privileged to host weddings from cultures around the world. Apart from a fascinating window into different cultures, the challenge of incorporating cultural wedding traditions that respect and bring honour to both families, has been a great privilege.

Over the years, we have at Oakfield learned an enormous amount about the various customs and cultures and it has given us great pleasure to be creative in the use of our facilities to celebrate your uniqueness and honour your traditions. We encourage you to incorporate the richness of your traditions and culture to make your wedding 'who you are.' Give full reign to expressing your heritage, so that your wedding and indeed your marriage will be enriched beyond your expectations.



"For love burns like a blazing fire, like a mighty flame. Many waters cannot quench love, rivers cannot wash it away."
Songs of Solomon 8: 6

In all cultures, marriage is sealed with a kiss. From ancient times to the modern day, from the jungles to the skyscrapers, the wedding brings together two people, two families, two tribes and even two nations in answer to the most basic of pledges in an act so sublime that it tugs on our heartstrings until the call is answered.

Usage of Love

I LOVE YOU around the globe:

“Love really does make the world go round.”

English	I love you
Spanish	Te amo
French	Je t'aime
German	Ich liebe dich
Japanese	Ai shite imasu
Italian	Ti amo
Chinese	Wo ai ni
Swedish	Jag alskar
Portuguese	Eu te amo



Adrian & Joanne

27 December 2009

Joanne & Adrian are 2G SABC's—that stands for 2nd Generation South African Born Chinese, which, in most cases, means that they are more South African than Chinese.

As typical SABC's, Joanne and I knew of each other's existence for many years—mainly due to the local Chinese community's tightly-knit and conservative social structures where everybody knows everybody. Needless to say, love will find a way and after being set up by her cousin (Joanne needed a partner for a company event) on 15 November 2003, something was started that would culminate on a sweltering hot 27 December 2009, at Oakfield Farm.

In today's terms, it was a very long engagement, 18 months, and to be sure I didn't give her much of a choice to say anything but 'Yes!' as I almost literally took the plunge and proposed to her on a mild winter's Youth Day afternoon, 16 June 2008, in the heart of the Oribi Gorge

suspended far above the valley floor. Did I mention it was my birthday? Did I mention she hadn't yet given me a present? Did I mention she didn't have a choice?

Well, the day arrived and witnessed by an overwhelming number of friends and family (350 invited—320 attended) of which a full 50 represented 11 countries. Joanne and I were married in a non-denominational service. However, with each of us having a grandmother aged 94 we felt that it would be appropriate to follow some of our cultural traditions and to that end we performed 'Chum Char' which translates into English to the 'Tea Ceremony'. Starting with our respective matriarch's, we knelt before our new, extended families and offered Chinese Tea to them to celebrate our union.

Almost a year on and happily married—we can still picture all the faces, smiles, hugs, tears, laughter and happiness of that amazing day! Marriage? Highly Recommended!



PHOTOGRAPHER
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