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A Woodland Wedding: A sustainable wedding dress in Northamptonshire

There is something quintessentially British about a **garden wedding**, it's as if a scene straight out of Winston Clarke's Poldark. As summer was coming to an end, the nearest and dearest of Joanne and Michael Curtis came together under the glorious English sunshine as they took their vows in Lyveden New Bield.

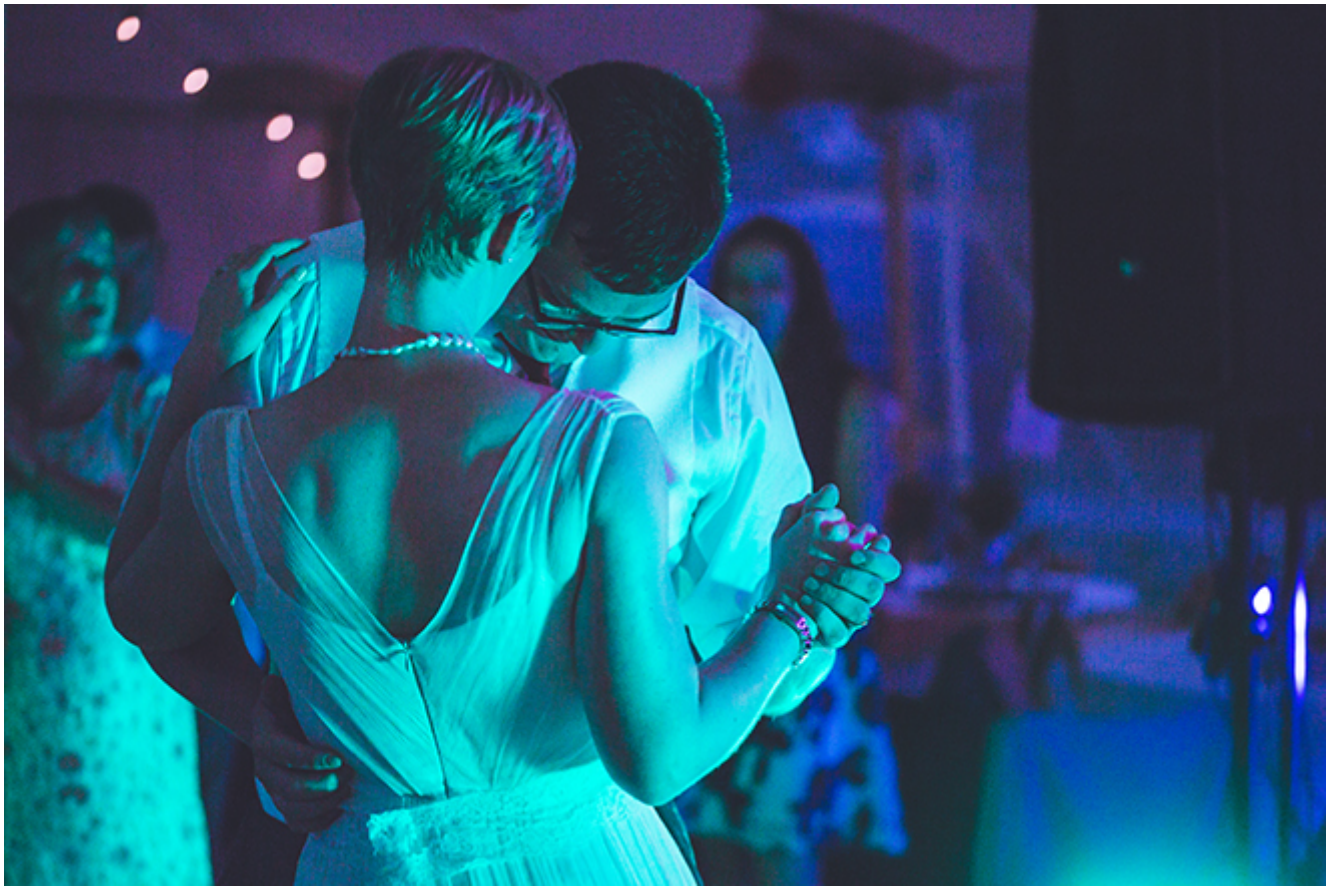
After a **snowy proposal** in the majestic woods of Switzerland, Joanne had her heart set on a **ethical wedding dress**. Already a fan of **fairtrade fashion**, she was delighted to become a **Sanyukta Shrestha bride** after finding us online. Planning a relaxed **outdoors wedding** in the **countryside**, Joanne knew she wanted a **dress** she could relax and have fun in

In her **semi-bespoke gown**, Joanne wore **Neha,** a **sleeveless wedding dress,** perfect for her **September wedding** and ideally matched with her **Orva sash** for a touch of elegance.

“When he saw me in my dress on the day, my husband said he didn’t know that you could get a wedding dress like that, and that it was perfect! I loved the dress style because it was elegant and floaty, but also comfortable and easy to wear – I was able to walk across the fields and dance a ceilidh in it”.

JOANNA
Curtis

MICHAEL
Curtis



WHERE DID YOU MEET

At University

THE PROPOSAL

In snowy woods in Switzerland.

MOST MAGICAL MOMENT

All of it! There was a moment half way through the day, when after the meal and speeches, me and my husband went for a wander to take stock of it all. We were coming back to the marquee and could hear the sound of the ceilidh band floating across the field and could see all our guests relaxed and happy – that was magical.

THE DRESS

I knew that I wanted a fair trade or eco-friendly wedding dress. We went to Sanyukta's shop in Fulham and she and her team were very helpful, letting me try on several dresses. I chose the one that I felt great in!

FAIRTRADE

Yes I was aware. What is wonderful about Sanyukta's wedding dresses is that not only are they eco-friendly and fairly made, but the fabrics are absolutely beautiful and of such high quality. My dress was in a bamboo silk with a floaty silk upper layer. It was very soft and felt great to wear.

YOUR ADVICE FOR OTHER BRIDES

Don't be afraid to try something on which you might not automatically go for – things can look and feel completely different when you put them on and what suits you best might be something you hadn't thought about before.

SOMETHING OLD, SOMETHING NEW, SOMETHING BORROWED & SOMETHING BLUE

My wedding dress was new, I borrowed my mother-in-law's love-heart pearl necklace, and for the civil ceremony (which we did two days beforehand at the registry office because our venue was not licensed) I wore the blue flowery dress which my mother got married in.

CREDITS

Dress: Sanyukta Shrestha

Photographers: Kae Angus (http://www.kaeangus.com) and Emily Munster (http://www.hpsentertainment.com/wedding-packages)

Shoes: Cecilia Quinn (http://www.ceciliaquinn.co.uk/)

Bridesmaids Dresses: Maids to Measure (https://www.maidstomeasure.com/)

Flowers: Penny Corell (https://www.pennyblooms.co.uk/about-penny/)

Entertainment: Valeria Kurbatova (http://valeriakurbatova.com/) (harpist), Gypsy Rogues (https://www.alivenetwork.com/bandpage.asp?bandname=Gypsy%20Rogues) (ceilidh band) & Swing Groove (https://www.bandsforhire.net/jazz-swing-bands/item/7-swing-groove) (jazz band)

Cake: Bun Einchcomb

Marquee: Papakata (https://www.papakata.co.uk/)