



MOBILE CONES
Nicola made cones from photocopies of fabric and filled them with flower confetti (below)



Escape to the country

The English countryside was a blissful setting for Nicola and Clive's festivities

The couple
Nicola & Clive

Nicola Jessop, 29,
travel editor, and Clive
Sanders, 29, sports
marketing manager

21 June 2008
Church wedding
at All Saints,
Little Bradley,
Suffolk

In the beginning
Nicola and Clive met at school but didn't start going out until seven years later, in 2002. Clive proposed in May 2006 at Gun Hill in Norfolk – "one of our favourite places" – with a rather public display of affection. "He wrote, 'Will you marry me?' in the sand, then dragged me down to the beach to see it," says Nicola. The couple married two summers later, in a beautiful, tiny church: "It was truly perfect."

The outfits
Nicola wore a gorgeous Vera Wang dress. "I practically danced out of the changing room! I tried on lots

of other dresses, long and short, but it was so special – elegant and classic, yet still very individual." Nicola and her mum then customised a two-layer veil to create a "really short and full" veil, which Nicola wore with two blush roses in her hair. The men wore traditional morning suits with dove grey waistcoats. Delicate lace dresses for the bridesmaids were found in Whistles.

Barn dance
Nicola and Clive flirted with the idea of having their reception in the middle of a field, but then they discovered the Garden Barn, which >



NAME GAME
Using Cox & Cox stamps and Liberty ribbon, Nicola and her groom created pretty place settings (top left)



Nicola's dream team

Photography Kerry Morgan (kerrymorgan.com)

Venue The Garden Barn (01440 783261)

Catering Two Game Birds (01728 628600)

Bride's dress Vera Wang at The Wedding Shop, Selfridges (selfridges.com)

Bride's shoes Christian Louboutin at Browns Brides (brownsfashion.com)

Groom's suit Moss Bros (mossbros.co.uk)

Groom's tie TM Lewin (tmlewin.co.uk)

Bridesmaids' dresses Whistles (whistles.co.uk)

Flowers The Flower Boutique (01223 891740)

Bunting material Country House Antique Textiles (countryhouseantiquetextiles.co.uk)

Transport Champagne Classics (01263 515408)

DJ Piers at Sliding Vinyl (020 7978 6408)

let them "build their perfect wedding from scratch". The couple wanted the flavour of a real English country wedding ("like something out of a Thomas Hardy novel"), with table flowers that looked as if they'd just been picked. Before the day, Nicola's mum made the 92m of bunting that was strung all around the barn.

Petal power

A bridal bouquet of pink and cream peonies with white sweet peas and ivy was made by Leenje Van den Eede at The Flower Boutique in Linton ("She and her husband were married by the same vicar as us"). Roses, delphiniums, peonies, stocks, daisies and "lots of frothy greenery" were in abundance at the church and reception, while the best men put their muscles to use stringing four floral 'chandeliers' from the barn roof.

Great taste

Cute canapes kept guests going during the drinks reception, with pear and dolcelatte crostini, heart-shaped scones and strawberries, and sausages with mustard proving popular. Next came a spit roast of organic lamb, with salads and breads. "We didn't have a traditional cake," says Nicola, "as we wanted to avoid things we don't like about weddings, and the cake-cutting moment was one of them." Instead, they had heart-shaped chocolate cakes topped with vanilla icing, fruit and cream.

Melting moment

Nicola's most vivid memory of the day? Walking into the church. "It was overwhelming to see all our friends and family. I was the most scared I've ever been before I went in, but once I was standing next to Clive, my nerves just melted away."

WORDS BY AIMEE THORNHILL. SEE STOCKIST'S PAGE FOR DETAILS