



Gerry Askew and David Wilson were married last August at Horton Grange Country House Hotel. As well as being a fantastic day, it was also a milestone for their wedding planner Dawn Marie – the 450th wedding she had arranged in 16 years as a leading wedding consultant

First met: We'd known each other since our teens but lost touch until a chance meeting at the train station. Dave asked me out to catch up hoping it was a date. The rest, as they say, is history

The proposal: This was extremely romantic. Dave went down on one knee on the decking in the back garden. He told me, "The surroundings are not the main thing, it is the moment that counts",

The dress: I sourced the stunning two-tone green and purple material myself and had the dress handmade to my own design - the result was beautiful.

He wore: a handmade suit by a tailor recommended by wedding consultant, Dawn Marie. The lining of the jacket, the tie and the handkerchief were all made from the same material as the bride's dress ensuring everything matched perfectly.

Special touches: Breaking with tradition, the bride and groom stayed at Horton Grange together the night before the wedding and walked down the aisle together. However they got ready separately as Dave hadn't seen the dress and Gerry wanted that to be a surprise. The couple met stationery designer Papillon at the Elite Wedding Fair. They wanted something personal that reflected their sense of humour and loved the idea of using baby photographs of themselves "Especially as we were such attractive babies!"



The ceremony: The music for the ceremony needed to be quirky to match the couple's sense of humour. The final choice for the bride and groom entering the room together was 'It Must Be Love' by Madness, and after the ceremony, they walked back down the aisle to 'Another One Bites The Dust' by Queen!

These were both suggested by Dawn Marie. 'The couple had a great sense of humour and both these songs were just right for them! As long as the music is fitting to being married, there is no reason why you can't add a bit of fun into the ceremony and Gerry and David loved the songs as soon as I suggested them'.

Bride and Groom wedding gifts: As the bride and groom had lived together for some time, they didn't have a gift list. Their guests however, still surprised them on the day and they received some lovely presents.

Honeymoon: Was a fantastic five star hotel in Cyprus. The hotel upgraded the couple on arrival to a fantastic room with semi-private pool.

Photography: Gordon Mackinnon
The best bit: "Gerry saying 'yes' during the ceremony", laughs David, "Overall it was a fantastic day and if I got the chance I would do it all again tomorrow – obviously if Gerry was my bride again! The team at Horton Grange, especially Alistair, could not do enough to make the day perfect for ourselves and our guests. The food and venue were superb and all the effort with the arrangements beforehand made the whole day easy and very relaxed. We met Dawn Marie at one of her Elite Wedding Fairs at Horton Grange. We had never contemplated using a wedding consultant but after talking to her and understanding what she could do to assist in the preparations we are very pleased that we had her on board. We already had a clear idea of how we wanted our day to go. Dawn Marie was a great help in refining and polishing those ideas with suggestions and advice making the perfect wedding for us. Dawn Marie's expertise and knowledge of people and services in the area was priceless."