## CELEBRATE IN STYLE

## MATAMAMA RSA

As we discovered, there's a host of exceptionally talented wedding professionals in Matamata. We took the RSA restaurant and set it up to showcase just what can be achieved in terms of styling a venue when you have the right team behind you.

As a member of the local RSA, I thought the setup was just idea for weddings ... bar, catering, lots of space, a dance floor, and plenty of parking! There's even a Council owned park right across the road which is perfect for outdoor ceremonies and photography! There's a lovely outdoor area for guests who still smoke which is under cover.

The RSA restaurant is available for group bookings and functions, and caters for anywhere between 20 and 100 people. They're happy to time your event to suit, whether that's breakfast, lunch or dinner!

If you aren't a member, just chat to Tricia and her very capable team. They'll sort you out!

First on our list of suppliers to source was a photographer. At the time, Steve May of Pretty in White came highly recommended ... and his photographs prove his worth! Sadly for NZ based brides and grooms, Steve has just made the decision to move back to Canada where he and his brother will be working together as One 2 One Photography. Steve was born in Canada, raised in the UK, came to New Zealand in 2005 and stayed!

Steve believes there is a huge difference between taking a photo and capturing a moment, and he has a knack of waiting for a moment and capturing it discreetly. Since 1994, Steve has shot over 1,000 weddings and says: "I still can't believe I do this for a living; it never seems like work to me."

Next we looked for a stylist who could supply props. and found Penny Sievewright of Wild Child Weddings, a Matamata based event hire and styling business that gives creative control back to you, the customer.

Wild Child provides unique pieces and dreamy décor to have your wedding, your way. Using décor from their collections, we used traditional and rustic inspiration to create these two contrasting looks for our shoot. Penny was a delight to work with - it was an excellent experience collaborating and having a vision brought to life.

Flowers were next on our list and it wasn't hard to go past the talents of Deborah Nowell, the owner of Forget Me Not Florist, an established studio of more than 30 years. Having been at the helm for the past eleven years, Deborah has a knack for listening. She understands that each bride has their own style and look they are wanting to achieve for their special day ... and her specialty is to offer just that! Each bouquet is made with love and care, with every effort made to source and supply quality product at very reasonable pricing

In our hunt for stationery, we stumbled across Nicola White Designs, a Matamata based graphic



design business offering affordable yet high quality wedding stationery to customers locally and around New Zealand.

Nicola provides custom wedding stationery as either a final printed product or "print your own". She works closely with her clients to create unique wedding invitations, RSVP Cards, Information Cards, Menus, Table Name Cards, Place Name Cards, and even guest memorabilia items.

For our shoot, she used a simple rustic approach to the pieces created to fit in with the other collaborating business in order to have a cohesive look.

Since no wedding is complete without a wedding cake, we turned to Kim Mackintosh of Kimmies Cakes. Kim tells us that she has been reative all her life, discovering the world of cake decorating seven years ago.

She says that working on a wedding cake takes one on an exciting journey. From meeting a bride and groom and getting to hear about the dreams they have for their perfect wedding, to designing and making the finished cake. "I do my best to create something unique and personal to each individual couple. It's important that it captures their relationship together and the vision they see for their big day."

As you can see, within hours of merely discussing a shoot in Matamata, we had managed to pull together some great ideas and fabulous talent. As a group, we're now working on promoting weddings and other functions in the region. Watch this space for more in future ... but, in the meantime, head on over to the Weddings & Events Matamata Facebook page - make contact, say hi and ask any questions you may have!

## CREDITS:

Concept: Weddings & Events Matamata, https://www.facebook.com/weddings.events.matamata

Venue: Matamata RSA, https://matamatarsa.co.nz

Photographer: www.prettyinwhite.co.nz / www.one2onephotography.ca Props, Décor & Styling: Wild Child Weddings, www.wildchildweddings.co.nz

Flowers: Forget Me Not, Matamata, www.forgetmenot-florist.co.nz Stationary: Nicola White Designs, www.nicolawhitedesigns.co.nz

Cake: Kimmies Cakes, www.facebook.com/kimmiescakes







































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