

Astra

Bride of the Month



WHO: *Katherine Heaphy*
married Simon Pink

WHEN: 1st May 2009

IN THE BEGINNING: Simon and I were in Dubai at the end of a 2 month holiday through the middle east. It was our 6 year anniversary and we had been exploring the city during the day and had got back to the hotel for a swim in the roof top pool. I had put my towel on the chair, turned around and there was Simon down on one knee. He said "Would you be stupid enough to spend the rest of your life with me, will you marry me?" And of course, I said yes. We have lived together and travelled together and wake up each morning smiling at each other, so he was definitely the one for me. We celebrated with dinner and a couple of cocktails. Then we searched the gold markets for the perfect engagement ring.



THE DAY: We wanted the day to be relaxed, friendly and happy. We really wanted everyone to enjoy themselves. We chose Willow Glen as our location for both the ceremony and the reception. My most memorable moment was turning the corner and seeing my husband to be at the end of the aisle with a huge smile on his face.

THE VENUE: We got married in the gardens at Willow Glen. They were established by Eon Scarrow a long time ago and are beautiful. We had photos around the garden and then our reception was inside the restaurant. We danced the night away to a band called Hombre. They were great, learnt our first dance perfectly and played a great range of music through out the night that kept everyone dancing. All the food was beautiful. Willow Glen looked after us all the way – Vicki even picked up our cake so I didn't realize it hadn't arrived!

THE CELEBRANT:

We used Keith King, from Willow Glen, and he was great, our ceremony was really beautiful and his relaxed attitude suited us.

GOWN: I wore a Maggie Sottero gown from the Sottero and Midgely couture collection. It was the first dress I tried on, it had to be sent up from the Wellington store. I still tried on about 7 others but knew it was the



one. I had seen it on the Astra Bridal website and thought that is it, then when I tried it on I knew it was the one. My mum had a slight tear in her eye as well. My bridesmaids agreed it was definitely me.

The style was very flattering and the silver metallic taffeta was such a stunning colour and the detail showed up so beautifully on the fabric. The fact that it wasn't white appealed to me as it would be such a surprise to everyone. And on the day and night it sparkles in the photos :)

My gown is getting dry-cleaned and preserved in a box for me to keep.

MY LOOK: We went to Hairline for our hair, Debbie did a fantastic job, I had my hair swept off my face softly and taken back into a curly up do.

Sonia Van Deursen did our make up and nails. She was great; she set up at mum's place, where we were getting ready, so we had a relaxing stress free morning taking turns getting our make up done and chilling in the sun.



FLOWERS: I chose Wedding Flowers by Karen. I was so pleased with my flowers, I wanted simple bouquets. My bouquet had schwartzwaldler calla lilies (dark burgundy/black), something special roses (very light purple) with diamanté pins in the centre and white acanthus. The bridesmaids had the lilies and roses. The colours worked really well together and with my silver dress and the bridesmaids "stone" colour.

BRIDESMAID DRESSES: Robyn Lee Bridal made the bride maids dresses. They were a simple satin A line strapless dress in "stone" with chiffon rouching around the middle. The dresses were stunning and really looked great on all the girls Robyn did a great job.

THE PHOTOGRAPHER: We used Nicola Inglis. She was great and we are so happy with the photos, the hard part is trying to decide which ones to print out!

THE CAKE: We had a 3 tier cake with chocolate mud, carrot and white chocolate mud from the Cheese cake shop. The decoration was simple with ribbon and cord around each tier and a couple of shwartzwalder calla lilies on the top.

THE GUYS: All the suits came from Dress Circle Suit Hire in auckland. They wore the 'Cavalier' suit and Simon wore a white shirt and the groomsmen wore black, and they all wore the 'Zambesi' waistcoat with gun metal grey ties. They all looked great and matched the bridesmaids perfectly.



DIY SECTION AND BUDGET TIPS: I made the bridesmaids and my own necklaces and earrings. It was actually quite easy and fun and saved a bit of money, and they made a special gift. We also borrowed some of our favourite cars (Holdens) which also saved us a bit of money. My lovely brothers cleaned and put the ribbons on the cars for us. I designed and made all the invitations myself and for the favours I made heart shaped chocolates and the little boxes to put them in.

RECOMMEND: It was a tough decision if we should get a videographer or not. We only confirmed about a month before the wedding! But we were so pleased that we did. The DVD is great and you get to see the little moments that you miss or forget about. And it is great to send to friends overseas that missed the day. I would recommend squeezing a videographer into your budget.

DO OVER: I wouldn't change a thing from the day - nothing! Everything turned out how I had imagined and all the details came together nicely. It was a bit nerve racking leading up to the day - the weather is a bit unpredictable that time of year and the weather forecast changed everyday. We were luckily, it and ended up being a nice sunny day for us. My advice to other brides is to relax and enjoy the day. It is so easy to get caught up in worrying if everything is going to work out. And make sure you take a private moment with your husband to reflect on the fact that you just got married.



Katherine's dream team

Photographer: Nicola Inglis www.nicolainglis.com

Brides Dress: Maggie Sottoro www.maggiesottoro.com
– from Astra Bridal

Brides Shoes: Benjamin Walk www.benjaminwalk.com
– from Astra Bridal

Brides Veil: Dreamtime Designs www.allveils.com
– from Astra Bridal

Brides Hair: Hairline www.hairline.co.nz

Brides makeup: Sonia Van Deursen (07) 858 3258

Bridesmaid gowns: Robyn-Lee Bridal (07) 8493914

Grooms Suit: Dress Circle Suit Hire www.dresscircle.co.nz

Cake: The Cheesecake shop www.thecheesecakeshop.co.nz

Flowers: Wedding Flowers by Karen
www.weddingflowersbykaren.co.nz

Videographer: Concept video www.conceptvideo.co.nz

Venue: Willowglen www.willowglen.co.nz

Rings: Auckland ring company
www.aucklandringcompany.co.nz

Music: Hombre www.allmusicacademy.co.nz/hombre.htm



nicola inglis
PHOTOGRAPHY