

Astra

Featured Bride



Nella Stowers – Winner of our 2010 Win your Wedding Dress competition!

Wellington based Nella was ecstatic when she found out about her win. Nella said it was a surreal feeling because she had never won anything before. Nella loved every minute of the consultation to find the gown and describes the experience as a happy and unforgettable one that she shared with her mother and bridesmaids.



Bride: Nella Stowers
Groom: Talia Belford
Wedding: 11 December 2010

Background to the wedding: We wanted a cocktail reception so that we could mingle and dance with our guests. It was a success. We had an outdoor ceremony in the soundshell at Wellington Botanical Gardens. Our cocktail reception was held at the Old Museum – in the Tea Gardens room.

Why was your groom "the one"? He is a devoted and loving partner. Talia is very patient and has been a wonderful loving father. I admire him because he has passion for life and he always encourages me to try new things and to take risks.

What was the feeling you wanted for your wedding day? LOVE, MARRIAGE, FAMILY AND LAUGHTER!



On the day: What was your most memorable moment: The whole day was memorable, from the ceremony to the reception. When my father asked me to sing a song with the band I was shocked at first and also hesitant. But in the end I calmed my nerves and just got on with it. The response from the crowd was wonderful but when my husband got up to sing he sung the roof off the place.

What would you change if you did it again? Can't think of anything.

What would you give as advice or recommend to other brides? Plan well and don't leave things until the last minute! As a bride-to-be I have found this journey very unique in that I have encountered the different stages of planning the wedding to be a special journey that I've been lucky enough to share with my partner. My fiancé was quite the closet 'Groomzilla'..... heehee! However I am very proud of how he really took an interest in preparing for our special day. He was the one with the excel spreadsheets, the receipt book, the clearfile with the breakdown of minute-by-minute itinerary for the day itself. I on the other hand have been able to work alongside him and we both managed to get things done smartly.





All about the gown: My gown was perfect. It was what I dreamed of and I was comfortable wearing it.

Who chose it for you: Lisa Durr, from Astra Bridal Wellington, helped me choose the dress style. Both my mother and I loved it.

When did you try on the gown: I saw the style of gown back in July, but I didn't try an actual gown until mine arrived! It was a little nerve wracking but Lisa did a fabulous job of reassuring me it was perfect for my body – and she was right. I was so happy with the end result.

What made it special for you: I loved the pretty beading on it and the way it gathered in the middle to give shape and elegance to the person wearing it. I wanted my accessories to really complement my gown. Astra helped me select the flower headpiece and veil that were a great match for the gown.

What are you going to do with it now? Hopefully some day my daughter Teilah will wear it on her special day. It is nicely boxed and will be kept for my children.





Providers:

Gown: Astra Bridal Christina Rossi 914

Bridesmaid Dresses: Grey metallic cocktail dresses made by my Aunt Melania Hoffman

Mens Suits: Grey Calabro Suits from Sydney Australia

Hair: Cheri Hoffman, Trudy Matulino and Kelly Antipas

Makeup: Cheri Hoffman

Flowers: Bride – Flowers on High (Lower Hutt),
Bridesmaids and Flower girls – Flower bouquets made by myself

Location: Ceremony - Soundshell, Wellington Botanical Gardens

Reception: Tea Gardens, Old Museum Massey Campus

Catering: In House Catering

Entertainment: Joosy Fruit Band

Stationery: Wedo Photography and Design

Photography: Wedo Photography and Design I'd like to say a big thank you to Aneta and Jason Naylor from WEDO Photography and Design. They are a dynamic couple who had captured exquisite moments of our day. They were also wonderful to work with. They also designed our Wedding invites. I'd recommend them to anyone planning their wedding

Transport: Holden SERIES II (3) cars

Celebrant: Essendon Tuitupou

