

Fact File

Client	:	Mr & Mrs D Harding
Event	:	Wedding
Attendees	:	150
Venue	:	Thornbury Castle, Thornbury, South Gloucestershire

The Brief

We were approached by Darren Harding in January 2013 to organise his wedding. The couple had this vision of being married in a local castle yet having a blessing in a church as well.

Our Response

After researching and suggesting several venues, it was decided that Thornbury Castle would be ideal especially as St Mary's Church was close by.

Having taken over the Castle for exclusive use, we arranged for Darren and Gemma to have their wedding service in the Castle itself, celebrated with Champagne for family and close friends followed by a blessing at St Mary's Church for the rest of the guests.



As Thornbury Castle was not large enough to accommodate all the guests for a wedding breakfast, we decided to build a 12m x 36m Marquee with Chinese hat entrance in the grounds where we put in lighting to show off the fantastic feature trees around the lawn. Outside toilets, tables, chairs, casual seating etc had to be hired in due to the large number of guests.

As the kitchens in the Castle were not large enough to handle the amount of guests, we had to bring in a catering marquee along with a full kitchen which was adjoined to the marquee.

Once the blessing had taken place, the guests were welcomed within the reception area by the bride and groom, where there were large settees, poset tables and a huge dressed bar. The guests were served "Dizzy Goose" cocktails and canapés whilst listening to the live music of a pianist with a fantastic mellow voice. The theme for the wedding was a host of different vodkas and all the tables were named after a particular brand.

Whilst within the reception area, the reveal curtain was taken away and there were gasps of amazement when the guests saw the stunning flower vases sat on illuminated bases, the smell of the lilies filling the air, beautifully dressed tables and a gorgeous white starcloth with large stage area set up for the band.



The wedding breakfast was served, and Thornbury Castle chefs and staff worked their magic with a fantastic meal complemented by excellent waiting staff.

Following the speeches, everyone relaxed and enjoyed dancing to a live band and DJ. At the end of the evening, a group of guests enjoyed port and cheese sat by the fire in the Castle library before retiring to one of the grand four poster bed chambers.

Testimonial

“My wife and I would like to express our appreciation for all your hard work you and your company have done making our wedding breakfast so fantastic. When we engaged your company back in March 2013 we had no idea what the final outcome would be and all we can say is that it reached all our expectations and more.

You were able to take away the stress and planning which normally is so stressful and we have been able to enjoy seeing everything coming together over the last few months.

The marquee and theming was beyond our expectations and I have been told by so many people who attended our wedding that it was the best wedding they have ever been to so Gemma and I would like to thank you so much for making our day so special.

Please would you pass on our thanks to the staff at Thornbury Castle for their professionalism and service that they showed from the few days before up to the morning after the wedding we could not have wished for better service and they all made us feel so special even down to the staff knowing our names. The Castle made it so special, every princess wants to be married in a Castle and you made it happen.

Your final choice of venue and theme for the marquee was so outstanding I would not hesitate to recommend you and your company to any potential customers being an individual or company.

On a personal note, I would like to thank you for your professional services keeping us within budget and the kindness shown to us both over the last 9 months”.