



# Vintage glamour

Gillian Mitchell and Gordon Farmer celebrated their marriage with a weekend of fun and lots of personal touches at Crieff Hydro

Words by Emma Langman  
Photography by Rich Pictures

**Whisking her away** on a surprise trip to visit family in Canada, Gordon Farmer then proposed to Gillian Mitchell at Emerald Lake, a place of special significance to Gillian's relatives. "My whole family cherish a photo of my grandparents taken at this spot around 15 years ago, and Gordon chose that exact same place to propose. My beautiful engagement ring has an emerald embedded in the inside of the band," she says.

Back home, the couple focused on the type of celebration they wanted – somewhere they could make a weekend of it and spend time with their nearest and dearest. "I wanted the wedding day to feel relaxed and without the added pressure of having to go round and speak to every guest," explains Gillian. "So having the Friday night to spend with everyone meant Gordon and I had the chance to catch up with our guests properly."

Having enjoyed a friend's wedding at Crieff Hydro the previous year, Gillian already had her venue in mind. The ceremony was held in the hotel's beautiful drawing room with 130 guests, while another 30 joined for the evening party. "The hotel has a fantastic atmosphere and the staff are great – they can't do enough for you. With all our friends and family travelling down for the wedding, it was important to have a selection of accommodation available – the Hydro offers self-catering as well as rooms within the hotel, while Crieff itself is not short of B&Bs," says Gillian.

With the location sorted, Gillian turned to the wedding day theme – a vintage-inspired look using classic pearls to tie the day together. With help from her mum and sister, the overall feel of the day emerged. "Adding your



**Clockwise from above:** Gillian enjoys a moment with her beautiful flowers; a gorgeous shot of the happy couple after the ceremony; the newlywed Mr and Mrs Farmer in the beautiful gardens of Crieff Hydro



“I wanted the wedding day to feel relaxed, so having the Friday night to spend with everyone gave us the chance to catch up with our guests properly.”







own personal touches to the day is so rewarding, and seeing everything together on the day makes all the effort worth while," she says. Pearls were incorporated into Gillian's accessories, the cake, the invitations (by Glasgow-based Wanderlust Cards) and even the candelabras, which were draped with pearls by florist Emma of Coach House Flowers.

The floral arrangements were one of Gillian's favourite parts of the day, incorporating hydrangeas with sweet avalanche, amnesia and spray roses. "I also had a string of pearls entwined throughout and Grandma's heart locket tied to the bouquet with a picture of my dad and Grandad," explains Gillian. Family remained close to the heart of the day, with charity pins for favours donating money to both Friends of ANCHOR Aberdeen and the British Heart Foundation in memory of both Gillian and Gordon's fathers.

After a hearty meal of leek and sweet potato soup followed by roast beef and Yorkshire pudding, and crême brûlée, the guests danced the night away to Corra, a band based in Edinburgh. "This was the second thing I booked for the wedding as I felt it was one of the most

important things about the day. Corra had come recommended by a friend and they were fabulous – very quirky but traditional at the same time," enthuses Gillian.

The day was photographed by Lisa Clelland of Rich Pictures, whom the couple had seen at work at a previous wedding. They couldn't be happier with the results. "One of the most important things was to get along with the photographer, and Lisa is very down to earth. The album was also very important to me as I love photography and it is something that we will cherish for years to come. Lisa has captured all aspects of the day, down to the fine details of the place settings – that was so important, as my mum, sister and I had put so much work into preparing it all. It's nice to have the memory of how it all turned out," she says.

After their big day, the couple celebrated with a safari in Kenya and ten nights in Zanzibar. ■

**Clockwise from below:** Gillian loved her floral arrangements designed by Emma at Coach House Flowers; the bride and groom with some of their nearest and dearest; out in Crieff Hydro's beautiful grounds







**Clockwise from above:** The table settings continued the vintage-inspired theme with candelabras draped in pearls; the pretty cake and flowers; the bride's Monsoon shoes; the beautiful bridesmaids; personal touches made the day

## Slice of the day

### Venue

The ceremony and reception were held at Crieff Hydro. **01764 651670**, [www.crieffhydro.com](http://www.crieffhydro.com)

### Photography

"Lisa from Rich Pictures is fabulous. She worked so hard on the day and didn't leave until 9.30pm! She made sure that the whole day was captured," says Gillian of photographer Lisa Clelland. **07786 077891**, [www.richpictures.co.uk](http://www.richpictures.co.uk)

### Dress

Gillian found her Alfie dress by Pronovias at Aberdeen's Perfect Bridal Rooms. "I knew the style of dress I wanted, but I did try on quite a few different styles...always coming back to the original one! Eventually I settled on two very similar dresses – it was really difficult to choose between them!" **01224 574141**, [www.perfectbridalrooms.com](http://www.perfectbridalrooms.com)

### Groomswear

Gordon and his groomsmen wore weathered McKenzie tartan supplied from Georgian Dress Hire in Aberdeen. **01224 633537**

### Bridesmaids

The Kelsey Rose dresses in mocha were bought from Dressage in Peterhead. "I had already chosen the tartan and the dress colour matched it perfectly," Gillian explains. **01779 490200**, [www.dressage-peterhead.co.uk](http://www.dressage-peterhead.co.uk)

### Flowers

Gillian loved the flowers that were created for her big day by Coach House Flowers. "As soon as I saw Emma's display at a wedding fair, I was sold," she enthuses. **07876 556713**, [www.coachhouseflowers.com](http://www.coachhouseflowers.com)

### Cake

The couple wanted a reasonably plain cake but had it decorated with pearls to tie it into the theme of the day. It was made by Claire Anderson. **07850 848003**

### Rings

Both rings were bought from John Park Aberdeen, while Gillian wore a pearl necklace and earrings as well as a Swarovski bracelet bought for her by Gordon. Gordon wore a pocket watch engraved with the wedding date – a gift from his bride. **01224 646599**, [www.johnpark.co.uk](http://www.johnpark.co.uk)

### Hair and make-up

Gillian brought her suppliers down from Aberdeen. Tracy Allan created the fabulous hairdos and Tracey Cepeda was the day's make-up artist. **01224 640222**, [www.tracyallan.com](http://www.tracyallan.com); Tracey Cepeda, **07923 514638**

