

Dressed to impress

These stylish reception themes will ensure your guests are talking about your wedding long after the confetti's settled!



Roses and pearls

Sigh. How pretty is this table? Building on a core theme of roses and pearls, Janice of Blue Thistle Weddings worked with a soft colour palette of creams, pinks and pastels to create a vintage-style look that incorporated cute teacups, floral crockery and crystal glassware. This theme would work in any venue but would lend itself particularly well to a country wedding in a stately house or garden marquee. Our venue for this shoot, the Caledonian Hall in Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, complemented this look beautifully; we especially loved how it tied in with the rose picture on the wall.



Candelabra with roses and hanging pearls design, creamy roses in cup/jug, white chair covers, and lace and dusky pink chair ties with rose inside bow **Make Believe Events**

Vintage and white china, and crystal glassware **Gordon's Cater Hire**

Pearl placecards **Calligraphy by Catherine**

Pink table flowers **Something Special Flowers**

Pearl napkin rings (below right)

All Dressed Up

Favours by **Caesars Wedding Favours**

'Elizabeth' floral plates (below centre)

Marks and Spencer

All other items, plus table styling and sourcing **Blue Thistle Weddings**

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Photography **EMMA CROSSAN**



WE WERE DELIGHTED to have the lovely Janice Grimley-Evans of **Blue Thistle Weddings (bluethistleweddings.co.uk)** on hand to style our roses and pearls look, as well as offer styling tips for the other themes in this shoot. Janice is a wedding planner with over 20 years' experience and as well as being able to assist couples in planning their day, she has the creative flair to help bring a wedding theme to life. Fancy picking up some

valuable tips from her? She'll be running two Wedding Academy workshops in September and October alongside other wedding professionals, offering lots of advice on how to plan the perfect wedding no matter what your budget is. You'll get a complimentary glass of prosecco, afternoon tea, goody bag and lots of helpful notes to take away with you too. Email **bluethistleperth@aol.com** or call **01738 710360** to find out more.

Moroccan magic

Inspired by the warmth and rich, vibrant colours of the Moroccan souks, this theme is one for couples who fancy doing something a little bit different. We kept the linen dark so that we could really go to town with brightly coloured glasses in reds, oranges and pinks and dazzling gold tableware. Tassels, tea glasses, plenty of candles and lanterns in all shapes and sizes added an Eastern feel, and placing cushions on the chairs was a sumptuous finishing touch. You could even carry the theme through to your food with a lamb tagine, spicy couscous and fresh mint tea!



LEFT PAGE

Black tablecloth and chair covers, orange and gold taffeta chair ties, Moroccan lantern filled with candles and coloured beads **Make Believe Events**
 Gold sequined table runner **Etiquette Event Styling**
 Gold charger plates and tasseled napkins **Blue Thistle Weddings**
 Orange and purple cushions **Ragged Rose**
 'Good luck' elephant bookmark favour **A Wedding Less Ordinary**
 Multi-coloured tealight holders **dotcomgiftshop**
 Tea glasses **All Dressed Up**
 H20 Square Smoke bottles and Arcobaleno glassware with orange stems **Maxwell & Williams**

RIGHT PAGE

Deep purple tablecloth **All Dressed Up**
 Purple chair ties **Etiquette Event Styling**
 Clear glassware **Venue's own**
 Blue glassware **Blue Thistle Weddings**
 Silver Moroccan lantern **All Dressed Up**
 White Moroccan metal lanterns (used as centrepieces) **dotcomgiftshop**
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Gone to sea

Ahoy, there! We might not always be blessed with beach-perfect weather in Scotland, but you can always bring the coastal feel indoors with a nautical theme. Shades of blue juxtaposed with white look fresh and clean, and splashes of red inject a pop of colour. We loved our lantern centrepiece, which was filled with beach pebbles and shells, and the shell and boat-shaped placecard holders added a cute touch guaranteed to bring a smile to your guests' faces. Ice cream scoop favours complete the look, making dessert a bit of a no-brainer; why not hire an ice cream cart for the ultimate treat!



Navy blue tablecloth and hessian chair ties

All Dressed Up

White chair covers, blue chair ties and tall chrome lantern centrepiece with mixture of shells, pebbles and church candle inside **Make Believe Events**

Crockery and clear glassware **Venue's own**

Blue glassware **Blue Thistle Weddings**

'By the sea' lighthouse tealight holder, 'Shining Sails' mini placecard holders and 'Scoop of Love' heart-shaped ice cream scoop

Caesars Wedding Favours

Shell placecard favour boxes

A Wedding Less Ordinary

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The location of this photoshoot was The **Royal Botanic Garden** in Edinburgh; an idyllic setting for weddings of any kind, from the simplest of ceremonies to a lavish banquet and celebration. The staff are incredibly friendly and helpful, and the menus have been composed using the finest Scottish products and seasonal ingredients some of which are grown in the gardens. Our photos were taken in the Caledonian Hall, a beautifully fresh space with many classical period features and beautiful views overlooking the famous rock garden and waterfalls. It has a capacity of 100 for a wedding breakfast, with drinks receptions held in the adjacent pavillion. Alternatively, you can enjoy the additional space at the John Hope Gateway. As you can see, the venue can be styled to suit any theme you like!

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