



"As we couldn't afford to include our honeymoon within the wedding budget, we asked guest to contribute towards it, with donations and travel vouchers." **Abi**

"I BUMPED INTO A LADY AT A WEDDING FAYRE WHO WAS CLOSING HER BRIDAL SHOP AND SUBSEQUENTLY SELLING OFF ALL HER DRESSES AT A DISCOUNT PRICE. SHE LET ME HAVE MINE MUCH CHEAPER THAT IT ORIGINALLY WOULD HAVE BEEN." **STACEY**

"Our stand out save was definitely the birds of prey who delivered our rings! I found two local enthusiasts willing to do it for much less than I thought." **Sheree**



"Mark isn't really a suit wearer normally, so instead of spending loads on a new one, we chose to hire." **Georgina**

## Cut cost not style

with Helen Burns' terrific top tips at [bespokendreams.blogspot.com](http://bespokendreams.blogspot.com)



- 1 Contact your local performing arts institutes for up-and-coming musicians, bands and singers who would be willing to perform at your wedding at a reduced rate.
- 2 Before you set the date, think of booking an off-peak month. Many venues offer promotional wedding packages for early spring weddings.
- 3 If you're looking for a fun and quirky alternative to serving a dessert this summer, why not try hiring a mobile ice cream parlour? Personalised ice cream tubs can double up as favours, too.
- 4 Get blogging! It's easy and free. Keep your guests up to date with your engagement, hen/stag party and wedding plans by uploading info to your blog as and when. It will save on stationery costs and guests will never be out of the loop!
- 5 A popular trend is to have humorous or sincere poems written about the couple to read during the speeches. Have these printed up for each guest to take home as a memento of the day.



## Every penny counts

Start saving all your small change – 5ps, 2ps and 1ps. At the end of every month, take them to the bank. You could end up getting about £40 each time! Perfect for reception details you might want closer to the wedding.