

autumn leaves

ALYCIA BIGGAR & JESSE VASSALLO

13 APRIL, 2013

ST JUDE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH & HOPEWOOD COUNTRY HOUSE, BOWRAL, NSW

After ten years together, high school sweethearts Jesse, and Alycia, both 26, became engaged with the help of their sweet puppy, Millie. 'I had just arrived home from work and, the next thing I knew, Jesse was down on one knee with Millie beside him and the ring was tied to her collar. It was such a special moment,' says the bride.



ROLLING GREEN The bride wore a Lilli Marcos low-backed gown of ivory Italian lace — a perfect fit for the couple's French provincial themed, rural celebration held in their favourite country town. 'We both love Bowral and it's a place we visit regularly as Jesse's parents have a house in the Southern Highlands. It's such a beautiful, quaint town and especially in Autumn,' says Alycia.

SWEET CRAFT A truly DIY affair, the bride, and her mother, created all the stationery, decorations, signage, bomboniere and flower arrangements too — a task they enjoyed so much that they have launched a wedding styling business together. 'Mum made many things including the most adorable bird motif place cards that were pegged to each guest's wine glass. They were covered in old French book paper,' explains Alycia.





'Mum and I handmade coconut and lime scented candles for each of our guests. It was a really fun process and our guests loved them.'



stylist's tip...
Take your cue from Alycia and explore your creative side — handmade elements will imbue your day with even more meaning.

FRESH SKILLS 'Mum and I made all the floral centrepieces and styled the decorative flowers at the reception too. We went to the Sydney flower markets very early one morning, a few days before the wedding, and bought buckets of flowers. It was a lot of fun,' says the bride who did a short course in floristry a few months before the big day. Alycia carried a full bouquet of soft white and pale peach flowers — David Austin roses, lisianthus, roses and carnations.

BURNING BRIGHT Keen to craft most aesthetic aspects of the day, Alycia and her mum added candle making to their skill set too — bonbonniere was the fabulous, end result. 'Mum and I handmade coconut and lime scented candles for each of our guests. It was a really fun process and our guests loved them. Plus, it's nice to see them in use when I visit my friends,' adds the bride.



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PUPPY LOVE 'Our dog Millie was our ring bearer. One of my bridesmaids, Kendall, walked her down the aisle on a white lace lead. Millie wore a little heart-shaped cushion on her collar with our wedding bands tied to them,' explains the bride of a scene that recalled her engagement. Alycia's maids wore full-length dresses in a chic shade of blue and with customised necklines also made by Lilli Marcs.



stylist's tip...

Extend stationery beyond just invites and use signage to add to your styling. Think outside the box when it comes to fonts, too.



MIX IT UP First up, guests enjoyed canapés in the garden while keeping warm next to an outdoor fireplace. 'The ambience was amazing,' says the bride. A retro lemonade stand was another notable feature of the garden where guests could quench their thirst. 'We served Ruby Spritzers and Pimms and Lemonade in old fashioned lemonade bottles with white and grey striped straws,' adds the bride.

sources list

- ALYCIA VASSALLO (STYLING)
0417 230 387
- ANL CAKES (CAKE)
anlairbrushing.com.au/sugarcraft
- ANL MAKE-UP, HAIR & AIRBRUSHING
(MAKE-UP) anlairbrushing.com.au
- HOPEWOOD COUNTRY HOUSE
(RECEPTION) hopewoodhouse.com.au
- LILLI MARCS (GOWN & BRIDESMAIDS)
lillimarcs.com.au
- M&B FOOD & CATERING (CATERING)
mandbfood.com.au
- MINT PHOTOGRAPHY (PHOTOS)
mintphotography.com.au
- STUDIO 7 HAIR (HAIR)
studio7hair.com.au
- VICTOR & CO TAILORS (SUIT)
victorandcotailors.com
- A-Z EVENTS (TRANSPORT)
a-zeventsweddingcars.com.au
- DUSTINS JEWELLERS (RINGS)
02 9233 6999

