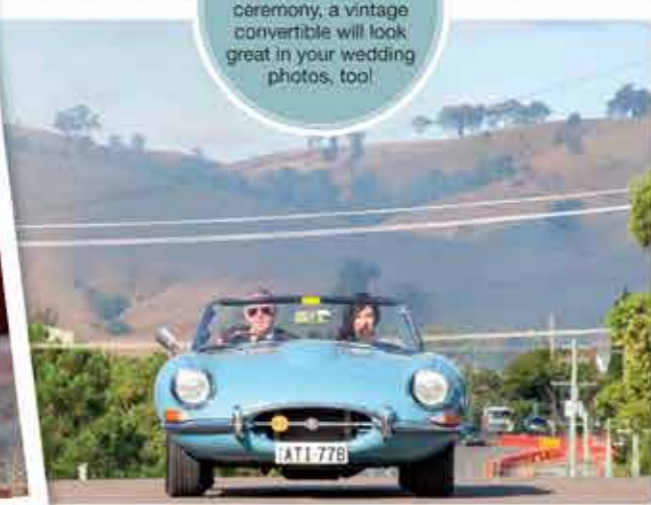




stylist's tip
Not just a cool way to arrive at your ceremony, a vintage convertible will look great in your wedding photos, too!



EASY EIGHT 'We had spoken about marriage for years, but after seven years, I wasn't expecting it on that day,' says Moira. 'David had asked my Dad for permission earlier and we had planned to go out for dinner in the evening. We got home from work and started talking about the future, and David got down on one knee. He said he didn't know what the future held, but that he knew he wanted us to spend it together. Of course I said yes!' The engagement was eight months long, which was enough time to make plans. 'It was hard work with so much to organise, but we were so happy with how everything turned out,' says Moira.

Moira Hughes & David Holt

15 APRIL, 2016
ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH & RAM STATION, DUNGOG, NSW
PHOTOGRAPHY: MINT PHOTOGRAPHY

Wedding gown designer Moira, 27, met David, 29, in Perth, when she was on student exchange from the UK. They dated long distance until David moved to the UK and, eight months later, they settled in Sydney. After exactly 10,000 days together, they tied the knot in country NSW, the bride wearing two of her own beautiful designs.



stylist's tip
If you or your groom are from far-flung shores, a sign showing the kilometers to each of your home towns is a sweet touch.





BRIDAL DESIGN Moira created two dresses for her day. The first was made from delicate, one-off French lace. 'It felt so light and soft!' She kept the second a secret from David, changing into the short, gold lace creation just before their first dance.

stylist's tip

If classic white marquees aren't your style, consider giant tipis instead – perfect for a less-formal, country affair.

SWEET SURPRISE

'With all my family living in England and Ireland, I created the gown without them here,' says Moira. 'Although I sent pictures, they didn't get to see the finished piece. Sarah from Mint Photography kindly helped me into my dress, so when I walked out she could capture everyone's reaction. It was such an exciting moment to step out in my gown for the first time!'



stylist's tip

The 'naked' cake is still a popular style for rustic, garden or farm festivities. Dress it up with blooms that match your bouquets.



the couple's suppliers

- PHOTOS MINT PHOTOGRAPHY mintphotography.com.au
- STYLIST DECORATIVE EVENTS decorativeevents.com.au
- CEREMONY ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH mn.catholic.org.au/parishes-priests/parishes/dungog
- MARQUEE TIPIS KATALANE katalane.com.au
- FLOWERS WILD BLOSSOM wildblossom.com.au
- GOWN MOIRA HUGHES COUTURE moirahughes.com.au
- SHOES BADGLEY MISCHKA & HARRIET WILDE thewhitecollection.com.au
- GARTER BRIDAL TROUSSEAU trousseau.com.au
- RINGS GREW & CO grewandco.com.au
- BRIDE'S EARRINGS SWAROVSKI swarovski.com
- SUITS JOE BUTTON joebutton.com
- MAKE-UP SONIA ALLIN soniaallenmakeup.com
- HAIR CORINNA HUGHES greyshairdressing.co.uk
- EYEBROWS HONEYTUSK honeytusk.com
- NAILS THE NAIL LAB thenailab.com.au
- TAN TAN TEMPLE BONDI tantemple.com.au
- STATIONERY WILLOW AND INK willowandink.com
- CAKE & CATERING SPROUT CATERING sproutcatering.com.au
- ENTERTAINMENT DUKE dukemusic.com.au
- VIDEOGRAPHY HELLO SWEETHEART hellosweetheart.com.au

WILD FLOWERS The couple chose to marry in Dungog because they have close friends with a property in the area and visit every year. 'It's such a special place for both of us and we wanted to share it with our family and friends,' says the bride. They said their vows in the charming local Catholic church, which was decorated with wild flowers. Afterwards, the reception was held at their friends' farm, Rain Station, and the addition of Katalane marquees and tipis set the scene for a perfect outdoor celebration.

NAKED CAKE 'With our friends and family travelling from all over the world it was really important to us that they had a great time,' says Moira. 'Stylist Adele from Decorative Events worked with the florists Wild Blossom to make sure every detail was perfect.' Sharing platters were served, and flowers were arranged to reflect the beautiful setting – earthy pink and plum tones paired with grasses and bush leaves.



TAILOR MADE The bridesmaids wore blush pink dresses from a London boutique. 'Finding dresses that everyone loved was difficult,' says Moira. The colour was soft and neutral, which complemented the plum tones of the flowers, as well as the groom's suit. David was kitted out by Joe Button. 'Given my husband is 6'7" we both decided we wanted to get something that fit well,' says the bride. His groomsmen were dressed by the same label. 'We wanted something classic that they could wear again for work or special occasions. We went with Joe Button given Dave's best man and brother are also tall, and many off-the-rack companies didn't have the right fit.'

