



**THE DRESS**  
 "I wore a simple cotton, embroidered dress from Tree of Life. It was light, pretty and its style reminded me of Elizabeth Bennett from *Pride and Prejudice*."

**THE CEREMONY** "We hired Lawn 52 and the Vista Pavillion as a back-up (in case it rained) at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney. Luckily it didn't and we were married under the trees."



**THE DECORATIONS** "Café Sydney was fantastic and organised candle centrepieces and flowers around the room as part of the venue cost."

**THE FLOWERS** "My bouquet included lisianthus, freesias, flannel flowers, ash-pink roses and dusty miller. I had freesias in my hair."



**THE JEWELLERY** "I bought my pearl earrings and bracelet from The Family Jewels in Sydney the night before the wedding!"

# AN INTIMATE GATHERING

**Alana Solaese, 26, project officer, and Gerrard Fasavalu, 28, business development manager – April 9, 2010.**

"We got engaged in November 2009 and were married just five months later. Initially, we were planning two huge celebrations – one in New Zealand, where Gerrard and I are from, and one in Australia. But we soon realised that low-key was more our style, so we booked a private room in a Sydney restaurant for ourselves and 14 guests. People kept commenting on how relaxed I was about the whole thing. A lot of our friends and family helped us – my friends did my hair and make-up and my brother was the DJ, playing songs from an iPod. I also bought a lot of things in non-bridal stores and from overseas websites, which worked out cheaper. As long as we were married at the end of the day, I knew it would be perfect."



**SWEET DEALS PHOTOGRAPHY \$1850** Mint Photography ([mintphotography.com.au](http://mintphotography.com.au)). **BRIDE'S DRESS \$75** Tree of Life (02 9565 4530). **SHOES \$120** Wittner ([wittner.com.au](http://wittner.com.au)). **GROOM'S SUIT \$234** Christian Dior, bought in Buenos Aires, Argentina, **SHOES \$200** Myer (1800 811 611), and **SHIRT AND TIE \$200** Roger David ([rogerdavid.com.au](http://rogerdavid.com.au)). **JEWELLERY \$220** The Family Jewels ([thefamilyjewels.com.au](http://thefamilyjewels.com.au)). **STATIONERY \$70** Wills Quills ([willsquills.com.au](http://willsquills.com.au)). **FLOWERS \$253** The Naked Flower ([thenakedflower.com.au](http://thenakedflower.com.au)). **CEREMONY \$397** Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney (02 9231 8172). **CELEBRANT \$594** Elaine Searle ([sydneycelebrantelainesearle.com.au](http://sydneycelebrantelainesearle.com.au)). **RECEPTION, CATERING, CAKE AND ALCOHOL \$2700** Café Sydney, Circular Quay, Sydney (02 8298 0322).