



winter wonderland

SHARON DAVEY HAD KNOWN FIANCÉ JOHNATHON PARRY FOR FOURTEEN YEARS, BUT THEY MANAGED TO ARRANGE THEIR DREAM CHRISTMAS WEDDING IN JUST SIX WEEKS!

Words: Lydia Whitfield, Pictures: Nic Cleave

A QUESTION OF TIME

When Sharon's father fell ill at the end of 2006, she pulled out all the stops to get her wedding arranged within six weeks, so he would be in good enough health to walk her down the aisle.

"We had our daughter Josie in 2000 and Johnathon proposed on New Year's Eve 2001," says Sharon. "We had a long engagement because for a while you need to put your money into other things and time just goes by."

The wedding was arranged for Thursday, December 28, at The Towers Hotel & Spa, Jersey Marine, Swansea Bay.

DREAM DRESS

Sharon, who runs a barber's shop, Taffy's, in Swansea, managed to find her wedding dress in her lunch hour at Chic & Elegant Bridal Wear in Swansea.

She says: "I tried it on and it was a really good fit. I went to two other shops, but ended up going back to the first one. I had a few alterations done but didn't have enough time to have a dress made up, so this was great for me."

Sharon and Johnathon's daughter Josie was bridesmaid and her friend's son Dale Gillespie was page boy.

PERSONAL TOUCHES

Everything from the table decorations Sharon's sister-in-law made, to the real Christmas tree Sharon brought from home to The Towers Hotel, was very personal.

Sharon says: "The hotel didn't have a Christmas tree and I

really wanted one in the photos, so took mine in. I was keen not to have a formal sit-down meal because of my dad's health and Johnathon's dad also has severe Alzheimer's; the whole day was emotional enough anyway, without bringing lots of formal speeches into it.

"We had plenty of canapés and drinks when we arrived and then a buffet later on."

Sharon and Johnathon decided on a 4pm wedding rather than a separate day and evening event. Sharon explains: "Lots of photographers weren't interested because they thought lighting would be too poor. But I thought it would look lovely and Christmassy with it being a bit dark."

"Thankfully Nic Cleave (www.niceleave.com, 01792 429201) was willing to give it a go. He told us we might have to stand around a bit in the cold while he tried to get the correct lighting, but he got exactly what we wanted. I was really pleased with the photos."

For the entertainment Sharon and Johnathon called on some of Johnathon's old DJ friends to provide the disco. ■

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GET THE LOOK

THE FLOWERS

"My bouquet was exactly what I was after with deep red roses and ivy for a wintery feel," says Sharon. She chose a florist in Llanelli, who she came across at a bridal fair at the Marriott Hotel. She says: "I only had time to get to one bridal fair, but the florist was so helpful and came up with exactly what I had in mind."

THE DECORATIONS

Sharon and her sister-in-law Angela Bridgewater bought the gold cones for the table centrepieces from a Christmas decoration shop and used battery-operated fairy lights to decorate them.

THE DRESS

Sharon found her off-the-peg dress, and one for Josie, in Swansea's Chic & Elegant Bridalwear (01792 463561.) "I loved the colour of this dress – the gold was really Christmassy."

