

# Real Weddings at The Boat House

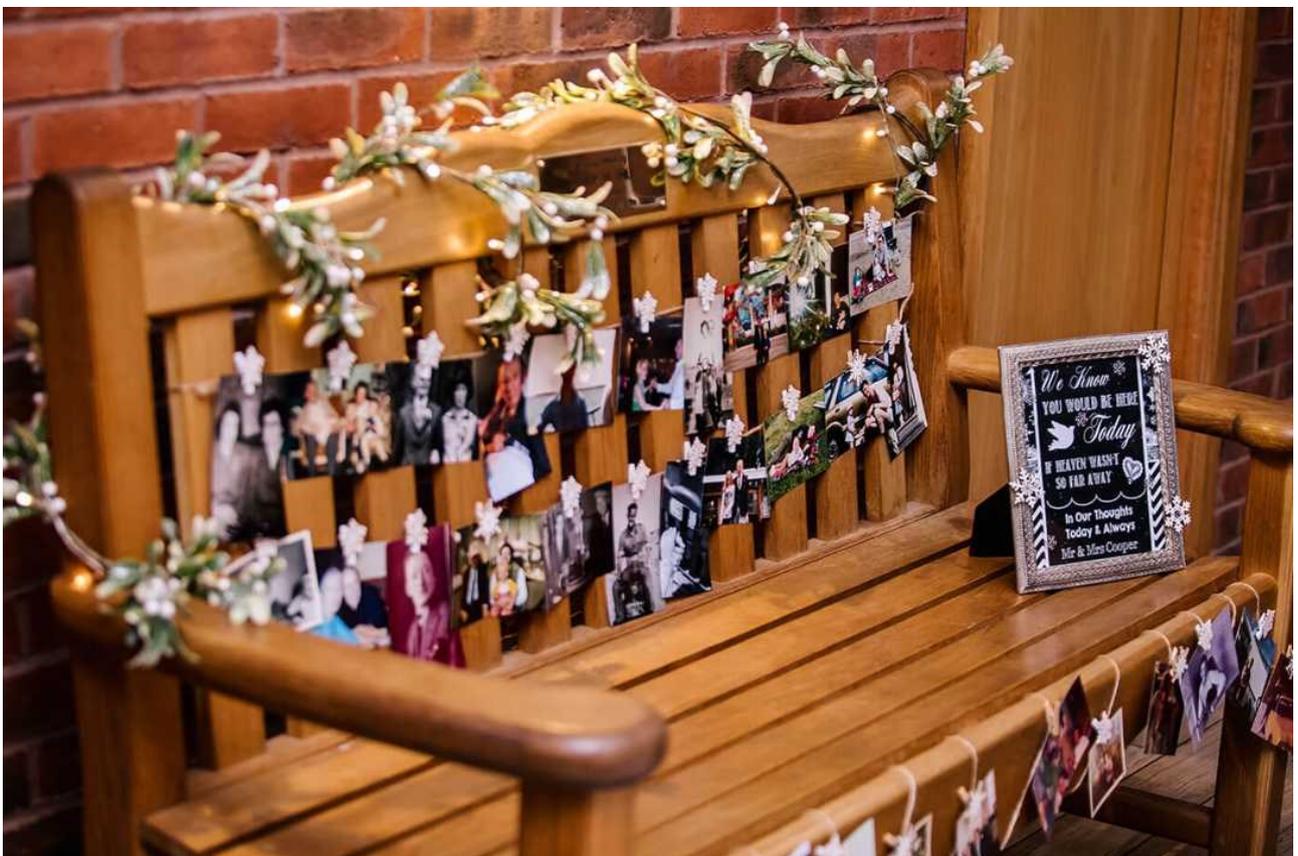
## Roddy & Sue

We talk to the new Mrs Cooper about her lovely winter wedding, which saw the couple marry at St Saviour's Church, Aston by Stone, before heading to The Boat House for their reception...

### **How did Glen propose?**

"I very suddenly and unexpectedly lost my Dad in 2007. He suffered a massive heart attack and was taken way too soon - he was 48 and I was only 17.

"My Dad did have plans in place, one of which, being in the Royal Air Force as a young man and a lifelong lover of aviation, was that he would like a memorial bench at R.A.F Cosford Museum in Shifnal. This bench was purchased not long after he passed, and my family and I regularly visit to take a seat and polish his plaque. It was on one of these occasions, sat on my Dad's bench, that Glen got down on one knee and proposed to me. This way he says he also asked my Dad's permission and given that he wasn't struck down by lightning my Dad approved!"



## **You married in church – what was it that made you choose The Boat House for your wedding reception venue?**

“Actually, we chose The Boat House for our reception before we chose the church! We had been to a good friend’s wedding reception at The Boat House and we both just thought it was the perfect venue for us! From the entrance space to the main reception room - with the ceiling lights, with access to all the grounds it was just everything we wanted.”



## **What was your wedding theme and how did you create it?**

“We wanted a winter wedding theme and created a wintery feel with a white & silver colour scheme. We used lots of Christmas garlands to decorate the tables, had snowflake-themed biscuits made by Wendy Sanders of Tiers of Affection for our wedding favours, and the most gorgeous name card holders - they were clear glass, with snowflake design and had pretend snow inside! We also had two big Christmas trees, decorated in white & silver. Our tables were named after Santa’s reindeer as another nod to Christmas, with the top table ‘Cupid’ to highlight the love we have for each other and our son.

“My Dad was a big part of my day, even though he wasn’t there. We played ‘Somewhere over the Rainbow’ by one of his favourite artists Eva Cassidy during the signing of our register. We also transported my Dad’s memorial bench (yes, the one that Glen proposed to me on) from the R.A.F museum to The Boat House. It was placed in the foyer and decorated with pictures of those we had lost - my Dad, Grandad, Glen’s Dad, Nan & Grandad. We had a beautiful photo frame placed on it, with a special sign that read ‘We know you would be here today if heaven wasn’t so far away’.”



### ***What dress and accessories did you wear?***

“My wedding dress was from J&J bridal in Newcastle-under-Lyme. It was just perfect! It was a long, layered dress, with delicate lace detailing with the tiniest hint of pink in the underskirt & a long train. It had a lace-up back, which was perfect given that 12 months earlier I’d had our little boy and wanted that extra bit of shape. I wore a gorgeous and delicate little jacket over my dress (see-through at the front). It had lace detailing on the sleeves, so my dress looked like it had the long sleeves I wanted for my ‘winter wedding’ look!

“My accessories included a headband-style tiara encrusted with pearls and jewels, a mid-length traditional veil and a clutch bag with silver and sparkles in which I carried my Grandad’s rosary and his blue handkerchief, as he sadly passed away before my wedding day. On my bouquet, which was from Bluebells florist in Longton, I had a charm with 2 photographs - my Dad and my Grandad. I also wore my Nan’s pink pearl Necklace, which she’d given me some years earlier and I’d never worn, and pearl earrings.”

***How did you feel when you saw Glen waiting for you at the end of the aisle?***

“Excited, like coming home after a busy day! The way he looked at me made me feel so incredibly beautiful - he just couldn’t stop smiling.”



***What catering did you opt for and why did you select the menus you did?***

“We went with a 3-course wedding breakfast of goat’s cheese & tomato tart followed by roast pork then an apple crumble with custard – all of which are our favourites. For the evening buffet we chose roast meat rolls - a simple option for evening guests and the day guests who would all still be full from earlier.”

## What was the highlight of your day?

“There’s so many I can’t choose. I loved getting ready with the girls & my little boy! We listened to some of my favourite songs and everyone played their own role in helping me get ready. Glen sent a card to me, which the florist dropped off with my bridal flowers, this was really sweet & had me in tears!

Being given away by my mum was also very special - I always said I’d walk down the aisle alone, but my mum did an amazing job during the lead up to the wedding & supported me greatly. I wanted and needed my mummy by my side and I’ve never seen her look so beautiful!

“A very special moment was when I walked into the The Boat House and saw my Dad’s bench with all the photographs, and just having a few minutes to remember him and tell him how much I love him. We then went into the beautifully decorated main reception room - with us being announced in as Mr & Mrs Cooper and everyone cheering. The speeches were great - I had to kick Glen under the table to get him to stop talking, he just couldn’t stop!

“I’m just so grateful to the team at The Boat House who worked so hard to ensure our day was perfect. No question was a stupid question and our all our enquiries were responded to promptly. They were very patient with our enquiries and worked hard to meet our needs - which even meant the safekeeping of my Dad’s bench for a short period of time.”



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