

Little White Book

The lowdown on the latest wedding trends, venues and one-of-a-kind gifts

WORDS BY JENNY MARK-BELL



By Invitation Only

Lewes-based illustrator Julie Innes runs boutique creative design studio Hollyhock Lane. She has a portfolio of ready-to-print wedding stationery which would fit a variety of themes, and also offers a bespoke service where the only limit is your imagination! Even the ready-to-print stationery can be customised with your names hand-lettered in beautiful calligraphy.

For clients looking for something totally individual, Julie says: "Starting points can be simple like the venue location, the church, the wedding theme and the colour scheme. One of my favourite ever bespoke designs is a concertina panoramic illustration I did of a picturesque Greek island and town where the couple were getting married, with the invitation details and hand-drawn map on the reverse. The design combined a perforated



tear-off reply slip which served as a postcard in its own right."

The whole bespoke process takes around four to six weeks, depending on the scope of the project: as a rough guide a package of 100 bespoke invitations, reply slips and info cards costs around £700. You should expect to pay £175 for personalised invitations from the ready-to-print collection.

Some of Julie's designs



BY THE LIGHT OF THE MOON

The Hanging Lantern Company, based near Uckfield, has a range of pretty lanterns to suit most themes, from colourful hanging globes to intricately laser-cut birdcage lanterns. They look beautiful in marquees or hanging from trees and the company offers a professional hanging service to take off some of the pressure in the lead-up to the big day. www.hanginglanterns.co.uk

ABOVE: Hanging Lantern Company

GET LIPPY

My bridal make-up artist recommended Chantecaille Lip Chic and I have been wearing it ever since. It has a sublimely creamy, dewy texture, leaving lips plump and moisturised with a just-kissed look. It also smells delicious and generally justifies its hefty price tag. Chantecaille is available at Space NK Chichester and costs £30. spacenk.com

Chantecaille
Lip Chic

sussexlife.co.uk



Angel House, Hove. Picture by Sarah Wenban

Regency Romance

Angel House is a beautiful new seafront wedding venue, situated in a Grade 1 Regency townhouse in the Brunswick area of Hove that has been fully restored over the last three years. It is a privately owned home that offers a unique wedding and civil ceremony experience, with weddings conducted

in the Regency Room (seating 60), which overlooks the sea and the iconic Peace Statue.

Weekend hire prices range from £1,750-£2,500 per day from May to September, and £750-£1,750 per day October to April. www.angel-house.com

RING OF GOLD



You'll be wearing your wedding rings for a long time, so it pays to make sure that they are as individual as you are. A number of Sussex jewellers offer a bespoke design service, including Fairtrade jeweller CRED on Chichester's South Street (info@credjewellery.com), Alexis Dove at the Needlemakers in Lewes (www.alexisdove.com) and Goodman Morris in Brighton's Lanes, pictured left (www.goodmanmorris.com).