

Tanya & Ian

Fate strikes twice for childhood sweethearts
and they had a beautiful day at Seckford Hall.

real wedding



“Ian and I were childhood sweethearts. We unexpectedly took different paths in life but 10 years later bumped into each other in a bar in Braintree and fell back in love instantly. We’ve been together since and now have two children – we’re soul mates and can’t imagine life without each other.

Ian proposed by taking me to Paris for the weekend – he nearly dropped the ring off the top of the Eiffel Tower!

Our wedding came about in an unusual way. We took part in a competition in the East Anglian Daily Times to win a whole wedding at Seckford Hall and we won.

The feeling of winning was overwhelming and meant so much to us. I still can’t believe it happened.

Planning was very quick as I knew my sister was back from the USA, where she lives, in June and July. We had a matter of weeks to get everything in place.

Seckford is the most amazing place. We really couldn’t have wished for a better setting for our day. It was so, so beautiful.

On the day my hair and make-up were done by Flawless Image and Saxbys who were fantastic and completely guided me throughout. They listened to my ideas and both made a lot of time for me and didn’t rush me at all.

The dress was from The Suffolk Bridal Company in Ipswich. They, again, were very lovely and helpful. I wore a strapped, plain white ivory dress with a long train, lovely

beading around the middle and a lace tie at the back. I knew it was ‘the one’ when I came out of the changing room and was greeted by my mother in tears.

Ian chose his suits at Coes.

Our reception was lots of fun. Seckford really think of everything. It was a lovely, warm summer’s day so we could make use of the patio and lawn. We had our own bar and Gareth of Flame Entertainments played every single song requested. He didn’t even mind playing Let It Go from Frozen over and over again for the flower girls.

The cake by Helen of Amelie’s Kitchen was very elegant and beautiful. And the catering by Seckford was very good – everyone commented on the food and how



lovely and tasty it was.

I thought my flowers on the day were outstanding. Myrtle and Mint were fabulous. I was unsure what I wanted and had already spoken to my mum about the colours and flowers I liked. When we arrived at the shop they completely understood my needs. We wanted to use a Scottish flower to represent Ian's family and mum had suggested a white thistle. They were more than happy to include this and all the flowers were stunning.

Suzy and Andy, who took our photos, were incredible. They blended into the background and half the time I didn't know they were there. Andy met with Ian and the groomsmen in the

Bride's tips

Try to personalise your day by using flowers that mean something to your family.

morning and Suzy came to me and the bridesmaids. We wanted lots of natural photos.

Not only have they taken the most amazing pictures and captured some fantastic memories, but also created us a very elegant photo album, giving us all the spare proofs and four CDs full of all 600 images from the day. They were a complete pleasure and we would recommend them again in a second. ♥

We recommend

PHOTOGRAPHER Abbott Photography
www.abbottphotography.org.uk

FLOWERS Myrtle and Mint
www.myrtleandmint.com

VENUE Seckford Hall
www.seckford.co.uk.

DRESS The Suffolk Bridal Company
www.thesuffolkbbridalcompany.co.uk.

SUITS Coes www.coes.co.uk

MAKE-UP Flawless Image
www.flawlessimage.co.uk

HAIR Saxbys Hair Salon
01473 231713

CAKE Amelies Kitchen
www.amelies-kitchen.co.uk

ENTERTAINMENT Flame Entertainments
www.flameentertainments.co.uk

STATIONERY A Vintage Wedding
www.avintagewedding.co.uk