

Cotswold

# bride

2018/19

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Sophie Knight  
&  
James Rymer

*Sophie's job helping couples plan their weddings at Birtsmorton Court near Malvern meant she knew exactly where she wanted to celebrate her own special day*

PHOTOGRAPHY: GEMMA WILLIAMS PHOTOGRAPHY



“We just really wanted everyone to join together and have a big party and I knew Birtsmorton Court would be the perfect venue for this”



CHOOSING a wedding venue was an easy one for us. I had worked at Birtsmorton Court for more than six years before we got engaged, helping other couples to plan their own wedding there. I have absolute faith in the venue and what a special place it is, so we didn't even consider anywhere else. A lot of people asked if I was worried it would feel like a work day but I really wasn't. We had complete confidence in the team and the suppliers we booked; we knew we would have the day we wanted there.

We wanted an elegant day with a very relaxed atmosphere. I felt really excited; I wasn't nervous at all, just looking forward to getting the day started and celebrating. I remember standing at the door to the church on site at Birtsmorton and being surprised that everyone had turned up. Once I was in the church, my eyes were fixed on James and before I knew it we were getting married.

We came out of church, threw confetti and headed straight over to Birtsmorton for drinks. We had a wooden cart with a parasol set up as a drinks trolley, with garnishes for prosecco and a tin bath filled with bottled beers. An accordionist roamed around the gardens serenading everyone.

It rained throughout the day before but on the day the sun came out and the gardens looked green and lush.

The second part of the drinks reception, in the White Garden, was a real highlight. We spent a lot of time with each other chatting to our guests and it was great to see everyone we love most in the world enjoying themselves. ♥



## Helping hands

♥ We asked James's brother Will and my cousin, Emma Robinson, to do readings at the service. My stepdad, Paul Skipworth, was master of ceremonies and our mums, Gill Skipworth and Helen Rymer, were witnesses. It was great to have their involvement on the day.

♥ We had loads of help from my mum. She came to every dress appointment, helped with ideas for flowers, bottled different-flavoured home-made gin and vodka for favours and made the most spectacular cake. The day wouldn't have been the same without her input.

♥ We wanted flowers to play a big part in our day, with florals incorporated throughout. Our florist put together amazing table centrepieces and a beautiful floral chandelier to hang over our top table. We had shepherd's crooks with jars of flowers hanging from them lining the path from the church to the venue. For colours, we went with a deep burgundy and complemented it was peach and gold.

♥ For the wedding breakfast, James provided all of the glassware, plates, cutlery, etc through his work as an event manager. It was really fun to choose them all and meant we could be creative with how everything was served.



## Making it possible

**PHOTOGRAPHY:**  
Gemma Williams Photography,  
[gemmawilliamsphotography.co.uk](http://gemmawilliamsphotography.co.uk)

**CEREMONY VENUE:**  
St Thomas of Canterbury with  
St Peter & St Paul, Birtsmorton,  
[birtsmortoncourt.com](http://birtsmortoncourt.com)

**RECEPTION VENUE:**  
Birtsmorton Court

**DRESS:** Nicola Anne  
from The Bridal Rooms,  
[thebridalroombroadway.co.uk](http://thebridalroombroadway.co.uk)

**ACCESSORIES:** Shoes,  
Rachel Simpson,  
[rachelsimpsonshoes.co.uk](http://rachelsimpsonshoes.co.uk);  
Hair vine and veil,  
The Bridal Rooms

**WEDDING RINGS:**  
H.Samuel, [hsamuel.co.uk](http://hsamuel.co.uk)

**BRIDESMAIDS' DRESSES:**  
Rewritten, [wearerewritten.com](http://wearerewritten.com)

**HAIR & MAKE-UP:**  
Anna Wright, [annawhite.co.uk](http://annawhite.co.uk)

**GROOM'S OUTFIT:** Tuxedo  
Junction, [tuxedo-junction.co.uk](http://tuxedo-junction.co.uk)

**STATIONERY:** Feather &  
Flourish, [featherandflourish.com](http://featherandflourish.com)

**FLOWERS:** Sally Gill Flowers,  
[sallygillflowers.co.uk](http://sallygillflowers.co.uk)

**CAKE:** Gill Skipworth  
(bride's mother)

**CATERING:** Dine with Style,  
[dinewithstyle.co.uk](http://dinewithstyle.co.uk)

**TRANSPORT:** Aston's Coaches,  
[astons-coaches.co.uk](http://astons-coaches.co.uk)

**ENTERTAINMENT:**  
String quartet, Capriccio  
Quartet, [capriccioquartet.co.uk](http://capriccioquartet.co.uk);  
accordionist, Accordion John,  
[accordionjohn.co.uk](http://accordionjohn.co.uk); band,  
Chip Shop Boys,  
[chipshopboys.com](http://chipshopboys.com)

