



A Vine Romance

WHO Elizabeth Nisbet & Ben van Deventer.

WHEN February 7, 2009.

WHERE The wedding took place at De Bortoli Winery in the Yarra Valley, on the day that would become known as Black Saturday. The ceremony was held in the garden overlooking the vines, with the reception following in a marquee. According to the couple, the staff at De Bortoli were accommodating and willing to assist with the planning throughout the entire period leading up to the wedding. "From the menu trial to assistance on the day, all staff were professional, warm and welcoming," they said.

THEME The colour scheme for the day was green with white flowers (roses and Singapore orchids) and trimmings included white pearls and crystals.

GOWN Handmade by her mother Shirley,



"We held each other and danced a rumba together to enjoy our first moment alone as husband and wife."

Elizabeth's gown was a two-piece featuring antique beaded lace, fine straps and a 1.5-metre train. The long skirt was removed and a shorter knee-length version was worn for the bridal dance. The bridesmaids wore soft-green dresses from Nifi Bridal.

SUIT Ben wore a Hugo Boss Guabello suit with a Carnaval De Venise off-white tie featuring a textured floral print. He also

wore handmade black pearl cufflinks, tie pin and lapel pin designed by his mother, Tiny. The groomsmen's suits came from Raoul in Brighton.

RINGS The couple's 18ct yellow gold wedding bands came from Larkin's Jeweller in Bentleigh East. Elizabeth's engagement ring was custom-made in South Africa and designed by the groom.

INVITATIONS The invitations from One Post Invitations maintained the theme of the day, featuring textured white paper, old-style graceful writing and green ribbon and backing.

FLOWERS Elizabeth's bouquet, designed by her mother, featured ferns and cascading fresh, white Singapore orchids with red berries and pearls.

CAKE Baked and decorated by Elizabeth's father Terry, the two-tier fruit cake featured white almond icing and handmade icing-sugar Singapore orchids.

DECORATIONS Table decorations were designed by the groom's mother Tiny. Round mirrors were placed on each table balancing five tea light candles and a round pearl, crystal and shell centrepiece. Inside this, a long vase supported sprigs of white orchids and small collections of grapes made from pearls.

ENTERTAINMENT Vocalist band Stand Clear played a variety of tunes.

WEDDING CO-ORDINATOR Chameleon Events ensured the wedding day was well-planned and, even under pressing and dramatic circumstances, a success.

BOMBINIERE Handmade gifts for the guests, designed by the groom's mother, were pearl necklaces with love-heart clasps for the ladies and pearl tie-pins for the men.

PHOTOGRAPHY Photographer Brent Parker-Jones from Allure Imaging was a pleasure to have around, adding his subtle humour and easygoing attitude to a busy day.

FAVOURITE MEMORIES "Seeing Liz come down the aisle, I was unexpectedly overcome with emotion," Ben says. "I have never seen such a beautiful sight in my whole life."

For Liz, the most memorable moment was stealing away from their guests for a moment alone in the marquee. "We held each other and danced a rumba together to enjoy our first moment alone as husband and wife," she says. ◊

Venue Fact File:

De Bortoli Winery and Restaurant

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