



# KIRSTEN & CALVIN MCGREGOR

13 JANUARY 2007



*Clockwise from the top:* Kirsten and Calvin with bridesmaids Mandy Johnson, Melanie James, Nicole Mills and Jessica Bell, and best men Allan Temple-Jones and Wesley Bartho. • Hannah Johnson, Kirsten's 15-month-old niece and flower girl. • Kirsten's bouquet contained Spicy roses, Hypericum berries, red sugarbush, Heliconia Red Vee and willow, while the bridesmaids' had sugarbush and gerberas. • To bring in the London connection, Kirsten arrived in a London cab – just as her parents had done on their wedding day. • A marquee was pitched next to the castle to accommodate the 120 guests

**THE BRIDE** Kirsten Bourne-Lange, 25, investment practitioner  
**THE GROOM** Calvin Burns McGregor, 27, accounts manager  
**THEIR STORY** Kirsten and Calvin met at school: Kirsten was the female lead in the musical at the boys' high school where Calvin was the head boy. They dated for eight years before getting engaged.

**THE PROPOSAL** Kirsten and Calvin had been living in London when Kirsten's visa expired, forcing her to move back to South Africa. After months of doing the long-distance relationship thing, Kirsten went to visit Calvin. On their last day together, they went to their favourite part of the city: the riverside at Richmond. Calvin got on his knees and proposed using a substitute ring (a cubic zirconia sterling-silver ring that he had bought at a nearby chemist and that didn't fit). The real ring was chosen in South Africa and kept in the jeweller's safe until Calvin returned to South Africa and could give it to his fiancée

**THE BIG DAY** 13 January 2007 at Stonehaven Castle, Shongweni Valley, Hillcrest

**ONE THING I'VE LEARNT** 'It's very easy to turn into "bridezilla". It is a stressful time and you want everything to be perfect. But remember the real reason you are doing this: one person loves you more than anything. None of the other things, like the fabric of the bridesmaids' dresses or the shape of the cake really matter,' says Kirsten. She also wants to pass on the advice that was given to her: enjoy the occasion and soak it all up because it is over far too quickly.

**A**fter looking at many venues in Durban, the couple fell in love with Stonehaven Castle. And as Calvin is a McGregor (his grandparents are from Scotland), the castle, filled with Scottish crests and pictures of clans and kilts, seemed ideal. Kirsten says the other reason they chose the venue was because of the friendly and helpful staff. It overlooks the verdant Shongweni Valley, reminding visitors that they are in Africa – something they wanted overseas guests to experience.

As a surprise to the groom, Calvin's parents arranged a Scottish piper who stood on the rampart and piped in the guests as they arrived. The couple cut the cakes – they had two – immediately after the ceremony so guests could have champagne and cake while they waited for the wedding party to have their photographs taken. Guests also toasted the couple in time-honoured Scottish fashion with a tot of Scottish whisky as *O Flower of Scotland* is played in honour of the bride. While they signed the registry, one of Kirsten's best friends sang Bryan Adams's (*Everything I do*) *I do it for You*.

Kirsten also made her own speech and surprised Calvin by singing Shania Twain's *From this Moment*. 'Ever since I first heard the song, I decided I would one day sing it to my husband. There wasn't a dry eye among the guests,' says Kirsten.

Kirsten's father, also of Scottish descent, challenged the groom and his groomsmen to eat haggis to prove that Calvin was worthy of his daughter – and they did.





*Below:* The colourful gerberas and proteas in the table arrangements picked up the cerise and burnt orange in the décor. Fynbos, porcupine quills and guinea fowl feathers carried through the African theme



*Above and left:* Kirsten and Calvin had two wedding cakes, one a white chocolate cake with fresh flowers and the other a traditional fruitcake made by Calvin's aunt



### MENU HIGHLIGHTS

- Canapes with welcome drinks
- Chicken fillet with a sun-dried tomato and feta stuffing, wrapped in bacon
- Roast lamb with traditional gravy
- Pavlova with fruit salad
- Cheese board and fruit

### SERVICE PROVIDERS

Kirsten's mother almost single-handedly put the wedding together and her aunt made the bridesmaids' and flower girl's dresses.

VENUE AND CATERING Stonehaven Castle and Edibles Divine ☎ 031 769 1010, [www.stonehavencastle.co.za](http://www.stonehavencastle.co.za) WEDDING DRESS Shona's Wedding Collection ☎ 031 709 0712

CAKE Jen Kemp ☎ 031 266 3088 PHOTOGRAPHER AND VIDEOGRAPHER Derek Gravett ☎ 082 852 8552 FLORIST Michelle Priestman, Occasions ☎ 031 767 1024 STATIONERY Prints Charming ☎ 031 764 2564 and House of Fine Papers ☎ 031 303 9830 LONDON TAXI HIRE William Vincent ☎ 083 656 1142