

DIAMONDS *d* FOREVER[®]
NEW ZEALAND LTD



Propose & Tell
2008 Competition Entries

Propose & Tell 2008 Competition Winner with 375 votes

Rhymes, Riddles, A Code & A Ring!

- Posted by Trudi from Christchurch

We have a calendar in our kitchen with all our commitments on it ie BBQs at friends, camping trips, movie nights etc, and at the beginning of one month, my man blacked out a weekend but didn't give any explanation as to what we were doing. He kept me in total suspense right up until the Friday night when he told me I needed to be up and ready to go by 8am the next morning.

At 8am on the dot, I was sitting on the couch, all ready to go, when I was presented with a cute little gift bag which contained two pieces of paper.

The first piece explained that I was about to embark on a quest, and at the end there would be a prize. It also laid out the rules of the quest which were that I would be given riddles to solve and that I had three lifelines to help me - Ask for a Clue, Use the Internet, & Phone A Friend.

The first riddle was very tricky but I eventually worked it out and got on the road to The Nor'wester Cafe in Amberley (the answer to the riddle) for a really yummy and decadent breakfast.

While sipping our last coffee, the waitress brought out another gift bag which contained four pictures. I puzzled over these for ages and ended up 'Phoning A Friend' for help. The answer was 'Aspen Lodge Motel' in Hanmer, so we were in the car again heading for Hanmer.

Once at the Motel, my boy gave me another bag and a riddle which told me that my next clue was hidden in our room so I ran to our room and searched high & low, finally discovering an envelope tucked behind a picture frame. Inside was a voucher for a couples sauna, spa and massage at the pools! So off we went for a really delicious bit of pampering!

On arrival back at the hotel he had arranged for chilled wine and a yummy platter in our room and as we sat down to enjoy, the motel manager arrived at our door with my final clue bag. The riddle once solved was the name of a restaurant in Hanmer, Malabar, and the time for our dinner date, 8pm.

Each clue had contained a hidden number that I had to find and remember, and the reason for this became clear just before our dessert was served. A very smiley waitress approached our table with a box about the size of a calculator, tied with a ribbon and secured with a combination lock!! I had to use all the numbers I'd been given to work out the code! My fingers were shaking by this point but I managed to get both my brain and my fingers to work and when I got the box open, there was beautiful white gold ring inside with a little note that simply said 'Marry Me?'

I burst into tears, slipped on the ring then practically knocked the table over getting up to kiss him!

It was the absolute most perfect day and most wonderful, romantic proposal, not just because of the actual proposal, but because of all the effort I know he had to go to put the whole day together.

He's my best friend and being married to him will be a wonderful next step for us to take together. I couldn't be happier or more proud to say that he is my man.

Roses tell a thousand words

The day was set, it was her birthday and for a while I had been planning the evil plan, deep in the bat cave. Her birthday finally rolls around, she thinks she will get a present in the morning but alas nothing, she bugs me all day, little did she know while she worked a few hours I had been to the rose shop, been to sky city, packed her some clothes and put them into the hotel room.

She arrived home, I told her we are going for dinner and to get dressed in glamour wear. Still she does not know what is going on, we leave the house and arrive at sky city, it is busy with cars all over the place, so I say I will get the car parked by the hotel. We head up the sky tower for dinner, the view is amazing, the food is amazing, the wine is always good.

We leave and she thinks we are heading to the car, we hop in the elevator and head upwards, she now knows I have a room here at the grand hotel. We get to the door and I put the card in, opened the door and let her in first... she gasped as the room was filled with rose petals, when we got to the bed, it had spelt out in rose petals "marry me" she couldn't believe it, the tears rolled down her face as she turned to me and said yesss.

At that moment the chocolate platter and champagne arrived, it was all perfect.

The next day we had breakfast and I had arranged a day at the spa for the two of us, including a couples massage and facials with lunch that followed.

It could not have worked out any better, for the following 4 days we could not tell a soul until the family dinner on the Friday night.

Both families are over the moon and I am one of those lucky people who has found my love.

Thanks
SkyCity Grand Hotel
www.rosesarered.co.nz
East Day Spa

200m 30° climb in ski boots for a perfect setting

~ Posted by Stefan Le Geyt

Many months ago I decided to propose to my beautiful girlfriend Krissy. As luck would have it we'd arranged to head to Queenstown for a weeks skiing. Her folks went down a month before us, so I dutifully bought a bottle of champagne and arranged to meet with them one evening before they flew out to ask for their blessing. With their permission in place I divulged my overall plan for the proposal, despite not having quite figured out all the details. They were very excited and offered to help with the location and activity research. All went quiet until the week before the trip when her mum helped me plan out some great ideas. Of course, as I kept making excuses for being in contact with future in-laws, I also had to deal with a bit of suspicion from Krissy!

The big day arrived with the sun shining and not a cloud in the sky. Making our way up the Remarkables, I tried to figure out how to convince Krissy to head up to the lookout- a fair walk from the top lift. I just couldn't believe my luck when out of the blue she said "I should take you up to the Lookout, the view of Queenstown is stunning". All seemed perfect until the cloud banks rolled in, giving us only partial visibility.

Just before lunch there was a gap in the clouds. I convinced Krissy to head over to the other side of the mountain and trek up to the lookout despite the weather conditions. After a 200 meter climb at 30 degrees up a so called "track" covered in 6 inches of snow, we made it to the top... only to discover 3 tourists looking at the non-existent view. Thankfully they got bored waiting for the weather to clear and made their way back down the mountain. 5 minutes later the clouds cleared a little...I took my chance and asked Krissy to take a photo of me with the back drop of Queenstown. As she bent over to take the picture I pulled out the ring (which I'd been desperately afraid of losing the entire day). When she looked through the viewfinder of the camera, her view was that of the ring surrounded by the spectacular outlook of Queenstown. The moment could not have been more perfect! Our relationship started 3 years, almost to the day, up on another snowy mountain. It was only appropriate that I asked her to be my wife up on the mountain in the snow.

A few photos later it was time for us head back. A black diamond run back from the view point only added to the exhilaration of the day. When we got back down, Krissy had 20 minutes to pack her bags before I whisked her off to a 5 star hotel, complete with champagne, a spa bath (and my personal favourite, an LCD screen in the bathroom!) I took her to a beautiful restaurant for an intimate dinner, complete with exquisite food, impeccable service...and more champagne! The next morning we had a late checkout followed by brunch and then back up the mountain in time for ½ day of snowboarding. She was completely blown away by the whole event.

Island Getaway

~ Posted by Andrew Buchanan And Maree Griffin

I had planned a weekend away to Great Barrier Island for after we had both finished our professional exams and had secretly selected the engagement ring with the help of Jayne (Diamonds Forever NZ). Prior to this weekend I also found an opportunity to ask permission from Maree's father. After dinner one night on the island, we went for a moonlit walk along a totally deserted beach with only the sound of the waves crashing on to the sand and a pair of sea-birds running along the shore. Stopping along the way to watch the birds, I dropped to one knee and proposed to Maree placing the ring in her hand. Maree was happily surprised and accepted my proposal. The ring fitted perfectly. Andrew

The Beach

~ Posted by Lindsay Fisher

Our first overseas trip together seemed the perfect opportunity to propose. I had to collect the DFNZ ring from customs at the airport without my partners knowledge and smuggle it to Thailand in our shared hand luggage. Luckily the ring box was wrapped in another sized box and the surprise was not discovered.

Staying in Phuket, we decided to take a speedboat tour to the Phi Phi Islands. I knew this would be a great location to pop the question. After spending the day snorkelling, feeding monkeys on the beach as well as ourselves, we headed to Phi Phi Lay island which was the set for the movie "The Beach". Having found a quiet spot on the beach I was all set to go until a bunch of tourists decided to discuss which shots from the film were filmed from where etc, right beside us! So after the false start and after the tourist moved away I made my move. Fortunately, my partner was sunbathing and facing away so I had the chance to pull out the ring and get on one knee. I told her I love you and want to wake up next to you every morning for the rest of my life, will you marry me?

Yes was the reply and the rest of the holiday went by in a blur!

Well it is the city of love....

~ Posted by Aimee Cressey

We had been planning, saving and looking forward to our trip to Europe for the whole year. Our first stop was Paris, the city of love. When we got there I was so in awe of the city itself it didn't even occur to me that an engagement could be on the cards. Even while we waited (and waited....and waited!) in the queue for the Eiffel Tower in the scorching Parisian sun, I was happily oblivious to Justin's grand plan. We went up the first two floors taking pictures, marvelling at the view and being dorky tourists. When we finally reached the top floor, our travelling companions took off in a hurry in the opposite direction and Justin pulled me off to one side. Overlooking Paris, from the top of the Eiffel Tower he said some lovely (and private!) things and produced a stunning diamond and platinum ring from his backpack. As I turned around to face him, and answer him I sent both of us into a panic as I knocked his hand when I turned, I nearly knocked this beautiful ring over the edge of the tower and down to the crowds below! After a moment of panic, calm was restored and we were officially engaged in the city of love.

Frodo goes to Samoa

On the week of her birthday we flew to Samoa, our homeland, for an impromptu holiday. I knew this would be the perfect time and place to propose to her. I remembered a couple of years ago she mentioned her dream RING, so off I went doing my research into where the best place was to get it. I'm pretty much a rugged guy so you can imagine the hardship I went through ... a young rough looking man entering all these different jewellery stores enquiring about an engagement RING. Eventually I found the right place and person to help me design the perfect RING!

Before leaving our shores I had the nervous and anxious task of asking her Father for his daughters hand in marriage. After seeing me sweat and stutter my way through my request, he agreed. So off we went to the airport. On checking in I had to collect the RING at the duty-free pick up, and from here on in I became a paranoid guardian of the 'RING!' ... (sort of like Frodo!). We spent the first five days of our week long trip with her brother in Apia. They showed us around the island, took us to the local beaches and bars.... and of course to church! And, because my paranoia of losing the RING was so strong... everywhere I went... the RING followed. I carried it in a satchel, tucked under my arm as if I were protecting my own child! I think I checked the bag more than a thousand times! Her family kept asking why do you carry that bag everywhere??... and she began to get frustrated that I held it more than I held her hand.

On our sixth day, and still clutching my satchel, my unsuspecting partner and I went to the beautiful island of Savaii. We stayed at a beach fale which sat literally on the white sand beach. The sun was out, no clouds were around and I knew the time was right. While she was showering, I ripped out the page of my diary that matched that day's date and wrote a note asking her to meet me on the beach. I left the note on the floor of our humble beach fale and encircled it with lit tea light candles. Watching from the beach I saw her enter the fale... and being a girl she took her time getting ready. Nervously I waited on the beach, thinking of what to say... and praying the candles wouldn't burn down the fale! By this time it was sun-down and we were standing alone on the beach at the foot of the water. Again I began sweating and stuttering my words. One line I remember vividly was her asking, "Why are you talking so corny for?" ... which helped break the tension. Now holding the boxed ring behind my back (the first time it had been out of the trusty satchel), I took a deep breath, knelt down on one knee, and presented her with the RING asking for her hand in marriage. Looking shocked and surprised she began to cry and then said YES!! We spent the evening having a candlelit dinner (due to a power cut in the region, true!), which made for a beautiful setting, and laughed at how I, aka Frodo, carried the ring all the way from NZ, to the beautiful island of Savaii and of course on to her finger! We have set a date for Jan 2008 and cant wait to finally get hitched!!!

A Very Merry Christmas

-Posted by Scott And Shirley

Christmas is my favourite time of year – since a young girl, getting up early to open Christmas presents and listen to Christmas music is the most exciting thing ever!

My gifts always go under the Christmas tree on Christmas Eve, never earlier, as I am known to squeeze, shake, prod and guess what they are.

On Christmas Eve Scott put a huge gift under the tree, wrapped in delicate silver foil Christmas wrap – with a very large card inside an envelope taped to the top. The envelope read:

“No squeezing, no touching, no shaking, no prodding – only looking!”

Scott and I had been together for 8 years and had bought our first home together that July. This was our very first Christmas in our very first home together.

Scott had met Jayne at Diamonds Forever roughly 9 months before the proposal. He had put a lot of time and research into my engagement ring and chose 3 emerald cut diamonds, a tiffany style setting with a knife edge platinum band. He asked both sets of my parents for their approval and also showed them the ring.

Christmas morning finally arrived and I ran to the tree with Scott running behind. I opened the card first on top of the gift – it had very descriptive instructions as to what I had to do. This was ridiculous! – You are meant to just rip open your gifts, not follow instructions! But I did what I was told and opened the first box to find inside another box, then another and another and another. This may sound unimaginative – but you don't know Scott. He's an engineer and creativity isn't his best asset – so this was gold. When I got to the last box I had to stand up and pass it over to Scott. He got down on one knee (yes, the romantics still do this!) and with a shaky voice and a tear in his eye told me how much he loved me, how he wanted to spend the rest of his life with me, succeed together and grow old together – then he asked me to marry him!

That was the only gift I got that day from Scott! And if you saw the ring you'd understand why!

It was fantastic to see all our family on one day and to tell everyone the good news!

1 night, Fiji, engagement and a bottle of Fanta!!!

~ Posted by Kevin Blakeman

So me and my girlfriend are very competitive at everything!
When she decided to shout me a trip to Fiji I was blown away!
So to top this I decided after three years I would propose seeing that our third anniversary was whilst we were away.
At our resort I asked them to set up a table on the beach and asked for various things that we could do, eventually we whittled it down to fruit, candles, flowers and some champagne glasses for the bubbly. I had to be creative though as she doesn't drink, so the bubbly was Fanta on ice!!!
I got down on one knee on the beach with our candlelit dinner, after about 5 minutes and with people watching from the balcony, I asked her to marry me!!!
She said yes of course, we are both very very happy together now and I am sharing this story with you.

A real gamble!

My idea of a proposal was like all others you see in the movies... somewhere romantic, just the two of us under the stars etc... well, that was about as far from my proposal as you could get! I popped the question at a fundraising casino night with over 250 people watching! I was supposed to be the MC for the night. When I got on stage to do the auctions I called on my girlfriend of 5 years to come on stage, she didn't want to at first, this made me even more nervous, I mean how was I going to get out of this one. Once she was on stage I knelt down on my knee, told her that after 5 years of loving her it was time to commit fully. I am not sure if it was shock or embarrassment or even both, but she knocked the ring out of my hand! Once it was safely back I asked her if she would marry me. It was a YES! An absolute magic night with all our friends and family there, I don't think I'll be asked to MC another event for a while, but the gamble paid off!!

Hyde Park Surprise

My fiancé had organised a surprise for the day of my birthday. He told me to ring him at 10am sharp for directions. We were living in London at the time and I was told to catch the tube to Hyde Park Corner then call him for the next set of directions. After a few phone calls, I wandered through Hyde Park to find my fiancé sitting on a big picnic blanket (I LOVE picnics). I sat down and he gave me a lovely birthday card then asked me to marry him as he produced a toy ring. Of course I said yes! He then bought out the bubbles, glasses, strawberries, cheese and crackers and we spent the afternoon in the sun talking about our future. We went ring shopping that afternoon and I got the perfect one! The sweetest part is that he had rung my parents the day before and asked for their permission. We have set a date for our wedding which will be on our 6 year anniversary in 2009 in New Zealand.

Burger Ring

~ Posted by Lisa McLaggan

As some girls do, after being in a relationship for a few years, we start to give the odd "subtle" hint about getting married. As friends at work got engaged, I would say to Mike "so and so has such a lovely engagement ring" or "look at this beautiful ring Mike". Mike would nod and say "yeah sure Lisa, I'll buy you a ring, you can have a burger ring"...

We went to Malaysia in July 2006 with a group of friends for a holiday. It was going to be our 3 year anniversary while we were over there.

We hired 150cc scooters to drive around the island of Lankawi and as I wanted to enjoy the sights and not get left behind, I doubled up on the back of Mike's scooter. We had just been up the largest mountain in Lankawi and stopped off at a waterfall so the guys could have a swim before heading home. On the way back down Mike said to me "hey Lease, can you feed me some mentos lollies". Now Mike is addicted to lollies and I thought, how typical, he wants me to get him lollies at the most inappropriate of times. I reached for the box of mentos he had in his pocket and fished around for a mentos. I felt something larger and pulled it out. "There's only a burger ring in here Mike" I said. Mike then turned his head around (remember we were on the scooter flying along) and said "will you marry me Lease". Taking a while to realise just what he'd said I then screamed "YES"!

We drove back to the resort and went round banging on our friends doors and telling them the great news. We then rang back to NZ and woke our parents up and told them. There were heaps of tears of joy and we celebrated with our friends at an amazing restaurant that night. It was definitely a holiday to remember and I think, a pretty unique proposal.

Lisa McLaggan and Michael Toon
Engaged 7th July 2006 - Lankawi

Rock upon rock proposal

My boyfriend and I were tramping with friends up over Waimakere Col in Arthurs Pass. The next day's tramp was tricky over the snow-covered col so three of the group were checking out the track. My partner was on top of a rock watching them through binoculars and asked me to join him. After helping me up on the rock I was trying to look through the binoculars when he started waving the ring in front of them. Unfortunately, I could only see his hands so I instead was trying to push them away. Finally, I clicked as he asked me. After saying yes we watched the sunset over the mountains. The unromantic thing was about 20 minutes later, I was helping to dig the group toilet! The next day truly cemented our relationship as it was a 12½ hour walk to make it out by new years eve. By the time we got back to the Arthurs Pass village and phoned people we were well on our way for the new years eve festivities.

Beach Proposal - Will you do me the honour...

The proposal went too well! He took me to Piha, stood in ankle deep water and got down on one knee, he started crying and mumbled the special words :)



Propose & Tell

Engagement on Ice!!!

~ Posted by Suzanne

It is December 8th.
New York City, 4:00.
9,000 people gathered at Rockefeller Center.
150 ice skaters swirling around.
The rink clears.
Our song plays.
Bless the Broken Road by Rascal Flatts.
Dave takes Suzanne's hand.
She knows. This is it.
"You have to wait to the end of the song" he teases.
We skate. We talk. We joke.
"If I fall we'll be on YouTube on Monday".
The 2nd verse starts.
The crowd quiets.
They pause in the middle of the rink.
Dave takes out the little black box.
Suzanne tears up.
He lowers to one knee (on skates!).
The crowd explodes.
Suzanne takes off her glove and throws it behind her.
He holds her shaky, bare hand.
"Will you marry me?"
"Yes!"
They embrace, the crowd erupts again.
Skating off, Suzanne's mom and brother were at the exit - video camera in hand.
Surprise!

New start to the New Year

~Posted by CLR

I met my partner in London through a group of friends and after living there for a few years we decided it was time to come back to our homeland and buy a home together.

With a mortgage over our heads we had been working hard all of 2007 and decided we were going to take a break with our friends (the same one's we had met in London, they had come over for a holiday) and go camping up in the Bay of Islands for New Years.

Whilst we were there one of the couples we were with got engaged on the beach. I was wondering when or if he would ever ask me, the next day (New Years Eve) when the fireworks were going off over the water and our friends were around us on the pier, he got down on his knees. Being a builder he's not usually romantic so I was half laughing and crying while I said "yes, of course!". It made our holiday unforgettable and although we now both have to go back to work and save enough for the ring to make it all official, we were so much happier knowing we have something special to aim for.

Beachy Keen

~ Posted by Holly Silver

Stuart and I had been talking about getting married for some time and had always decided that we would wait until we had finished with our University Study before taking the big plunge. It was coming up close to 7 years of being together and we felt very certain that we would be together for an eternity.

Yes, we had determined our pet hates, least likes and most favoured habits. We knew we were perfect for each other, I like to do everything quickly and Stu likes to ensure every "t" is crossed. Perfectly complimented!

One morning not so long ago, we were talking about how far we had both come together; the financial hardships, struggles of the Hamilton winters with no heating and the various other obstacles life threw our way - we had made it! With two degrees in tow and new professional jobs - we had got to the other side. That day we were travelling back to our home town Gisborne to spend Christmas with both our families, a yearly tradition we had established. It was a perfectly beautiful day, not a cloud in the sky. As we were approaching the Mt, Stu asked me if I felt like a walk along the beach. Of course I did!! The beach is our favourite past time, so many memories growing up together in Gisborne...the hot summers...camping...laughing...spending time with family. Just as I was about to sit down on the white sand, there he was, on one knee, with a red little box open and in it - a sparkly diamond ring, "will you be my wife"..."of course I will".

It was the most romantic, perfect proposal I could have ever dreamt of. As we sat there on the sandy shore, looking out over the glistening water, listening to the waves dancing and the sky singing we knew this day was only the very beginning of the wonderful life journey we would spend together as one.

Puppy Love

I came home from a hard day at work and heard an unusual noise coming from my spare room and to my utter surprise found a golden retriever puppy in there (I've always wanted one, I love them). It had a note attached to its collar saying how it would like to go for a walk to a particular park that is down the road from my house. When I arrived at the park my fiancé (then boyfriend) was waiting for me, he had set up a huge picnic area and even hired a band to play my favourite music! He got down on one knee and proposed. We had the most amazing night - we drank champagne and danced under the stars, it was so romantic.

Very unexpected and cute, what a birthday to remember

We started our day with a picnic in Flaxmill Bay, we were lying down in the sun eating lunch when I received an early birthday present wrapped in a tiny box with a gold ribbon, I was so surprised

Unorganised

I had it all planned out, I had run through it all in my head a thousand times. I had the ring, dinner and the hotel booked, all I had to do was wait, hold my tongue and not say anything. Maybe it was because I was keeping it a secret, but the pressure and questions about weddings and when I was going to ask the question seemed to be everywhere.

The day before 'D-day' I talked myself into asking 'Dad' for his daughters hand in marriage. 45 minutes into the visit I had still not asked the question and as we walked to the car to say our goodbye's I bit the bullet and asked him. Thankfully, with a huge smile across his face he gave me the big green light.

On the morning of D-day we were babysitting our friends (now bridesmaid) 3 month old son. This turned out to be a great distraction as it gave me time to pack both bags in which I thought would be the right outfit's (three options with matching shoes) and an entire drawer of makeup. After throwing the bags out the window I managed to pack the car without being seen, I felt confident that all was going to plan but then it dawned on me that I had not planned on how to get Jenny out and into the car!

Our friends collected their baby later that afternoon and I suggested popping out to grab a coffee. As we drove along the waterfront I suggested stopping to take a look at what was happening along Princess Wharf. We pulled into the Hilton car park, Jenny looked at me sideways and said "you can't park here, this is for hotel guest only", "I know" I replied, "we are staying here tonight, now come on, lets get out so they can park it". With great hesitation, Jenny got out of the car and we entered the hotel. Everything you would think was still going to plan, but then at the front desk I was required to present a credit card, after searching desperately in all my pockets, that horrid feeling hit me. "I have left it at home, may I please use yours"? Feeling like a right prat we went to the room. Jenny was suspicious and knowing that neither of us were into the big in public "Will You Marry Me" I decided to ask there and then. I raced into the bathroom where I had hidden the ring (after having moved it 3 times since we had been in the room) and as soon as I walked out and dropped to one knee the tears started rolling down Jenny's face, this was enough to set me off. I eventually got to ask the question "Honey, will you marry me? I think she said "Yes, of course I will"! I went to get the bubbly which I thought I had packed...nope turns out I forgot that too! Never mind, as it happens none of the clothes I had packed were right so we decided to drive back home to get the right attire, my wallet and the bubbly. At least we can laugh about it. The rest of the weekend was wonderful, with good wine, food and wife to be. Jenny loves the ring, thanks for all your help Jayne.

We have set a date for our wedding which will be the 1st November 2008 and we are enjoying planning our Wedding Day...just as well we can do that one together...

Signed,
Unorganized

Doing it Backwards

~ Posted by Lorraine Gordon

My friend Will and I had been hanging out together for 18 months, I really appreciated his friendship, he was like my little brother, he was my most reliable mate, I could ask him for anything, I looked out for him and he was four years younger than me. He was a gym junky and a dedicated Christian. One day, over night it seemed, he grew from a 'little brother' to someone who made my pulse rise sharply. It was very disconcerting, so I decided to get together with him to let him know that I had a crush on him and if we kept our distance for a few weeks I'd be fine, and we could get back to being friends. Well, I didn't get to say anything, because when we began our chat, he started saying things that hinted he was attracted to me. I encouraged him to talk... He thought for a while (in between shaking and sweating), and announced that he loved me and wanted to share the rest of his life with me.

I was expecting to be asked out on a date!! Well, I wasn't in love with him, although I was extremely attracted. But something about it all was right. So I told him I thought I felt the same. He almost fell over! Well, after getting over the shock we'd both just had, we agreed that since we were getting married, we may as well start going out. I couldn't believe it - he was like a little boy at Christmas. He danced around and sang silly songs about having found his treasure. He was like Tigger!

Over the next month I relaxed, in awe of his excitement and I fell head over heels in love. Three months later, he got down on one knee in front of our whole church and presented me with a ring and asked me officially. Today, thirteen years on, and twelve of those married, with two children, he's just as excited as the day he shocked me. It brings to mind something someone once told me - "Marry a man who loves you more than you love him - because a woman who is loved, will love".

So, we did it backwards. Committed to getting married, started going out, and then I fell in love.

I still admire and respect him, and see him as the most faithful and dependable man. The best person I have ever met.

DVD - Rock of Love

~ Posted by Debbie Parkes

I had been wanting a particular DVD for a while but it was one of those things that you push to the side because there is always something more important that you need to get.

Christmas 2006 came around and we sat down to open our presents with our twin girls who were celebrating their first Christmas. It came time for our presents, Mark handed me a present which I promptly opened to find the Def Leppard DVD that I had wanted for soooooo long. Christmas morning isn't really the time for rock music so I put it to the side thinking "I'll play that later" and Mark asked me if I was going to open it.

As I opened it, cut out in the shape of the DVD was a note with the words... 'Will you Marry Me' and an engagement ring.

I said yes and now we are looking forward to the day we get married which will be when our girls are old enough to walk down the aisle with us. Needless to say that is still my favourite DVD.

Young Love

~ Posted by Zoe Kilford

My 20th Birthday was last October, Ben told me I wasn't allowed to have lunch until he got home from work because he was taking me out.

It was 1pm by the time he got home, I was starving and I decided I didn't feel like going out for lunch but he said I didn't have a choice because he was taking me out whether I liked it or not... This is when I got suspicious, especially noticing my picnic hamper missing from its spot earlier.

He wanted me to direct him to my favourite place which was up the top of this summit in the Waitakere Ranges. We arrived 10 minutes later- it was quite chilly and windy- not to mention there were some boy racers playing around in the car park! Not the best weather but he still pulled out a blanket and the picnic hamper (which he filled on his way home).

I asked if he wanted to have something to eat (thinking we should just eat and go as I was cold! He said "no I just want to cuddle" VERY odd for him, as we all know men don't like to wait long for food! Then he took me by surprise and told me to close my eyes so he could give me my birthday present... I started shaking a bit as I closed my eyes. He put this little box in my hand and said "OPEN" and there was this pretty little ring! He asked me to marry him in a soft little nervous voice. Of course I said "yes" as I was trying to hold back the excitement and tears. He said to me "I know we are young and we can't afford a wedding for a while, but this is just so you know that I do want to marry you one day" awwwwwwwww.

I couldn't wait to tell everyone! My mum was the first person I phoned, she said this doesn't happen in our family! Lets just say I was the reason my parents decided to get married!! I told her not to worry as I wasn't pregnant :)

Once upon a time

At 14 my now husband and I met and began a long distance friendship. At 20 we got engaged in a romantic setting in a lovely candlelit dinner in a restaurant at Cornwall park. Circumstances changed in our lives and we ended up countries apart - we didn't get married and didn't have contact with one another for 25 years.

A cupid friend who knew both of our circumstances reintroduced us in 1990 and we began written conversations again catching up on all the news and rekindling the romance. Four months later my man proposed telling me his feelings were still the same and so it seems were mine, in a whirlwind romance, music from the Phantom of the opera and all 5 of our children in attendance, we married in the snow in the blue Mountains and have lived happily ever after (or at least 17 years of that so far) in Auckland. This story crossed the Tasman and our friends all contributed to helping our romance blossom. We are now 60 and still going strong a romance too good to miss.

Sky Tower New Years Eve Proposal

I intend to propose after dinner in the revolving restaurant in the Sky Tower in front of my parents that are over from England and parents in law that immigrated 4 years ago. Hopefully it will be very special and memorable.

Special moment in front of the entire family

~ Posted by Merv Giam

Her 21st birthday was on the 26th September (Wed) and she would be celebrating it on a boat with 50 of her closest family and friends on the 29th September (Sat).

So for everyday 21 days prior to her actual birthday she received a little present from me. It all started on the 6th of September.

Day 1, 6th Sept - Pearl Earrings with a note saying that she will be getting a present from me everyday for 21 days till her birthday.

Day 2, 7th Sept - Alarm clock with variable brightness adjustment (the one she had was bright when the room lights were off.

Day 3, 8th Sept - Handmade breakfast voucher to a place of her choice

Day 4, 9th Sept - Tiny tee and wee undies

Day 5, 10th Sept - Bottle of Laurent Perrier Champagne

Day 6, 11th Sept - BodyShop body butter

Day 7, 12th Sept - A book of love poems

Day 8, 13th Sept - A framed Certificate of Ownership

Day 9, 14th Sept - Handmade dinner voucher at WineLoft

Day 10, 15th Sept - A picture framed heart of tiny photos made into a heart

Day 11, 16th Sept - A box of funny roadsigns depicting the female mood

Day 12, 17th Sept - Lingerie set from Bendon

Day 13, 18th Sept - Candle stands (she always wanted them but never got round to buying them)

Day 14, 19th Sept - Framed tickets to stage plays on our first date together

Day 15, 20th Sept - Forever Friends teddy bear (part of her on going collection)

Day 16, 21st Sept - 21 long stem white roses sent to her at her work

Day 17, 22nd Sept - \$200 shopping spree

Day 18, 23rd Sept - *Missed a present on purpose* but took her to the viaduct for an afternoon wine and antipasto and made it look like it was the present but actually it's not. Because every present came with a white envelope and today she did not receive one.

Day 19, 24th Sept - A pair of his and her cartoon books on cute love

Day 20, 25th Sept - A pair of Forever Friends teddy bear holding X and O

Day 21, 26th Sept - Today is her actual birthday, (to her knowledge, it was just another day at work and I was to pick her up after work for dinner at a fancy restaurant). But I called her boss 1 month ago to arrange for her to have the day off. I picked her up from her house early in the morning to take her out for breakfast and on the way to breakfast I turned onto the motorway heading towards the city. She was shocked and huffed at me that I have made a wrong turn. It was then that I told her that I have arranged for her to have the day off and she will be pampered.

First stop was the viaduct for breakfast at Mecca, next I dropped her off at Serville Spa for a 3 hours spa treatment. Later, I picked her up for lunch at Euro and then we headed to the Auckland Domain for a short stroll and then we checked into a suite at the Heritage Hotel where we relaxed for the afternoon. We headed into town in the evening for a walk around the shops and headed back to the hotel's Hector's Restaurant for a candlelit dinner.

Day 22, 27th Sept - Usual Day

Day 23, 28th Sept - Usual Day

Day 24, 29th Sept - Her 21st birthday party on a boat with her friends and family.

The day started with us preparing the catering items and decorations for the party. Later that morning we headed to the cake store where she had her cake specially ordered 3 weeks before. Before the cake was completed I had asked Jayne from Diamonds Forever to provide me with an extra ring box that I had the bakers put into the cake when it was completed and to mark where the ring box was hidden). We picked up the cake and she had no idea of the surprise in the cake, the bakers were in on the surprise and were so kind to have kept the secret so well.

As the day progressed we soon found ourselves on the boat in the evening. Friends and family starting arriving. The cake was the centrepiece. The night progressed very well and soon it was time for speeches and cutting of the birthday cake. But before those took place, I had another surprise, for the last 2 weeks, I have been secretly going round to all of her 8 brothers, sisters and mom and step dad (her dad passed away a few years ago) to record a personal video message from every one of them. I was the last person on the video message and I told her Happy Birthday and said there was one last surprise as she only actually received 20 presents and not the 21 that I promised. That missing present is hidden in her cake.

So speeches took place, we sang happy birthday and I asked her to cut the cake at the particular spot where the ring box was hidden. After a good 1 minute or so she found the ring box, she opened it and it contain a small paper heart that said 'Marry Me' - she turned around to look at me and I was already on my knees holding opened the actual engagement ring.

It was such a special moment for her and us because it was in front of her entire family.

Sparkling M+M's

~ Posted by Allison O'Neill

Tim hadn't been too discreet about the fact a proposal was well on its way. So when it really was time he wanted to make sure it was a big surprise.

He got home from work one night and had a packet of M+M's in his lunch box. He kept telling me to eat them. I kept saying "I will after tea".

When tea was finished he was first to jump up and get stuck into the dishes (I could argue this also formed part of the surprise!). All there was for me to do was..... get stuck into the M+M's. I had joked with Tim previously that he should just put the ring in the pantry and I will open the cupboard and see it, I told him that if he proposed in such a way (with it 'hidden' somewhere) I would just chuck the ring on my finger and say nothing until he noticed it. So when a huge rock fell out of the bag of M+M's I slipped it quietly on my finger and said nothing. Unfortunately he'd been watching me from the next room like a hawk and came in, got down on one knee and asked me if I'd like to marry him. I of course said yes, but later joked with my family that I'd said "I'll think about it and get back to you".

We are now married and had lots of little quirks that are 'us' in our wedding – our ring engravings say "a deals a deal", we did a high five at 'you may kiss the bride' time after which Tim swung me round and leaned over to seal the deal properly with a kiss. It looks great on our wedding DVD. We'd also managed to keep our learning to dance a huge secret and wow'ed our families.

We are so happy and love being together as a 'family' – as husband and wife we feel 'whole'. I love answering "Allison O'Neill" when asked my name, it is amazing how life can change so much.....and it all started with one amazing diamond and one long awaited question....

Birthday Butterflies on Browns Island!

We had been dating for almost three years and had got to the stage of talking about marriage as a serious step we both wanted to take. I just needed to figure out when and how to make it a proposal to never forget.

For a long time I had been thinking about when and how to ask, having always joked of taking her to a Romantic Island and getting down on one knee.

One day I was driving home from work and I thought - that's it I am going to do it on her birthday so it is a complete surprise!

The first step was to meet her older brother and her family for their permission - they couldn't have been happier!

The stress of waiting and planning started. As the day got closer, I literally couldn't sleep for three nights prior...this is how the best day of my life began.

6.30am

After having had no sleep and being anxious, the weather was overcast but holding - it was an important part.

She finally woke up, having both taken the day off work for her birthday, I promised a morning out biking and the rest I told her was unplanned, yeah right!

I was fighting a combination of butterflies and nausea!

8.30 am

The day started with a surprise birthday present – a pedal bike and we went riding together along the waterfront.

9.30 am

With both our bikes packed into the car we drove down to Mission Bay to start a fun ride on her new bike to a birthday brunch spot at a stylish, St Heliers Café.

After a few champagnes and time taking forever to pass, we started back towards the car, at which point I was trying to slow us down because we were ahead of my carefully planned schedule!

I feigned a terrible stomach ache to keep us on schedule and after arriving back at the car to drive to our next stop, I pulled into a local restaurant at Mechanics Bay, complaining of urgently needing a toilet. She waited in the car as I actually went into the Auckland Heli-Link office, just underneath the restaurant.

Whilst she waited, I secretly prepared the chopper and dropped off an over night bag to the helpful team at Heli - Link...

Then all at once, I rushed to the car and told her to hop out and get moving. To her amazement, within only a minute of having just ridden her new bike along the waterfront to lunch, we were in a private helicopter lifting off over Auckland City on a mystery flight..

We circled for a while over the Sky City tower and then headed towards the Island, to the remote, uninhabited Browns Island located in the Auckland Harbour.

The pilot who had been carefully briefed, circled over the Island and carefully dipping one side of the helicopter so she could clearly see a huge 100 meter wide square heart painted on the side of the hill.

At first she didn't even realize what it was and then the pilot mentioned I think Simon may have been here before! Had I what! A good friend and I had been over that weekend by fizz boat, having run aground twice, just trying to even get on this island to prepare!

We landed just beside the heart on our own completely remote island, only us. I walked her over, (she was a little confused and disorientated by this stage) to a pre-prepared spot next to the heart and politely insisted I blindfold her.

Next, I raced down to pick up a dozen red roses, champagne and a rug that I had also brought over from the mainland via a boat to the island the day prior and had hidden them in the bushes.

Carefully placing these next to her I removed the blindfold and read a poem I had read which was in a book that I had written. The poem incorporated all the things I really wanted to say and make sure it all came out in the right order..!

*A Birthday celebration would not be complete
Without life long plans that cannot be beat!*

*I promise your 32nd Year will be one to remember
Hi flying moments especially December!*

*Happy Birthday my darling shmiline (this was her nick name)
The next moment, should be on film.*

*I have one more present to keep you out of strife.
You need to remember it for the rest of your life.*

*I have bought you to this place to ask you a question.
From my diary, I quote. A small section.*

*"Will this be the girl with whom I live and love forever?
I know she is the one and we can make it together.
We compliment each other in so many ways.
My god, seriously, I really hope she stays"
To have found such a perfect match seems crazy
So far, she thinks I am a little hazy...*

*So from today, 3 months salary will sit in an account to spend
For you to buy one big ring. So I cannot pretend.*

*To let you know, how much I adore you in everyway
"My life long commitment" to you, is my gift today*

*Stop for a second and savour this together
I will only ask once and forever*

"Me thinking" (Please oh let the answer be.)



Will you Marry me!

As I read the last line to my amazement the sun came just as I got to it (it had been drizzling).

After what seemed like an eternity waiting, but was probably only a few seconds, to my delight, she said yes! Thank god because I wanted this to be a day for her to remember forever and we still had a few more things on the menu.

The poem then went onto read..

*Consider I had to first ask your parents of course.
Who think we are on track and a permanent force.*

*We don't have enough time to celebrate all that we are
So I booked a very extravagant holiday a far*

*The last of the big spenders I am
Did I mention I was your biggest fan?*

*It will remain a secret or maybe not.
I promise lots of palm trees and its going to be hot.*

*From now until New Years we have plenty to suss.
Take the time to celebrate lets make a fuss.*

*Remember, the trip to celebrate is already booked
A date or two to consider and not be overlooked.*

*One to get married and build clouds in the sky
More remote Islands to visit, we may have to fly.*

*The second date of course is to complete the test
I think we are up to filling the nest?*

After lots of hugging and kisses and now both on a huge natural high, we took off again in the helicopter to arrive on Waiheke Island for a romantic lunch, again just us, at the Mud Brick Café and Winery.

The team did an incredible job off offering us more champagne and a big seafood and fresh food platter and as everything began to sink in, I began to relax after stressing to cover all the surprises,

After lunch we took off back to Auckland and we checked into a room at the Millennium Hotel in the City.

On arrival, I had another bunch of roses, chocolates and more champagne to her delight and we now had some time to relax.

Finally, with some time to call friends and family and I asked my brother to be my best man!

With a knock at the door, my now fiancé had a make up lady and a hairdresser arrive to get her pampered for dinner.



I left and went to the gym to work out, relax and take in the moment, when I came back she had been transformed into a princess ready for dinner!

We left in style in a corporate hotel limousine and headed for a romantic dinner.

The stressful birthday surprise - turned marriage proposal, turned out to be day both of us will recall and remember for the rest of our lives. An investment for life.

The stress and time taken to plan it was all worth it in the end!

We were happily married on Sept 15th and it all went perfectly, who knows perhaps now we have a little one already on the way..

A Real Mans Man Proposal

- Posted by Sarah Bryan

It was my birthday weekend and 6 months earlier we had organised a getaway weekend at Hamner Springs to celebrate it.

We had picked up my ring 4 weeks earlier and I was not expecting anything that weekend knowing that he is not the most romantic man in the world. You would describe Andy as a real "mans man". A romantic evening to him is dinner then home to watch the rugby and drinking beer on the couch, public affection is holding hands. So when he took me out to dinner in a full restaurant (knowing that there was rugby on that night) I didn't think anything of it. He sat me facing the doors and we were handed a menu.

After finishing the main course the waitress came over with a plate covered in Fruit Garnish and my ring was placed in the middle of it sparkling in the candlelight. He had organised with the waitresses to bring it out after we finished our meals.

He got down on one knee in the middle of this full restaurant and asked me to marry him. I was so taken by shock my words weren't coming out very clearly but I managed to accept by nodding furiously and smiling. We both were bright red as he put the ring on my finger and kissed me. The other diners clapped and came to congratulate us. After dessert we went back to our hotel room and celebrated by drinking champagne and watching the rugby.

The most unromantic proposal!

My story is a little different compared to the beautiful romantic proposals displayed on this website. My partner and I (now Fiancé) have been planning to get married for a while. My partner is Norwegian and I am Indian and we were planning to leave to Norway at the end of this year. For me to be able to do that I needed to apply for my visa as his wife.

Since we had been discussing this, I was convinced that the proposal was out of the way and we would just set a date for the wedding so we could get the visa process started.

So on Valentines Day we wore our best clothes, went for a romantic dinner and after 2 bottles of beer he said "Ok let's get married on 29th Feb 08". I initially didn't know whether to be happy or sad, was I engaged or not. I was thinking to myself - I love this guy and I want to marry him but it wouldn't hurt for him to get down one knee and propose.

So I got stuck into getting a wedding organised for the 29th Feb, made it sound as romantic as possible when my colleagues asked me how he proposed and made excuses for not having a ring.

Then yesterday (the 21st Feb - 1 week before my wedding) as I got back from work my partner said that he has booked tickets to a movie. We were just about to leave the house when I was digging through my bag for keys. I looked up only to find my partner with a BOX in his hand with a beautiful ring inside, he got down on one knee and asked "Will You Marry Me?"

I squealed, I didn't know how to react but finally I composed myself and said YES, YES, YES. We went out for a romantic dinner instead of a movie afterwards.

Now we are still in the process of organising the wedding - I now have a beautiful ring on my finger and a big smile on my face that I can't rub off!

He truly turned this most unromantic situation into one of the most memorable days of my life.

Went out to buy garden plants and have lunch.

We started the day at the garden shop to buy some plants for the garden and have some lunch.

After this my partner informed me that he had to collect his watch from the Jewellers on the other side of town. On arriving at the Jewellers he informed me that we were actually there to look at engagement rings - that was his proposal.

We had discussed getting married several months earlier but had not talked about it again.

Hot Pools

On Aug 11 2006, my boyfriend (now husband) took me for a ride to get some sand sculptures for his business from a place in near Thames. He also promised he would take me to Miranda hot pools on the way back since I hadn't ever been there.

I was really excited for our big day out. Friday came along and his employee didn't show and I thought, there goes our road trip. At 10am, he text me saying - read the note in my desk draw in the office. I went over and read the note: which said - please pack a few things for today and something nice to wear tonight. I'll see you soon xox" Hmm, I thought awesome we are heading to Bracu in Bombay for dinner... so I went and packed a few things. He swung by at 12noon to pick me up and off we went.

We turned off at Pokeno so I thought yipee we are going to the hot pools first.. we headed off track up a windy non existent road... we turned up to a property in the middle of nowhere and a gentleman greeted us at the door.

We headed in, my jaw is on the floor because the place was amazing. He then stated we had the whole lodge to ourselves!!!

So we get dressed for dinner and out comes 3 courses and 1 to go. By now I was pretty much on my way as I ordered a bottle of wine... just before desert, out comes a bottle of Moet. My hubby then gets down on one knee and says "will you do the honour in becoming my wife" I started crying and said yes.. my next question was "when did you ask my dad and when do we get to go to Miranda??"

The night was perfect, a perfect start to a long and happy life together.

By the way, we didn't end up going to the pools.

We recently had our wedding(s) and they were both amazing..

This was by far the most romantic ever, something I didn't think he could pull off..

Love is in the air

~ Posted by Nelson Simpson

My partner and I had been together for 2 years when I decided the time was right to propose. I wanted the moment to be extra special for Catarina and so a lot of planning went into how I would make the moment perfect...

It was a normal Saturday and I suggested we go for a picnic. When we got to the park a hot air balloon was all set up for us to go for a ride (I had organised it weeks before and had her family help). We drank Champagne and enjoyed the amazing views and I told her how much I loved her and wanted to spend the rest of my life with her...I had organised a big sign to be laid out on the grass when we arrived back (it could be read from the hot air balloon) - it read "Catarina, Will you Marry Me ?". She Said Yes!!!! It was the happiest day of my life :)

Uncertain love comes true!!

- Posted by Claire Hitchcock

I was diagnosed with malignant melanoma 18 months into Gareth and my relationship. I had to have two surgeries and went through a very uncertain and trying time. Gareth was my rock every step of the way. Unfortunately, we had to cancel the trip we had booked back to Scotland to see my family as I was still sick, but when I was well enough Gareth took me away for a holiday. Unbeknown to me, he had called my mother the week before to ask for her permission to marry me. Gareth turned to me and told me how much he loved me and then proposed to me while we were sitting in the moonlight at the Blue and Green lakes in Rotorua. I said yes immediately.

Quiet, full of love, romantic, most exciting day of my life

Casper took me to the Spur. I didn't expect anything so I didn't dress up. At the table he took my hand and kissed me. When I opened my eyes there was a box on the table. I grabbed it, opened it and with tears in my eyes I looked. I was so glad because it had finally happened. Inside the box was string. I could not believe it and I asked him what the string was for. He took my hand and told me that the string was to tie our lives together. When we are tied we could never be apart again. He tied the other end to his finger. He looked me straight in the eye. My heart felt like it would burst and I realised how much I loved him. He opened his hand and the ring fell off the string right next to my finger. He came closer, whispered in my ear and asked if I would marry him and be always with him. I could not get a word out, I just nodded. He slid the ring on my finger and I couldn't wait to scream it out and I phoned my parents. That was the happiest day of my life. I can't wait until we get married to spend our life together.

THE CUFFS!

- Posted by Vanessa Jones

We had decided to get family and friends together for what I believed to be a BBQ at my partner's house, it was kind of our first time really - organising the whole thing food, drinks getting the house ready etc... it was really nice because we hadn't met all of each other's family and friends.

The day went well I did the cooking and cleaning and he organised the music and the outdoor area which included cleaning the all important BBQ. At about 6pm people started arriving and we both had huge smiles on and it was a lovely time, we went around socialising and getting to know people.

I was wondering where my partner (Marcel) had gone... so went over to his best mate and asked him if he knew where he was... with this he put on my favourite song 'slice of heaven' by Dave Dobbyn. Hearing people ooooo ing and aaaaa ing around the corner and, in a full tux - out came Marcel. He got down on one knee and asked if he could "cuff me" it was hilarious, he pulled out a pair of handcuffs he had made from horse shoes (he is a farrier). He then put one shoe around my wrist and one around his. Since then we have been cuffed together!

Loving every minute of our horsey heaven together!

For Incurable Romantics

~ Posted by Iain

Sophie and I actually met quite fortuitously at a new years eve party on Waiheke (actually it was on New Year's morning that we met just as Sophie was leaving the party). Sophie gave me a business card ostensibly to maintain contact in order to find out the details of a friend of mine who is an entertainment lawyer (Yeah right!).

Not wanting to miss a golden opportunity I sent Sophie a text later that same morning suggesting we meet for coffee. Sophie, it appears, decided to play hard to get and said she was heading back into the city. That inspired me to make a hasty return myself and we arranged to meet for coffee the next day.

The coffee meeting went well and we discovered a mutual passion for jogging, especially early morning runs. That discovery led to what I perceived to be an excellent opportunity for further spadework and resulted in frequent early morning dashes from my then residence in Devonport up to Mairangi Bay where we would meet on the waterfront and run along the beaches and clifftops to the end of the beach at Browns Bay and back. The significance of this story is that, as our relationship developed, the end of the beach at Browns Bay presented the opportunity (which was never wasted!), for a hug and a kiss before we commenced the return journey.

It seemed to me that the end of the beach at Browns Bay was the ideal place to propose. Accordingly having, with your good services, obtained a most exquisite engagement ring I conspired to propose at that location.

The plan was almost derailed by Sophie suggesting on Saturday morning that we go to the gym instead, however, I persuaded her to stick with plan A and to go for a run.

It was a beautiful morning and the sun crested the horizon as we made our way along the clifftops. It was a perfect morning for a proposal. Normally Sophie runs with a waist belt, however, on this morning I prevailed on her to allow me to wear the waist belt ostensibly to carry my digital camera in case of a good photo opportunity. Unbeknown to Sophie the digital camera was not on board but the engagement ring certainly was.

At the end of the beach I gave Sophie a hug and asked her if she still wanted to marry me. She said that she did. With that I dropped onto one knee and produced the ring. To say she was overwhelmed was, I think, a gross understatement.

It transpired that we had a lovely weekend spending Saturday night with friends at Omaha Beach and celebrating accordingly. I arrived at work on Monday morning to find an email from Sophie. The first two sentences read: "I feel awed and humbled by the beautiful engagement ring you chose for me. It is magic and exquisite beyond anything I had imagined."

Thank you Jayne, for your wonderful service and product.

Kind regards
Iain

It was simple but romantic 199 on the 4th or April

It was 6th April 2004, Tuesday. As usual, Rick was picking me up at a train station after work. However, today, there was something a little bit unusual as I got into the car. Rick was smartly dressed. Normally he would wear track pants and a sweater when picking me up. Anyway, I didn't think about it too much. Maybe he was just in a good mood to dress himself up.

So, we reached home. Rick rushed right upstairs while I was taking my time browsing through the mail. Suddenly, "What? Oh my god!" he shouted from upstairs. It didn't sound very nice at all. "What happened?" I rushed upstairs fearing something bad has happened.

I walked into the master bedroom, which we were saving till the day we got married. I couldn't believe my eyes! There was this BIG heart made from mixed colours of roses on the floor. And, there he was, down on his one knee, holding a rose with a beautiful diamond ring tied to it. I was shocked and stunned. He held my hand and started telling me how he has been feeling about me. I didn't managed to get all the words as I was trying to make sense of what was happening. All I could hear in the end was, "Doreen, will you marry me?" Without a doubt, I said YES.

Later I was told there were 199 roses altogether. 9 represents "eternity" in Chinese, thus 199 gave a meaning of "You are the one forever" in Chinese.

I never counted. I trust my man!

Dog Food Delight

~ Posted by Dana Johansen

My partner and I have been together for four years. We had discussed getting married but his proposals were always under the influence so I refused to accept. After waiting so long for one of those beautiful romantic proposals that you hear about on the radio, I had nearly given up. Then one night as I was in my pyjamas, chopping up the dog food, he turned around and said with love in his eyes "So, should we get married or what?". I laughed my head off and accepted dog food and all.

Fairy tales make wonderful dreams, but marriage is for those that see past them.

Romantic, teary, sweet, tender

Gerry met Sue on findsomeone. Weeks later they met [he's very nervous shaking in fact] as he enters the club complete with tie and flowers in hand.

He recognises Sue by her pink skirt and black top and is taken by her sparkling eyes.

Recognising that his hands are shaking she gently reaches over, takes his hand and says...I wont bite. A few months later, with tears in his eyes he pops the question down on bended knee in front of all her friends. Well what can a girl say but... yes! Two kindred spirits, broken hearts [now mended], by a new love, a new start and fresh hope for the future.

Sparkling Surprise!

- Posted by Kerry-Marie Budel

My gorgeous commitment phobic boyfriend totally surprised me on our holiday in Rarotonga. Stashed away in the safe was an exquisite diamond ring that was pulled out one night as John unexpectedly proposed overlooking the sparkling water, illuminated by the full moon. I said John OH MY GOD, YES!

Iron clad engagement

- Posted by Pamela Mccauley

Gordon proposed to me at the end of summer in 2005. We had been together for about a year and knew we wanted to get married, but neither of us had got up the courage up to ask the other. The first weekend of March 2005 was Ironman weekend. I had been training for this race for over the past 6 months and I knew it was going to be a great achievement for me. Gordy was there to give me all of his support and help me finish. Ironman is a long distance triathlon for those of you who don't know. It consists of a 3.8k swim followed by a 180k cycle followed by a marathon (42km run). By the time I started the run I had been going for 8 hours. The race is situated in Taupo and the run leg goes along side the lake for 10k, you run out and back twice. Gordy was great and rode his bike next to me for the whole run leg encouraging me to keep going. On the first lap about 7k out of town he races off the road onto the grass, jumps off his bike and kneels down beside a large sign stuck in the ground. I couldn't work out what he was doing until I saw what the sign said, "Pammie number 1200. Will you marry me. Gordy" It was very funny and very sweet. Of course I said yes and yes I finished the race in 13hrs!

The best night to go and take pictures of hamilton on a hill

- Posted by Cassandra Dunick

My partner had just got a new camera and wanted to see how well it could take night shots. We went to the look out in Hamilton, which is also the place where we first kissed. He was taking a lot of shots and then said lets take a picture of us. Just before the camera went to take the picture he got down on one knee and asked me the question.

Pooch Love

I got home from work and my soon to be husband greeted me at the door. He looked all worried and told me to sit down as he had something to tell me. I was thinking the worst, as our beloved dog had not run out to greet me like usual. But then my fiancée asked me to marry him and with that our dog ran into the lounge with the ring tied around her neck on some ribbon. Apparently they had been practising the entrance all day!

The Question Treasure Hunt

~ Posted by Douglas

My partner went away for a trip to Auckland and I was expecting her home around 8pm. I had the whole day to prepare, I had the idea in my mind for a long time now and this was the time to do it. I ordered 30 helium balloons, a huge bunch of red roses and blew up over 60 balloons attaching streamers to three or four bunches. I placed these all around the house in the kitchen, lounge and hallway, everywhere - so she would be overwhelmed by the balloons, streamers and flowers. I then made up 10 questions about myself from the time we have been together and printed them out on A4 size sheets with a question number on the front, and on the back, the question itself.

As soon as she walked into the house she had to turn on the light she had a bunch of flowers and a note stating what to do. She had to go around and answer the first question to find the next question and so I placed the questions all around the house in a random order so she got to see all the different areas of the house done up with, balloons, flowers and streamers. When my partner approached question 10 which was on our bedroom door it had her full name with 3 dots following it...

When she opened the door I was dressed up in a suit and tie already on one knee and I asked her to marry me. She cried and laughed all at the same time and said "Yes".