



WILL & KATE'S  
10-YEAR  
ANNIVERSARY

# *Remembering the Big Day*

THOSE WHO  
MADE THE  
WEDDING A  
FAIRY TALE  
SHARE THEIR  
MEMORIES

By **PHIL  
BOUCHER,  
MONIQUE  
JESSEN** and  
**SIMON PERRY**



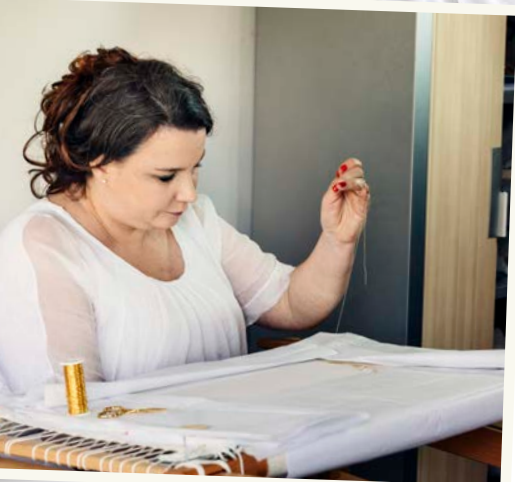
**Regal Ride**  
The couple (on April 29,  
2011) left Westminster  
Abbey in the historic  
State Landau carriage,  
which was also used  
by Princess Diana and  
Prince Charles on their  
1981 wedding day.



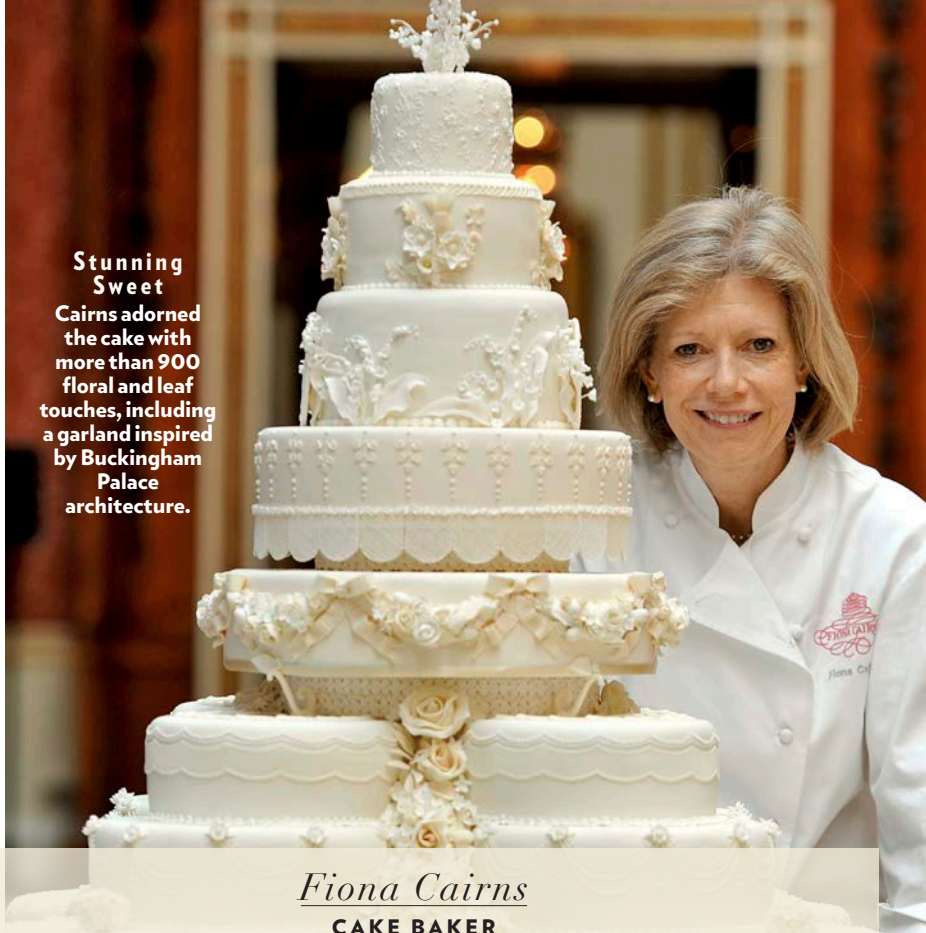
## Chloe Savage

WEDDING DRESS  
EMBROIDERER

Kate had her final fitting at [Alexander McQueen designer] Sarah Burton's salon early in the morning the day before her wedding. Brides have a tendency to do things like drop half a stone [7 lbs.] before a wedding, and as her dress was going to be seen from every conceivable angle by a billion people, you couldn't have it being a bit saggy because she'd lost weight or gained a couple of ounces due to stress. We [started] at about 9 a.m. [and] we had the dress finished by about 9 p.m. but were still tweaking the lace on the shoes. Around 10 p.m. Sarah Burton did her final inspection, then we carefully packed everything up and handed it to the guy who was escorting the dress to Kate. We then went to the pub for a drink! At that point we were just relieved that we were done. I got the last train back home, got up in the morning and sat down with my daughter and watched the wedding on TV. She didn't know what I'd been up to for months and was quite excited when I told her that Mummy had dressed a princess. It was a case of "Oh thank God, we've done it!" but also with an incredible sense of pride. And a bit of shock too.



**Stunning Sweet**  
Cairns adorned the cake with more than 900 floral and leaf touches, including a garland inspired by Buckingham Palace architecture.



## Fiona Cairns

CAKE BAKER

It was very stressful. We were asked to go and meet Kate, but we didn't know it was her [until we got there]. She asked all sorts of questions. About four days later [Cairns's husband and business partner] Kishore Patel received a phone call [telling us we'd been hired]. Even now thinking of it gives me goose bumps. When such a big thing happens, you want to share it with your friends and family, but we couldn't. We couldn't tell our children! I did mood boards of different icings and different combinations of creams and whites. The brief came from Kate, and she was very specific. The theme of the wedding was to be very classical, very imaginative and stylish. Where William and Kate's cake broke with tradition was that she made it very clear she didn't want a cake as tall as some of the previous royal wedding cakes. She also wanted it to be softer icing—sugar paste, not royal icing. She wanted flowers tumbling, and she gave us a list of the "language of flowers"—17 flowers and

leaves that all have significance that we needed to decorate the cake with. It had to be multitiered, and it had to be a fruit cake. She didn't want any gold or glitter. It wasn't to have any color on it all. It had to reflect the flowers of the four [U.K.] nations, and it also had to reflect the Picture Gallery at Buckingham Palace, where the cake was going to be, to show some of the architectural detail. There was a lot to work

out! We were also sent a piece of lace. We weren't told that it was the lace from her wedding dress, but it was. I discovered that on the day when she walked in. We were told that lily of the valley was important, but we weren't

told why—that it would be used as decoration in the abbey and she would be carrying it. We had to finish the cake by 1 p.m. on the day before the wedding, as the Queen was coming to see it. I remember just walking away, and I got quite emotional actually, I just couldn't believe that it was all happening; it was almost like a dream!

**'The brief came from Kate, and she was very specific'**

—CAIRNS





## *Garrison Sgt. Major Bill Mott*

### MILITARY PLANNER

I was up at “dark o’clock.” [Before the wedding] I had to mark the ground for the guard of honor and the street liners. We did a rehearsal one early morning a couple of days before. Because it was such a splendid affair, everyone was pumped up. Even at 4 a.m. there were people already waving their flags. I was at the abbey as the couple came out of the doors. I had to make sure I had all the troops into position ahead of [the moment the couple came out] with minimum fuss. As soon as they appeared, I made a fast extraction to go round the back roads to get on Horse Guards Road by the Foreign Office so I could be at Guard’s Memorial for when they came down the route in the carriage. I focused on the duties and the responsibilities for the ceremony to make sure things were going smoothly. You don’t want to lose the spectacle of their wedding by it not being done right.



## *Rachel Trevor-Morgan*

### THE QUEEN’S MILLINER

It was a hell of a year. The sense of excitement and dressing up reflected the feel of Royal Ascot that year too. I remember Harrods contacting me and asking for stock because they were selling out fast. The wedding had a fantastic effect for the British hat industry. Those big events matter hugely.



## *Martin & Sue Fidler*

### LOCALS IN KATE’S HOMETOWN OF BUCKLEBURY AND WEDDING GUESTS



## Claire Jones

### HARPIST AT THE WEDDING RECEPTION

The podium where Prince William was going to do his speech was right next to my harp. It was surreal that the couple would be coming back to the palace. The royal family were the last to arrive. The reception went on for about an hour and a half. The first member of the royal family to thank me was Prince Harry. He was really, really down-to-earth, very friendly and easy to talk to. Straight away he said, "Thank you for being here and taking the time to play. It sounds wonderful." It was nice to hear that he felt that.

When the speeches were on, the Queen was only two people in front of me. After the speeches, the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall and the little flower girls came over. The little ones wanted to have a go on the harp. My harp was amped up, and it was quite loud, so I was getting self-conscious and had to make sure the harp didn't move. You are very aware that you are with the royal family, and you want to make sure everything goes to plan and don't want any accidents. They were really going

for it with their little hands going up and down the harp. The Prince of Wales was smiling, joyful. He is a family man and was really enjoying it. Then we had the moment when William and Catherine came through next to me. I can't get across enough how natural and very, very humble they were. She looked divine. But the first thing she said to me was, "Oh my goodness, you look gorgeous!" She went on to thank me for being there. She had been heavily involved in the music choices. William had made his speech a little earlier and had made a lovely little remark about me. The first thing he said to me was, "Did you hear what I said in my speech?" I said I did, but I asked him to remind me because I hadn't heard it all. He said, "Thank goodness Claire turned up to play the harp, because otherwise

'You are very aware that you are with the royal family'

— JONES

we'd have to get my brother to play it instead." He thought that was hilarious.

I thought it was quite funny he said that. He was very accommodating and warm. I wished them well, and I said I hoped they would have a happy and joyful life together.

**MARTIN** We got to the abbey around 8:30 a.m., and you just had to put your hand up in the air and thousands and thousands of people would start clapping and screaming. You just felt so bloody special. When Kate came in at 11, everything outside just roared. You could hear it all outside to begin with as she approached. It was like a wave of sound getting louder and louder as she got closer to the abbey. When the trumpets started inside to announce that she'd arrived, it's a wonder the roof didn't lift off!

**SUE** We had to walk across the center aisle to reach our seats, which made your heart jump a little, and sat behind the Queen's chair—but obviously a bit further back. You had all those maple trees in their big pots surrounded by lily of the valley stretching up the center aisle. It was wow. Just wow. We saw Kate and William walk back down the aisle as a married couple. When they went outside, the cheering was an amazing sound mixed in with the trumpets.

## Philip Treacy

### PRINCESS BEATRICE'S MILLINER

The excitement built over a period of weeks—the fittings, the guests, the clothes, the attention to detail, the jewels! Princess Beatrice's hat [right, which later raised \$130,000 for charity] is one of my favorite hats I've ever made. It's one of the most expensive hats in history. ●

