



## **VENDOR CLUB MEMBER INTERVIEW:**

### **Get to know the wedding Pro!**

- **How long has your company been established and what do you do?**

*I am a Dubai based Wedding Planner. I started the company nearly 2 years ago now as I realised shortly after my own wedding in October 2010 how challenging it can be organising a wedding if you are in a different country (I was living in Dubai and got married in the UK) or work hard in Dubai and don't have time to research and meet suppliers. I have always had a passion for weddings so thought why not make a career out of what I love doing.*

- **What do you love most about your work?**

*I love the bond that I create with my couples. My role is to act as their 'fairy godmother' and bring all the wedding dreams to reality. I love meeting different people with different views on the 'perfect' wedding day. A wedding day is a very personal occasion and it is not for me to dictate what should be done but listen to the bride and groom's thoughts and advise on how to make it work. The best part of my job without a doubt has to be watching the bride walk towards the groom at the beginning of the wedding. This is always an emotional moment and 9 times out of 10 I will cry!*

- **Do you have any exciting projects coming up?**

*Every wedding that I organise is exciting! There are always a few challenges to overcome and I thrive on that, it makes every day interesting! I have a mixture of extravagant and intimate weddings coming up later this year and I can't wait to be involved in them all, especially the 'wedding of the year' that will be Rhiannon from Bride Club Me who has chosen me for 'on the day' wedding planning and I can't wait for that.*

- **Do you have a favourite ceremony and / or reception location in the UAE?**

*There are so many beautiful venues in the UAE, whether they are beach facing or surrounded by stunning gardens you will always get the picture perfect photographs with a wedding in Dubai – and of course we have the gorgeous weather as a bonus which makes my life a whole lot easier (very rarely do I have to look at the sky and pray for no*

rain!!!). My favourite venue of the moment is the private villa at Kempinski hotel, the palm. It is truly stunning and great for a wedding party as you can party till the early hours. My overall favourite group of venues is Madinat – there you will find Layali tent, shimmers, Fort Island, Magnolia and Al Qasr Platform. The staff at Jumeirah Group are also a pleasure to work with.

- **Describe your wedding planning style and approach events.**

My approach to wedding planning in Dubai is very much the personal approach. I like to think I am the ‘people’s planner’ and give the best customer service possible. I want to treat couples in the same way I would want to be treated. I like to meet the client face to face to discuss their requirements and find how I can be of assistance. It is quite normal for a bride to come to me and say ‘I think I know what I want but I don’t know how to bring it all together’....that’s where I come in. I will then draft a cost estimate for the couple outlining all the elements that will be involved in their wedding day from the information they give me (date, guest numbers, suppliers they want etc) and from there my services will be contracted and from that moment on I will work with them along the way to bring their wedding dreams to reality.

- **How can our readers (Brides) benefit from your service?**

I have 2 packages that I offer.

- 1: Full Wedding Planning – this package includes an initial ‘getting to know you’ meeting and then I will draft an action plan to help us keep track of all the elements that need to be considered. My service includes research, supplier negotiations and wedding management. I will also be there on the wedding day to manage the logistics.
- 2: On the day wedding planning – with this package I would meet the client 1 week before the wedding and go through the running order with them and the event team. I will then take control of the suppliers and manage all the logistics on the day of the wedding. This package is perfect for couples on a tight budget and also for couples that want to organise the wedding details themselves – but don’t want to be stressing about the details on their wedding day.

- ***If you could give one piece of advice to expat brides to-be, what would it be?***

*Remember this is YOUR special day and it needs to be exactly as you want it. Don't feel pressured into inviting guests that may not be important to you (especially if you are paying the bill) or having a schedule for the day that makes you feel uncomfortable. Enjoy every minute and of course hire a Wedding Planner so you don't worry about anything on the day...you only get married once!*

- ***Lastly, why did you choose to list with [www.brideclubme.com](http://www.brideclubme.com)?***

*The vision of Brideclubme is very similar to mine. We have the same work ethics and believe in giving back to the people and sharing our expertise. I believe it is important to listen to peoples stories and even if they have a limited budget, doesn't mean I won't guide them along the way – it is all about being thrifty – and brideclubme is there to guide people also...we make a great team and I am excited to part of such an exciting venture!*

