



A time for romance

A beautiful country estate near Hemel Hempstead will host weddings for the first time in 500 years



The Gaddesden Estate in the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, north of Hemel Hempstead and home to the Halsey family since 1520, has partnered with Harpenden-based events specialist Big Green Space to host outdoor weddings.

The estate offers a number of unique venues never before used for private events, including a medieval sunken area set among trees, a walled garden meadow and the formal gardens around the Golden Parsonage, the 18th century house at the heart of the estate.

Working with high-quality suppliers based in and around the region, Big Green Space said it will develop bespoke events – weddings and other functions – for each client that draw on the location's unspoilt rural setting. Only a small number of events will be permitted to take place each year at the sites, ensuring exclusivity, while also being mindful of the estate's conservation ethos. As a new venture, the venue is able to take bookings for dates in 2021 and 2022.

Susannah Halsey, who along with her husband, Guy, and his parents, Nicholas and Viola Halsey, run the estate, said one of the reasons for starting the venture was to help support local companies impacted by the implosion of the events industry due to the pandemic, including those based at the family's diversified rural enterprise. She added: 'As a small, family-centred team we have previously been uncomfortable with the idea of hosting weddings and private events, feeling that if we were to branch into this highly specialised area then we wanted to do it well.'

'We are delighted to be working with Big Green Space, who bring a raft of expertise to the table, including an understanding of how to work sympathetically with historical spaces. We very much look forward to welcoming couples and their friends and family here in 2021.'

Louise Barcock, founder of Big Green Space, said: 'The Gaddesden Estate is a truly special, undiscovered place that lies within easy reach of clients in Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire. We are excited to embark on a new project here, which will provide couples with a chance to celebrate a special occasion in a series of unique outdoor settings.'







Photography:

sallymasson.com and
 claireconnoldphotography.
 co.uk

Venue:

gaddesdenestate.co.uk/
 weddings

**Concept, planning
 & styling:**

biggreenspace.com

Florals:

willowandthyme.co.uk

Tableware:

duchessandbutler.com

Stationery:

inkandpaperdesign.co.uk

Linen: just4linen.co.uk

**Chandeliers and
 ceremony props:**

dressityourself.co.uk/hire

**Cake styling
 and props:**

facebook.com/
 littleorchardvintage

Cake:

amandabradford.co.uk

Cake linen:

miasylva.co.uk

Dresses:

haloandwrenbridal.com

Hair and make-up:

nikimakeup.com

Model: instagram.com/
 ambergallagherr

Equestrian model:

instagram.com/
 hoovesandhoundshirts

Furniture:

furniture4events.com

Production: bmeav.co.uk
 and b360.tv

Marquees:

josephbenjaminmarquees.
 co.uk

Special mention:

stampede stunt company.
 co.uk