

# Don't tell the Bride

Britain's biggest bridezilla is getting married in Bath next month, and you're invited. The star of BBC One's *Outnumbered*, **ANNA MORRIS**, makes her debut in the city with her smash-hit *It's Got To Be Perfect*. Lisa Evans spoke to Anna's crazed alter ego Georgina the Bride about tacky hen parties, Bath wedding venues and cheating fiancés.

Critically acclaimed character-comedian and star of ITV's *Bad Bridesmaid* and BBC One's *Outnumbered*, Anna Morris makes her Bath debut with the smash-hit comedy wedding show that took Edinburgh Festival audiences by storm last year. Her interactive acting-come-stand-up show *It's Got To Be Perfect* is just one of the many events coming to the Bath Comedy Festival (April 1 to 10) where Anna will join a star-studded line-up in the city.

In her solo show, Anna stars as Britain's biggest bridezilla, Georgina the Bride, who is getting married to her groom, Simon, and has invited all of Bath to her wedding rehearsal.

Georgina will let the audience become the wedding planners: from choosing the walk-in music, to shouting objections and writing the vows - the audience will take control of every aspect of the wedding rehearsal, sending Georgina into free-fall, and making each show unique, hilarious and memorable.

"Georgina was my most popular character and many people had suggested doing a show with just her," says Anna who will be performing at Widcombe Social Club on April 8. "I always want my audiences to feel like they are entering a 'world' for an hour, and not a comedy show. My first thought was that it would be her wedding. But then I realised the venue wouldn't be posh enough for her. So I went for a wedding rehearsal, which was fitting as of course she would have loads of them.

This will be her third solo show following two previous sell-outs in Edinburgh and around the UK. Her 'rehearsal' in Bath will be one of a hundred nationwide shows which are set to be sell-outs. Edinburgh audiences queued for hours at last year's Fringe Festival to get a chance to become a guest at the improvised rehearsal.

"I was totally overwhelmed on the first day in Edinburgh when we had to turn away 50 people," says Anna. "All new shows are a risk - you just never know if it's going to work. I've made sure that every aspect of this production was thought about - even the flyers, which were done as wedding invitations."

In search of inspiration for her show, Anna attended 15 weddings over the course of five years, all as a single woman.

"I was fascinated by the amount things cost and felt there was a lot of material there for comedy," she says. "My first ever solo monologue at a comedy gig was a wedding speech as a bride. I just ran with the idea of what would happen if you combined the world's worst bride with an unlimited budget... and Georgina's voice came into my head."

Anna's not married herself but she says that if she was planning her own wedding, Bath would make for an ideal location.

"It's a beautiful city and I think it would make for a lovely wedding destination," she says. "The buildings are incredible. I can't wait to come to the city for the Bath Comedy Festival. I have never performed at the festival before and the venue sounds great. I hope the audiences are up for some fun because I certainly am!

"The great thing about the show is the audience get to make it unique to them and join in as much or as little as they like," she adds.

"If they choose something absurd - I just go with it. It makes it funnier. A basic rule of improvisation is you should say 'yes' to every idea offered to you. I always get nervous! Adrenaline is what makes me perform best. It absolutely keeps me on my toes and makes it more fun for me. I thrive on the challenge."

And the audiences certainly haven't held back in the past. Anna says the hilarious, cringe-worthy objections that people have shouted stick in her mind.

"Someone once shouted 'I'm pregnant with Simon's twins' - and she was indeed pregnant," laughs Anna. "I've had things shouted at me like: 'Simon is sleeping with Kate Middleton!' and a fake fight broke out once between a guy playing the best man and a guy playing the groom... it goes wild sometimes!"

## MEET BRIDEZILLA GEORGINA

**How do you feel about having all of Bath attend your wedding rehearsal?**

It's an absolute HONOUR...for the people of Bath to have been invited to such a prestigious event. I

do hope they behave themselves and adhere to my rules. The following mistakes will activate a forcible removal by my security team: any ladies in white, anyone in trainers and anyone carrying a Primark bag.

**What can Bath expect of your wedding rehearsal?**

They can expect a very rigorous timetable! I will need help with a lot of aspects. For example, I'll need some guests to write the wedding vows, shout objections and faint when I walk 'up the aisle'. I must be prepared for every eventuality. If anything goes wrong or isn't good enough, we will simply try it again. Audiences should put aside ALL plans over the weekend in case it over-runs by 72 hours.

**In which Bath venue would you most like to get married?**

Well the famous Royal Crescent is wonderful of course. I mean you'd need the WHOLE Crescent. I would of course apply for planning permission to have all of the residents removed for the duration of the wedding, and all walls knocked through to make one big wedding venue.

**What tips would you give the other brides-to-be in Bath to make their wedding day a success?**

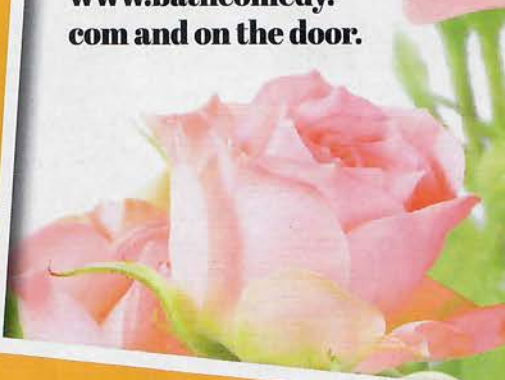
Remember, it's all about YOU! Make an entrance - that's the only bit people remember. For example, consider being lowered in through the roof of the church in a helicopter. If you are not facially blessed, wear a thick veil for the duration of the wedding. Audition ALL Bridesmaids and ban children.

**If you were to have a hen party in Bath where would you go?**

Oh gosh, hen nights are so tacky! The Royal Crescent Hotel? Tacky nightclubs or phallic symbol props would be banned. For mine I am actually going to the Maldives for three weeks. Another tip for brides: always make sure the person who organises the stag night is you.

**Your wedding rehearsal in Bath will be just one of a 100 trial runs nationwide before the wedding takes place. Why are you being so picky?**

Well this IS going to be the BEST day of my life, so why shouldn't I ensure it's right by practising it 100 times? It's GOT to be PERFECT.



**See Anna Morris as bridezilla Georgina on Friday April 8, 7pm, at Widcombe Social Club. Tickets are available from [www.bathcomedy.com](http://www.bathcomedy.com) and on the door.**

