

**Something Blue**

**Something borrowed, something new ...**

By LINDA KIRBY  
Champion Reporter

Weddings, be it a small gathering or a large formal affair, are no easy task to prepare. Few people understand the amount of work and time that goes into making the arrangements until they plan to marry.

For most it is still the biggest day in their lives and they cannot afford a single snag—never mind the fact that a moderately priced wedding these days averages \$10,000.

"Something Blue" is the brainchild of Lynda Barton, 22, of Milton and represents a wedding co-ordination service designed to alleviate the headaches that come with organizing the special day.

The idea is not entirely new; there are commercial establishments which along with providing the tux, for example, will arrange for flowers and suggest a caterer—for a fee.

But the concept of "Something Blue" is unique in that Lynda Barton sits down with her client and arranges the day from start to finish.

It is she who makes sure the photographer is on time, the disc jockey doesn't get lost, the flowers and wine are picked up and a hundred other details.

Once the customer has decided what style of wedding she would like, it is up to Mrs. Barton to put it all together.

"Something Blue" she admits, was inspired by her own wedding less than a year ago.

Working full time as a secretary she found she had little time to prepare for this event, a common complaint of most working girls.

It is not just the important decisions, such as the choice of a church, wedding party, reception hall etc. that takes time and care. It is all of the countless details that can turn the most vibrant bride into a nervous wreck by the time her big day has arrived.

Weddings are hardly inexpensive parties and Mrs. Barton feels a couple should look around before spending a great deal of money.

Her service eliminates the need to spend valuable time shopping and picking out the appropriate services.

She represents between 25 and 30 different companies in Milton, Oakville, Mississauga and Toronto—covering a vast range of wedding services.

"I can suggest ways of saving money, yet keeping the quality."

"For example, you can have a beautiful, inexpensive two course meal as opposed to a pricey five course dinner," she said.

"You can spend \$10,000 or \$15,000 or you can do it for \$2,000 or less and still have a nice and tasteful wedding."

"There are ways of getting around spending a lot of money, but you have to figure out your priorities."

As an accredited wedding co-ordinator, she has lists of services at her fingertips and they are all handpicked by herself.

She makes a point of interviewing and screening service people such as caterers, photographers and disc jockeys.

"I guarantee all of my services. The photographer comes dressed in a suit. There are no slob. And if there is a problem with a disc jockey, for example, there is always a back-up person."

"It is up to me to make sure the wedding is worry free."

Mrs. Barton stresses a personal approach in looking after her clients.

"It is really important that the customer be honest with me. I can suggest something, but they have to tell me if it is what they want."

"There are a lot of unique ideas I can offer... it is the bride who must make the final decision."

"Your wedding has to reflect your personality," she summed up.

She encourages all brides to involve the groom as much as possible in the plans. This makes for smoother arrangements and harmony.

One week prior to the wedding, she sits the couple down and goes through a master check list and the itinerary for the day, "making sure everybody



Lynda Barton, 22, has opened Something Blue in an effort to help brides-to-be plan that big day. Mrs. Barton can handle arrangements

for flowers, music, automobiles, food and just about anything else that is required.

knows what to do."

She is also available on the day of the wedding to act as a background hostess to ensure everything is running smoothly, if the bride requests.

Lynda Barton considers herself as a specialist in several different kinds of weddings including large, formal arrangements, European weddings and garden weddings.

"A wedding is not just like throwing a big party. It is very special and has to be done right," she emphasized.

The cost for her assistance varies, depending upon the size of the wedding and the amount of effort required to make all of the arrangements.

Mrs. Barton said her service is not limited to couples planning a lavish wedding, but is suitable for the most basic, simple family gathering.

For a consultation fee of \$25, Mrs. Barton will sit

down with a client and discuss the options and ideas and explain how the client can arrange a wedding of her choice.

If she is hired to complete all of the arrangements and put together an entire wedding package, the fee is usually in the neighborhood of 10 per cent of the cost of the wedding.

For more helpful information about wedding preparations, see the special tabloid brides section insert in today's edition of The Canadian Champion.



**One-time grant for Players**

A local amateur theatre group will get a one time only \$200 grant from Town Hall, councillors decided Monday night.

But that's still only a pittance compared to the \$10,000 in assistance given to local sports groups in one month, according to Coun. Blanche Hinton.

"We seem to be very good at extending a helping hand to athletic groups but not to the more cultural ones," she told councillors as they debated a motion to deny any assistance to the fledgling thespians.

The group had written to councillors requesting a reduction in rent for the community room at the Thompson Rd. arena for a Friday or Saturday night in May.

"This group has been through two permanent homes already and has been thrown out of both of them," Mrs. Hinton said.

Most recently, the group was asked to vacate the auditorium of Halton Centennial Manor which has been the scene of their performances and rehearsals.

In a memo to parks and recreation director Larry Arbie, the Town's supervisor of facilities said granting the request from the theatrical group could stimulate similar requests from the sports groups that use the facilities "which would seriously affect the revenue forecast for 1982."

Mr. Arbie added that sports groups pay the full rental cost for facilities they use but get regular subsidies from the Town.

Coun. Rose Harrison also argued in favor of providing some support to the group, but only once, and suggested reducing the usual \$300 rental fee for the facility by \$200.



Ontario Premier William Davis accepts a promotional button from Jerred Scott Wise during the Ontario Sewer and Watermain Contractors Association convention at the Skyline Hotel, Toronto. Little Jerred, 4, had interrupted the Premier's keynote address by sounding a buzzer concealed in the gas can where he carried his give-aways. Jerred's mother Lynne helped her son with the presentation.

**Jerred has 'em abuzz**

By ROY DOWNS  
Special to The Champion

Sewers and watermain weren't the only topics of conversation at the 1982 Ontario Sewer and Watermain Contractors Association convention, held last week at Toronto's Skyline Hotel.

The whole convention was a-buzz during the Thursday luncheon—when an impish four-year-old almost upstaged Ontario Premier Bill Davis during the Premier's keynote address.

Jerred Scott Wise, a nephew of Harris and Wally Brading of HH Heavy Equipment in Milton, was attending the convention to help promote the firm's JSW excavators. He was busy handing out buttons to convention delegates, bearing Jerred's picture and the firm's advertising slogan. "When it comes to your profits, we don't 'fuel' around."

He carried the buttons in a plastic gasoline container, which had been fitted with a battery-operated light and buzzer to help attract attention to the company's tiny goodwill ambassador.

While everyone else listened to Premier Davis denounce the federal government over constitutional problems, inflation, unemployment and economic policies, the bored four-year-old crept beneath the dinner table, found his gas can, and interrupted Mr. Davis' speech with a long, loud buzz.

The noise caught the Premier by surprise and caused a ripple of laughter among the crowd. But, Mr. Davis quickly regained his composure, and, grinning, suggested little Jerred save the buzzer for the "real" enemies up in Ottawa. He also complimented the Association on recruiting such energetic young members and said he wished his party could enrol workers that young.

Following his remarks, the Premier got a chance to meet little Jerred and accepted a souvenir button the boy produced from the errant container.

Jerred Scott Wise is the pseudonym chosen for the amateur child model who is the symbol for the JSW advertising campaign in 1982. (His initials spell the name of the JSW excavator). Jerred's photo is currently appearing in the company's trade magazine advertising and other promotional material. His real name is Jerred Brading and he lives in Ottawa with his parents Jed and Lynne Brading.

Afterward, Jerred said he enjoyed attending his first convention and giving out buttons to all the delegates. With an impish smile, he also said he enjoyed meeting and shaking hands with "that man who was talking about me buzzing him."

**Replace lights?**

A decision to replace Milton's familiar yellow and black illuminated street signs has been deferred by Town councillors.

Councillors voted last week to overturn a general committee recommendation to start replacing the signs with reflectorized metal nameplates.

Coun. Brad Clements opposed the suggestion at both committee and council level, arguing that "more in depth" cost information was needed before a decision could be made.

He also felt that replacing the signs gradually "brings up the question of a hodge-podge arrangement throughout the town."

General committee members were told that the illuminated signs are highly vulnerable to vandalism and are expensive to maintain.

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