

Weddings 1928



The wedding of Miss Violet Mary Constance Gillingham, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Gillingham, High-street, to Mr. John Anthony Witty, Royal Air Force, eldest son of Mr. J. M. Witty, of Edgton Gardens, South Kensington, London, took place at the Church of the Sacred Heart on Whit-Monday, in the presence of a large congregation. The service was conducted by the Rev. Father St. John.

The bride, who was given away by her eldest brother (Mr. Bernard Gillingham), wore a gown of palest pink satin beauté, trimmed with diamanté and orange blossom. Her long veil of palest pink tulle was held in position by a band of diamante and clusters of orange blossom. She wore palest pink stockings, silver brocade shoes, and carried a sheaf of lilies.

The bride was attended by Miss Isabella Witty (sister of the bridegroom), and Miss Hilda Gillingham (sister of the bride), whose dresses were of palest pink crepe-de-chine, with deep cream lace coatees and deep cream crinoline hats, trimmed with pink. They also wore palest pink stockings, with silver brocade shoes, and carried bouquets of pink carnations and sweet peas. Mr E. Witty was "best man."

A reception was held at the bride's home, and was attended by about forty guests. After the reception the bride placed her sheaf of flowers on the War Memorial in the Square. The bride and bridegroom were recipients of about 60 useful and valuable presents, which included a silver tea service, one hundred years old, and a gold ring set with rubies and diamonds, gifts to the bride from her aunt (Mrs. Cameron).

The newly-married couple left later in the day for Brighton for the honeymoon. The bride's going-away dress was of chiffon, with scarlet silk coatee, and a travelling coat, the latter being the gift of the bridegroom. Her hat was of beige with scarlet trimming. The bride's gift to the bridegroom was an ebony walking-stick. The bridegroom gave the bridesmaids leather handbags.



The marriage was solemnised, at the Parish Church on Whit-Monday, in the presence of a large congregation, of Mr. Leonard Charles Cowley, fourth son of Mr and Mrs. Frank Cowley, of Mere, to Miss Phoebe Charlotte Penny, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Penny, of Church-street.

The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a dress of white crepe de chine, with veil and wreath of orange blossom, and carried a sheaf of lilies and white heather, the gift of the bridegroom.

She was attended by Miss Gertie Newbury (cousin of the bride), who wore saxe blue silk Marocain, with hat to match, and little Joyce Gard (niece of the bride), who was dressed in white trimmed with blue, with hat to match. They carried bouquets of pink sweet peas and white heather, and wore gold bangles, the gifts of the bridegroom. Little Master Bernard Coffin (nephew of the bride), dressed in white, acted as page. Mr. Cullen, of Yeovil, friend of the bridegroom, was "best man."

The service, which was choral, was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. G. T. Miller). The hymns were "Lead us, Heavenly Father, lead us," and "The Voice that breathed o'er Eden," and the 28th Psalm was chanted. An address was given by the Vicar. The Organist (M. J. Freestone) played marital music as the guests were assembling, and the "Wedding March" as the bridal party left the church.

Over 40 guests were present at the reception. The presents numbered upwards of 50. The newly-married couple left later in the day for their new home at Honiton, Devon. The bride's going-away dress was of saxe blue silk Marocain, with hat to match, and a black satin coat with grey fur collar and cuffs. During the signing of the registers, touches were rung on the bells, and also during the afternoon.

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