



# High Elms Manor

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“The perfect location for those who still enjoy the traditional”

Welcome to

# High Elms Manor

High Elms Manor enjoys a beautiful rural setting within easy reach of major travel links. This combination of tranquillity and accessibility makes High Elms Manor one of the best wedding venues in Watford.



**High Elms Manor in Watford has been described as 'one of the finest and most dignified medium-sized estates in the county of Hertfordshire'.**

This was the opinion of Stafford Bourne, son of one of the founders of the London store Bourne and Hollingsworth, who lived here with his parents and siblings for ten years from 1911. Built sometime prior to auction in 1813 and situated in 21 acres of park and woodland, High Elms Manor provides the perfect ambience for any special occasion.

With ample parking for 50 cars, we are located within easy reach of the M1, A41 and M25. The building was acquired by the O'Neill family in 1997 and underwent years of refurbishing to bring it back to its former glory.

The estate was sold to the Bournes by a member of the Watney family. Claude Watney's wife liked to receive visitors on the steps of her home with a snake entwined around her arm. She was also responsible for some oriental décor in the house. The tiles around the fireplace depict

the story of Sohrab and Rustruro. She put wicker caging around her bath. The very heavy doors of her Persian Room are made of leather with metal shields and bosses, still in position. The manor was then sold to the Benskins and taken over by the Health Authority after the war until sold to the O'Neill family.

The entrance leads to a large atrium with a lovely mosaic floor and a rounded transparent dome. This was completely burnt and the whole area had to be replaced in 1998. The hallway leads to a comfortable panelled lounge which is useful for the elderly as a quiet room. The Tudor Room is available for a formal dining room and is the designated room for dancing. The Banqueting hall, an elegant room with a large chandelier and matching wall-lights, is ideal for seating up to 110 guests for a formal meal. Our new Blue room is used for civil and partnership ceremonies for up to 100 people. Outside is a gazebo where ceremonies can take place. There is an additional room for the bride to use to dress or/and secure her gifts. The new terrace which was built after receiving advice from Ruth Watson, while being filmed by

Country House Rescue, overlooks the lawn. Smokers can sit comfortably at the tables and the parasols provide light in the evenings. A fountain that lights up adds to the romantic atmosphere.

Parties and weddings are just two of the many functions offered at High Elms Manor. The banqueting room overlooks our magnificent lawns and woodland and will seat 110 guests for the reception or 100 with a top table. The Manor House provides additional rooms for civil ceremonies, buffets, conferences or special events. Team-building events can be arranged for companies. Smaller groups are welcome and we are also able to cater for wakes.

We do not have any sleeping accommodation so our guests use the Noke Thistle hotel nearby at a special discounted rate. They offer a full English breakfast and the use of their leisure centre.

# Weddings

Nothing matches the sheer elegance of a wedding at High Elms Manor. Whether you are looking for a small intimate wedding or a large celebration, we can accommodate your wishes to create your perfect special day.

How you choose to make your vows, it is your day and everyone at High Elms Manor will do everything they can to ensure it is the most unforgettable day of your life.



The perfect location for those who still enjoy the traditional...

## Wedding Receptions

We can accommodate up to 220 for a Cocktail Party, 110 for a seated luncheon or dinner, or 110 for dinner with dancing. The rooms can be arranged for a smaller number to feel comfortable.

## Civil Marriage Ceremonies

High Elms Manor is licensed for civil ceremonies and can accommodate up to 150 people. Please contact us to discuss any specific requirements you may have. The area registrar may be contacted on 01923 231302.

## Approved suppliers

We work with a selection of approved suppliers who will add all the finishing touches to your special day including theming, cakes, flowers, photography and music.

When choosing High Elms Manor for your wedding, whether for the Ceremony and Reception or just the Reception, we can guarantee you a wonderful day.



# Private/Corporate

We can accommodate up to 220 guests for parties and 110 for lunch or dinner. If you are planning a themed party, the Manor House offers many possibilities for decoration and special arrangements.

This is an inspirational setting for private or corporate events so be assured that your guests will have a wonderful time. Rooms are available for smaller or larger groups.



A historical backdrop for today's corporate world...

## Dinners, Lunches & Parties, Functions & Events

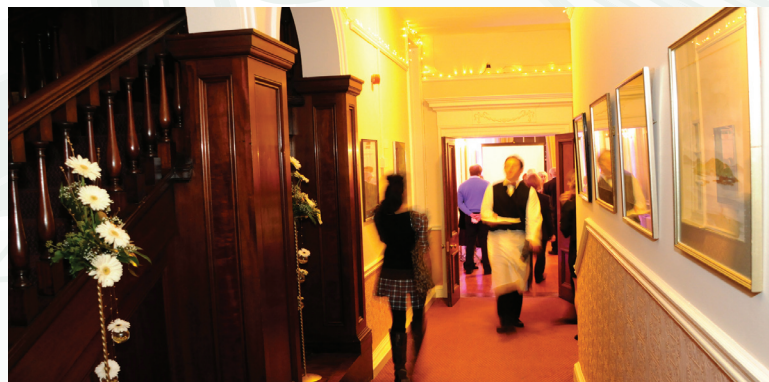
In the past residents of High Elms Manor have held the grandest celebrations. Today we carry on the tradition and host everything from corporate receptions to gala nights and award ceremonies. This is exquisite entertaining.

The Manor House is charged with history and provides an impressive and unique atmosphere for a special reception, dinner or dinner dance.

Catering for receptions and dinners can be arranged, offering a high standard of fine dining and excellent service throughout your event.

If you are planning on a themed dinner party, the Manor house is ideal as it offers many possibilities for decoration and special arrangements.

Catering for receptions and dinners can be provided on-site, offering a high standard of fine dining and excellent service throughout your event.



# Business

Whether you are planning a company away day, a product launch, a conference, or indeed any corporate function, High Elms Manor is the perfect venue for enterprising businesses.

The Manor House provides a magnificent and atmospheric venue for larger events. Rooms are available for smaller or larger groups. High Elms Manor provides an inspirational setting for meetings and conferences.



A relaxed, spacious ambience  
for your meetings...

## Conferences & Training

Depending on the size and nature of your function, there are a number of options available, offering flexible facilities to meet your needs.

On-site catering can be arranged, ensuring quality of food and service, from break-out snacks and finger buffets to sit-down luncheons.

Our venue is set within the beautiful surroundings of High Elms grounds, which your guests can enjoy during their breaks.

## Away Days & Team Building

Whether it be for a fun day for your team or team building activities for a large group, High Elms Manor and grounds offer a fantastic setting for a memorable event.

Outside activities such as Treasure Hunts for example, may be held in the extensive woodland and you may want to end the day with a barbecue party or an elegant dinner in the Manor House.



# As a film location

High Elms Manor has appeared in a number of TV and feature films over the years. Sheila O'Neill is keen to support the arts, in particular film, which plays such an important role in the economy of the Eastern region.

High Elms Manor is a popular choice for productions. We offer privacy, flexibility and experienced teams to help you make the most of your time with us.



## Some of the productions filmed here include...

- Nancherrow
- Second Sight - with Clive Owen
- Longitude with - Jeremy Irons
- Madame Bovary
- The Hoobs by Jim Henson
- Photo shoot for Daily Mail
- The Last Client
- Featherboy - with Sheila Hancock
- Combat Sheep - Baby Cow Productions
- Ultimate Force - with Ross Kemp
- Midsummer Murders (used three times)
- The Scharz Metter Klume Method
- Rosemary and Thyme: Enter Two Gardeners
- The Thieving Headmistress with Pauline Quirke
- Chucklevision - with the Chuckle Bros.
- Clandestine
- Eastenders
- Holby City (used twice)
- Little Miss Jocelyn
- Invisible Eyes
- Love at First Sight - with John Hurt and Phyllida Law
- Morgana



# Contact Us...

High Elms Manor is just 20 minutes drive from Luton Airport and 40 minutes from Heathrow. Road and rail links are also excellent - less than a mile from junction 6 of the M1 and junction 21A of the M25.

One of the finest estates in the county of Hertfordshire...

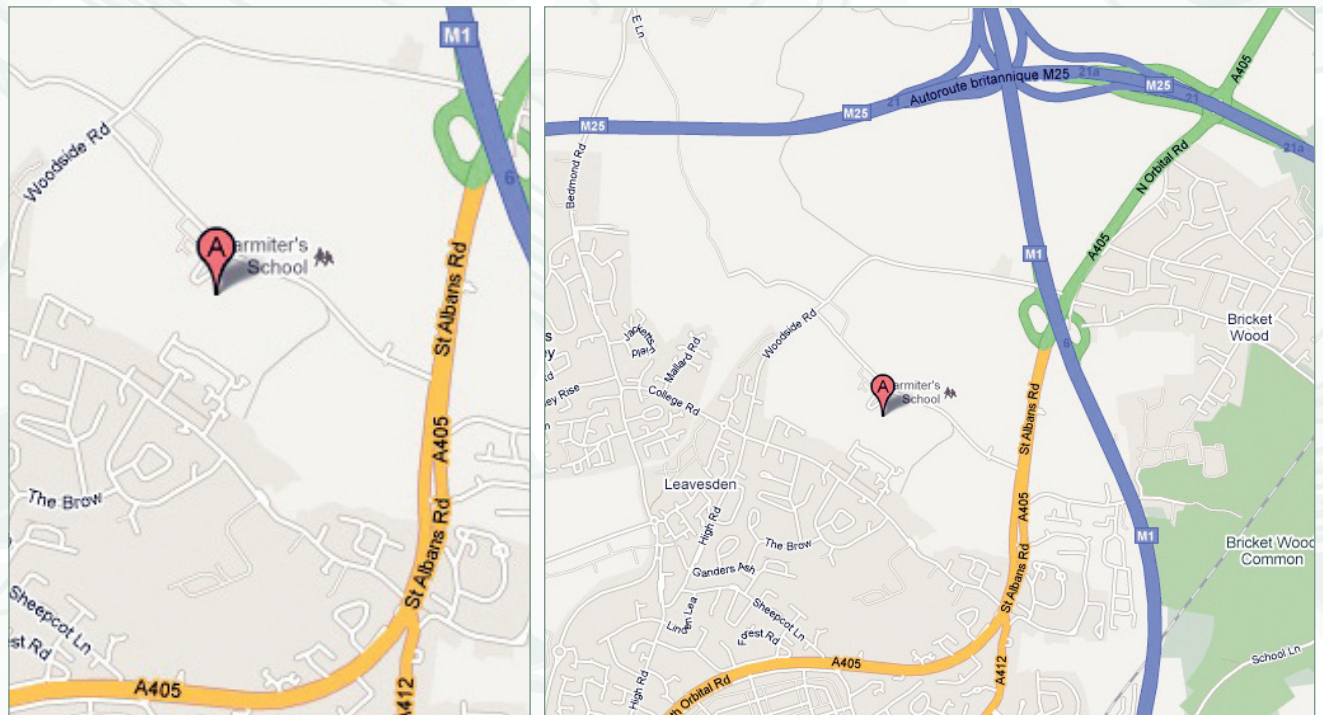
To talk to us regarding Weddings, Private or Corporate Functions, Business Meetings or Conferences, Film Locations or any other kind of Event please call the Events office on:

**01923 663875**

or email: [enquiries@highelmsmanor.com](mailto:enquiries@highelmsmanor.com) or visit our website: [www.highelmsmanor.com](http://www.highelmsmanor.com)

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