



St John's Church Wentbridge

The Rev Adrian Judd
The Vicarage, Marlipit Lane
Darrington
Pontefract
WF8 3AB
01977 704744

www.wentbridgechurch.co.uk

Typewriter@tiscali.co.uk

Pageboys and ring-bearers.

A long time ago, in a land far away in a hole dug in the hillside lived a short man with hairy feet called Frodo, and his best possession was his 'precious' ring.

Oh sorry, I thought you meant ring-bearer...

I did, but we are talking about a journey from the back of church to the front not from the Shire to Mordor and back again.

Instead of carrying the ring on a chain around his neck the ring-bearer carries a cushion with the rings loosely tied to it with ribbon (or similar). The ring bearer follows the chief bridesmaid, and when he gets to the front of the church hands the cushion to the bestman.

The ring-bearer then sits down, and the bestman struggles with untying the rings from the cushion while trying not to drop them on the floor, and juggling the order of service that the vicar has given him to sing the hymns with.

Ring-bearers add an extra element to the wedding ceremony, it is perhaps better from the best-man's point of view not to have a ring-bearer with rings tied to the cushion, and for him to just have them in his pocket. Will he drop them when he tires to untie them? Will the rings fall off the cushion? (That is why they are tied on).

Pageboys are to all intents and purposes rather like small bridesmaids in different outfits, and they need to walk in behind the bride and chief-bridesmaid with an older bridesmaid keeping them in control by holding their hand. They should sit with someone they know very well during the ceremony, and a Nintendo DS or a book can help keep them interested.