

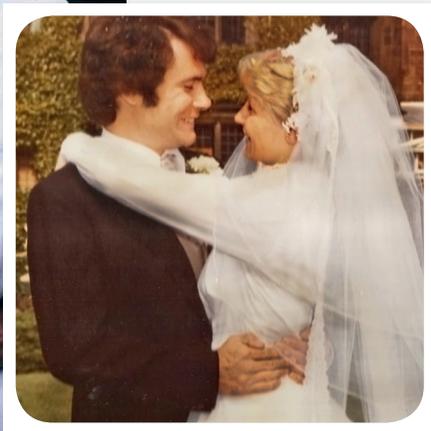


MOLLIE AND JOSEPH HAD A LONG-DISTANCE ROMANCE

TOGETHER ⁴⁹ YEARS
MARRIED
41
YEARS

MOLLIE AND JOSEPH JOHNSTON

“We met on the ferry on a school skiing trip to Austria, 49 years ago. Joe asked “can I sit here?”, I said no, and he sat down anyway – and here beginneth the story. Joe was from Belfast, but I lived in Keighley, Yorkshire, so we spent the next few years writing to each other, with the odd (very expensive) telephone call – all quite frowned upon by our parents. Joe came to visit me just before my 21st birthday and took me out, introducing me to wine other than Mateus rosé! One day he called me at work and asked if I was free, saying he would take me wherever I wanted to go. We met up, took the train from Leeds to Keighley and, after a lot of chatting, we realised that we wanted to be together. Joe proposed at Keighley Station!”



“HOW *WE MET...*”

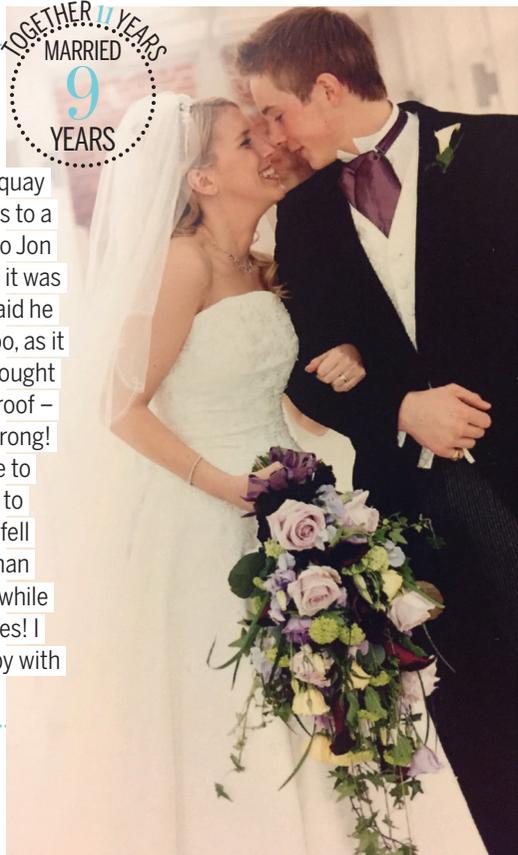
From love at first sight to a cute school trip meeting, here are some of our favourite real-life love stories

KATIE AND JON SLATER

“We met in a beach nightclub in Newquay (cringe!). Feeling a little brave (thanks to a bit of Dutch courage), I marched up to Jon and demanded he buy me a drink, as it was my birthday. He was surprised and said he would, but only if I bought him one too, as it was his birthday that day as well. I thought he was pulling my leg, so asked for proof – he pulled out his ID and proved me wrong! It turned out that we lived really close to each other, got chatting and decided to meet up in the summer holidays. We fell in love very quickly – weeks, rather than months. Jon asked me to marry him while we were still at university and I said yes! I was only 21, but felt so safe and happy with him... and I still do to this day.”

WORDS: SARAH DAWSON

TOGETHER ¹¹ YEARS
MARRIED
9
YEARS



KATIE AND JON'S STORY BEGAN IN A NEWQUAY CLUB!





CATHRYN AND NICHOLAS ARE A **MATCH.COM** SUCCESS STORY!

TOGETHER **8** YEARS
MARRIED
5
YEARS

CATHRYN AND NICHOLAS BALL

"We are a dating site couple! I had been on a few unsuccessful meet-ups from the site, and decided to give it a break – after just one more date. After having a really good search, I came across a handsome chap – we started messaging and soon realised we had a lot in common and our lives had followed similar paths. For example, when I was younger I moved for boarding school into the very same village as Nick. We had been five minutes from each other all that time, and never knew it! Our first date was for Sunday lunch, and after that we were inseparable. When I was single I had a list of the kind of man I was looking for – when I told my friends they all told me he didn't exist – but when I met Nick I proved them all wrong. I found the Prince Charming I was looking for, and now we are happily married with two gorgeous children!"



STEFANIE MARRIED HER BOY NEXT DOOR – RICK!

TOGETHER **8** YEARS
MARRIED
2
YEARS

STEFANIE AND RICK GAGLIO

"It might be a cliché, but I really did fall in love with the boy next door! I was living in the downstairs apartment and a new guy moved in above me. I remember thinking 'Ooh, he looks like he could be fun!'; and little did I know I had caught his attention too. We then kept engineering little ways to 'accidentally on purpose' bump into each other and soon got together. We spent a whirlwind summer together and Rick told me he loved me, and I realised I felt the same way. Now we are married, I love the closeness and security that comes with it – knowing that whatever happens, I will always have someone in my corner. That's very special." 

TOGETHER **59** YEARS
MARRIED
59
YEARS

LUCIA AND PIETRO LALLO

"Myself and Pietro both came over to the UK in the 1950s, as Italian immigrants. We were just teenagers in a strange country and didn't know each other at the time. The story goes that Pietro spotted a portrait photo of me, on display in a local photographer's shop window. He decided then and there that he was going to find the girl in the photograph and marry her. After asking around, he managed to track me down. Six months later we were married – Pietro says that once he found me he couldn't wait to marry me! Next year we'll be celebrating our 60th wedding anniversary."



IT WAS LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT WHEN PIETRO SET EYES ON LUCIA

