



TERRY DJ BIO

"YOU WERE
YOUNGER
THAN I
THOUGHT"



Having a name like Terry, people often assume I am about 20 years older than I am. Especially when I tell people I have 16 years experience in the wedding industry! I am however only 32 years old and just happened to do my first wedding at the age of 16. To the left is a picture of this first wedding, as a guitarist in a wedding band. I think back then fat ties & questionable wallpapers were trendy for weddings!

Since that first gig I have always been a part of the wedding Industry, playing music for wedding receptions in various forms. I went from being a part time guitarist to going full time when I turned 18!



Not only did I go full time with the wedding bands, I also started DJing in bars, restaurants & clubs separately to the weddings. The band gave me an amazing first hand experience in weddings but also led me to work with so many different wedding DJ's.

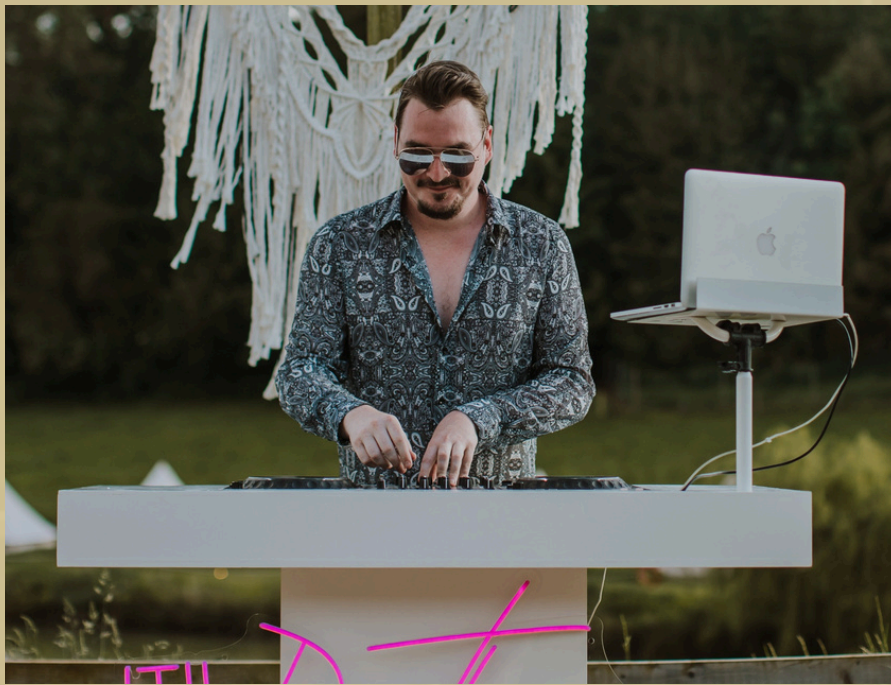
Being able to work alongside wedding DJ's for many years as a part of the band really shaped what would later become Smooth Moves, because I used to continually moan about how they all had the same set up & played the same songs for every wedding. Not to mention tacky DJ mic chat!



Fast forwarding to 2015, although having DJ'd clubs & been a full time guitarist in a function band for many years at this point, I had yet to put both together and DJ a wedding. In all honesty I had never wanted to, as I was worried I would have to just be like all the DJ's I had worked with.

My friend was getting married and I was asked to DJ for this, but I said let's do something different for the set up! The response from doing my first wedding as a DJ was amazing. Suppliers & the venue said how they had not seen anything like it before and they would like to recommend my wedding DJ services.





As soon as I realised I could actually offer the service how I wanted to and couples also might like something completely different, I was hooked on trying to offer something unique and bespoke. It seemed a very natural thing to bring these two things together and start thinking about wedding DJing from the point of view of the couple, the venue & photographers as opposed to the point of view of a wedding DJ.

Someone said “you’ve got smooth moves” so I lazily stole that for the name.

Insert the obligatory tacky awards photo to the right!

I then threw everything into coming up with new ideas for DJ set ups and trying to push the idea that the DJ set up counts as a part of the decor for the wedding. Now with a vast array of styling, we can actually offer up to 40 base set ups, and all of them can be tailored with elements being swapped and added/taken out.





Fast forward to now and I am still always trying to make Smooth Moves Events more bespoke. Our set ups are forever being copied and our vibe is forever being imitated, but that is half the fun! It pushes me to constantly keep coming up with new designs and ideas.

A lot of companies that copy our designs will miss the actual point. They will copy only the most popular designs and all end up looking the same anyway!

I am lucky to work as a full time wedding DJ, working with so many awesome local venues and meeting so many awesome wedding suppliers & couples! Pictured to the left with the photographer Luke Hardy Photography.

It is a lot of hard work mixed with a lot of fun and I definitely wouldn't have it any other way. 16 years into weddings and I still wouldn't want to be doing anything else!





For one night only your vibe is my vibe, even if I would usually cry at the thought of your music taste. I do not judge your favourites or just try to play my own favourites. I offer you the input on music that you wish to have!

Below are some random question I have tried my best not to dodge. Some of them sound slightly on the tindery side, however email can be so formal and it is hard to build a picture of exactly who you are speaking to!

I am always around for a chat wether you want to ask my favourite colour or a serious wedding question!





MALIN ANDERSSON

Thank you so much for everything.
It was perfect, you were an
absolute superstar!



VICKY PATTISON

A fabulous DJ!!
I WAS LIVING FOR IT!!



ARE YOU MARRIED?

I have yet to plan my own, so when I say I understand how stressful it is, I am just trying to sound cool!! My experience in the wedding industry however let's me understand how I can make your planning less stressful.

FIRST CD YOU EVER BOUGHT?

Ms Jackson by Outkast & Ride Wit Me by Nelly, I remember I had to ask someone in HMV to make the purchase for me as they were parental advisory! I think I had the parental advisory hoodie at one point.

WHAT MUSIC DO YOU LIKE?

Being an early 90's baby I had massive influence from the 80's & 90's being played while I was young, things like 80's pop, 90's pop, Britpop, Indie, 90's RnB & Hip Hop, 90'S dance. Growing up I was massively into both the RNB/Hip Hop & Pop Punk that was happening in the early 00's and absolutely on the Indie Rock that was kicking off too with the epic festivals that were happening. By the time I was old enough to go to the club to dance and dj it was 2010's when dance music was really coming back and things such as Garage, 90's dance were the big throwbacks!

SOMETHING WEIRD ABOUT YOU?

I am not a massively superstitious person, however I do have a weird thing where I have to play the first dance on the left side of my decks, I can't even remember how this started, but I have always done it and now it feels like if I don't maybe the cake will topple over or something! I have yet to test whether playing it on the right side will cause some sort of disaster, but I promise not to test this on your day.

BEST WEDDING PLANNING ADVICE

Regularly stop, take a deep breath & remember who's wedding this is!!! Reach out to your suppliers & venue when you feel stressed, we are here to help. Do not be scared to delegate tasks to friends and family that might be happy to help also.

FUNNIEST THING THAT HAS HAPPENED AT A WEDDING?

As you can imagine, there has been a lot!! The first 10 probably are not best to mention here, however make a booking and I might tell you! One that always makes me laugh is when a quite intoxicated bridesmaid strolled across the dance floor and asked me to "turn this boring song off as only two people are dancing to it". I politely reminded her that it was actually the first dance!

A second would be when a groom took his shoes off and then ended up getting a pint of beer all over them, naturally me being the only person in attendance that was stood behind a booth, I said he could borrow my shoes for the night! He ended up leaving the wedding with my shoes on and posting them back after the honeymoon. And it is things like this why when people ask me the "do you have back up equipment" question, I answer yes I even bring back up shoes! I was packing down in bridal flip flops!!!

THE MOST & LEAST YOU HAVE DJ'D FOR?

Neither were weddings but I did a birthday party where only two guests turned up, "apparently" there was a mix up with the date on the invites, I would have used that line too! The most is 3000 people at a music fest.

WORST DJ EXPERIENCE?

Are you really going to make me talk about the poor birthday person from the above question? Actually the worst is a tie break between a complete area power cut that just did not come back on and one time when I had to travel 3 hours in awful snowy weather conditions to arrive and be told the event was off due to awful snowy weather conditions. Honourable mentions include people dropping drinks all over my decks, wanting to fight me because I didn't play their song that was on the couples do not play list & crashing into my speakers or trying to pole dance on them.

Turning up to an event where a couples family friend had been asked not to DJ and I had been booked and he had set up anyway and refused to pack his equipment down. Getting a gin and tonic thrown at me (including glass) when a bridesmaid was excited to try and catch the bouquet, this was of course a complete accident. Honourable mention 2.0 - a person who was being a complete nightmare behind the booth leaving the booth just as I radio security and security then thinking I was said nightmare person and trying to throw me out at the club!

WHAT MAKES A GOOD WEDDING DJ?

5 main things that make a good wedding DJ with one being completely subjective to each couple. Professional equipment, understanding of music, experience with weddings & good mixing techniques for a professional dj set. The last is personality and further more a willingness to work with the different couples to understand their vibe and their wedding! This is where many people have different opinions on what is good or not!

HOW MANY WEDDINGS HAVE YOU DONE?

At least 90 weddings a year since the age of 16!! So whatever that is!

BEST THING ABOUT BEING A WEDDING DJ?

After the worst DJ experience question it could have made it sound like it was all a nightmare but there are so many best things about being a wedding DJ. Although it is naturally a job that comes with a lot of pressure, it is awesome! I love the fact it is such a special day and I get an invite to come and party with you and your friends, it feels like for one night only I am a part of your crew. Meeting people when they are letting their hair down and just having a good time is such a great positive energy and it gives me the same energy. It is awesome to see your plans come together from ideas to the real thing on the day and getting to be a part of that is something I don't take for granted however many gin & tonics I get thrown at me!

I love meeting supplier friends and building relationships with local venues that I really care about, so I can see them go from strength to strength. The most selfish reason is also I just love to mix music and where as a club you get given a music policy, at weddings I have to deal with all different genres, favourites, playlists and that keeps every single set different and challenging!

The cute first dances, hilarious speeches and right characters that attend. It is hard to pin point the best reason, because if I didn't have loads of best reasons I wouldn't do it, but doing my best not to dodge the exact question, I would have to say...

[see more....](#)

LEAST FAVOURITE PART OF A WEDDING?

Being a DJ it has to be sparkler photos! They look cool and I completely understand why couples and photogs do them, but being a DJ it is slightly weird to stop guests dancing and tell them to go outside!

FAVOURITE PART OF A WEDDING?

Apart from the evening party which is a given, if I am on a full day, definitely the speeches! I think I get more excited about these than the guests. It is just because I have seen so many weird & wonderful things happen during the speeches, you never know what to expect! I have seen it all, including cutting off a best mans microphone because he was getting boo'd by the whole wedding party, some speeches sound funnier on paper! I don't mean heckled, I mean off now boo'd!!

WHAT IS YOUR PET PEEVE?

Here we go, I have done pretty well to seem like a normal person and now this one. When you lose something and people go "where did you last have it?". When you are holding something and people say "oh don't drop it"...brilliant, I was about to do my best to drop it until you gave me that advice. The scratchy noise the freezer makes when you open a draw!!! The terrible tacky hearts wedding DJ's project on the dance floor!!!!

DO YOU GET NERVOUS?

Weirdly, the most nervous I feel about a wedding is during the day before I arrive. You plan with couples before the day and if I am not there until the evening it goes silent. I feel nervous in regards to hoping the day is going well for the couple, especially around ceremony time. As soon as I arrive, I always check in with the planner and then I relax knowing everything has gone well, No nerves would mean no care for how important the day is!

WHAT INSPIRES YOU THE MOST?

Couples, venues, photographers & industry friends. I always get more inspired by trying to see my services, especially the set ups from the point of view of anyone but the DJ. I take a lot of inspiration from putting myself in the couples shoes, nod to the shoe stealing groom from the earlier question!

FAVOURITE GUEST?

A quite intoxicated guest (my diplomatic way of saying drunk AF if you hadn't realised by now) fell asleep shortly after the first dance and didn't wake up until half way through the last song of the night! I do promise this was due to drink and not my music selection! He randomly woke up half way through the last song and started shouting "one more song, one more song" after sleeping through the other 120 songs. He continued to shout this on his own for 10 minutes (no joke), then sang Oasis at me as I was packing down and gave me a tip. Just as I was leaving he popped back over and asked for the tip back to pay for his taxi, LEGEND!!

I hope to this day I remain the best DJ that guy has NEVER seen!

ONE RULE FOR A GREAT WEDDING?

There is only one rule for any wedding! That is to get married. The only reason that is a rule is because if you didn't do that it wouldn't be classed as a wedding. I have done joke first dances, no first dance, romantic first dances & mash ups. I have seen cake cut's, doughnut cuts, champagne towers, cakes cut with a sword and even a pizza tower that was cut with one of those pizza cutting roller things! I've played drum & bass, metal, country only weddings. I have seen so many different venues, styling, dresses & suits. There are actually no rules, as it is a day that is completely unique to you!! No one can tell you what is wrong or right for your wedding day and no one can tell you what you SHOULD do. You just have to do whatever will make you smile, keep you relaxed and stay true to your vibe!

WHAT IS THE BEST THING ABOUT YOUR SERVICES?

Originality! Because you can't fake it and it isn't subjective, you either are or you aren't!