

Love second-time around

Paula Wynne, 46, is a businesswoman and author of Create a Successful Website (Lean Marketing Press, £15). Her partner Ken Sheridan, 56, is a consultant who specialises in home working. Both divorced, they've been together for five years and have three children between them from their previous marriages. They live on the Hampshire-Wiltshire border and plan to get married.

How did you meet?

Paula: We'd spoken on the phone through work. After my divorce, he called and said he needed a bit of PR work doing. We got talking and I found out he was divorced and a single dad. He asked me for a drink and it went from there.

Ken: We were acquaintances, but our professional relationship blossomed into something more profound.

First impressions?

P: Ken's a bit of a silver fox. When I saw him in the bar, I thought, 'Wow, he's the guy for me'. We hit it off immediately – we have the same sense of humour.

K: Great fun – spontaneous, interesting and energetic. And attractive, of course.

When did you know it was love?

P: Pretty quickly. Within days we were over the moon with each other.

K: We enjoyed each other's company from the word go and went very quickly from a great first night out in a wine bar to spending entire weekends together.

Who said those three little words first?

P: I actually can't remember. He's probably going to say it's me.

K: I'm fairly sure I did.

Happiest time together?

P: The honeymoon period was great – we spent hours walking along the Thames, just talking. But now's a lovely time, too; we've grown very comfortable together.

K: Some of our nicest times together are our lovely evenings in, talking over long meals. We make an effort, dress up, pick the music carefully.

Lowest point?

P: Just after I moved in with Ken I was made redundant and had a shoulder operation and was in a lot of pain, which

meant he had to be my carer. It was a dark time but it also brought out the strength of our relationship.

K: When Paula moved in it was tough, although it's only on reflection we think, 'God, how did we get through that?'

Their best attribute?

P: He's very positive and can make people laugh even in the most dire situations.

K: She's a dynamic, passionate person. And she has a great sense of humour.

Most annoying habit?

P: He's got a temper and can fly off the handle. But not very often.

K: She displays a fantastic lack of understanding for my affection for rugby!

Most romantic gesture?

P: Every birthday he sends me cards with the most beautiful messages and poems.

K: It was Paula's idea to get matching rings, which was wonderfully romantic.

Secret of your success?

P: We make sure we've got new things to look forward to so we don't get stale.

K: We just complement each other very well. We're interested in the same things, apart from the rugby, of course. ▶

