

'Our World Cup wedding nightmare'

Eamonn Holmes was all set for a blissful wedding to long-term partner Ruth Langsford – until a certain football tournament appeared...

Eamonn, Ruth told us she feels a little bit behind with your wedding plans...

I think that Ruth is an optimist if she thinks we're just "a little bit" behind with things! It's crept up on us incredibly quickly. I think the organisation is more scary for Ruth than actually getting married!

Is it going to coincide with the World Cup?

Yes! When I told Ruth, "You can't have the wedding on these dates because the World Cup is on," what I said and what she heard were two very different things. Those were my exact words. But Ruth heard that as, "Eamonn wants to sit and watch football all day." She thought 'He's not bothered about getting married, so I'll just get on with it'. Funny how football can lead to so many problems between a couple!

Organising a wedding during the tournament would be a nightmare!

Certainly! We know people who are going to be in South Africa, watching it or covering it. Plus, it would be very hard for anyone to get taxis, bar staff and entertainment, and for people to organise babysitters. Strange as it may seem, people actually want to watch the football!

Despite all the aggro, will you watch the games as a family?

Oh yes. Our son Jack will be wearing his England shirt. I'm Irish, but I support the England players every week in the league so I hope they win. Ruth will probably watch for 20 minutes,

then find a reason to go out to the kitchen and pour herself a glass of wine.

Will you be having a stag night? Ruth told us she wouldn't mind a bare-chested fireman for her hen do...

It would probably be me in the fireman's outfit! I really dread stag nights. The things that other men might do that could be seen as fun would be labelled as tawdry if I did them. I'm impressed you've managed to speak to her, though. She's out today with her mother buying shoes. She barely has time to speak to anybody!

Are you worried about getting teary when you make your groom's speech?

I'm a very emotional person, so I'm feeling the pressure. People think 'He's on telly, he'll be able to speak'. But it may actually be the shortest groom speech ever recorded.

How did you propose?

We were in a box at the races and I was surrounded by all these married guys. Ruth was getting a fair bit of male attention off them and I found myself feeling jealous – yet mine was the one relationship that wasn't cemented. I got my heart so badly broken when my first marriage ended, that I never thought I'd do it again. But that day the penny dropped. I sent her a six-page text about why I wanted to marry her. There were tears when she finally looked at her phone and read it.

Eamonn's in love but has World Cup woes



best EXCLUSIVE



A wedding and a football-mad groom – what could possibly go wrong?



He celebrated his 50th at his beloved Old Trafford with Ruth and young Jack

Are you enjoying Ruth on Kitchen Burnout?

She's a very good cook, but she's also the most non-competitive person I've ever met. She hugged her rivals before they started cooking and wished them luck! I'd never have done that! I'd be hoping their chip pan would catch fire.

Do you get nervous watching her on TV?

No, Ruth is a much better presenter out of my shadow. Her career has really taken off – life has

been fab for her at 50. And she's got the wedding to do – her biggest gig of the year!

Whenever Ruth appears on Loose Women, do you worry what she'll reveal?

My mother calls me saying, "I don't like her on that programme. She says too much about you, Son." But things are bound to slip out. She's done very well on it.

The two of you have some more good news...

Yes, we're going to be hosting *This Morning* for seven weeks this summer. Our first show is 19 July and we really can't wait to get back in the studio!

Ruth brings out the softie in Eamonn



Four things guaranteed to keep you and your man happy during the World Cup...

1 Who needs to be at the match when you've got a 3D TV. It's like having Wayne Rooney in your living room! The LG LD950 will be available from www.currys.co.uk at the end of May, but could cost over £1500.

2 Don't be a football widow – entertain yourself and the girls with some top party tunes! *WAG Anthems*, www.play.com, £11.99.

3 If he's going to be on the edge of his seat he may as well do it in style and comfort with this sumptuous leather recliner, <http://direct.tesco.com>, £249.99.

4 Drink for England, literally! With this handy beer helmet, he needn't worry about leaving the sofa for a top up and missing a goal, www.drinkstuff.com, from £6.99.

