

## BIRTHDAY GIRL

Pour the prosecco, because it's a big one for **Sheila Conn Ladies Fashions**. "I'm celebrating 25 years in business in 2020," Shona Thorpe divulges. "It's a huge milestone, which we're planning on marking with a fundraising charity lunch, possibly for Macmillan. Stay tuned." You'd think partying would dominate the Biggar boutique's time right now, but it's certainly not taken its eye off the prize, with a wave of new-season dresses flooding in. Shona's pick? Veni Infantino's soft and floaty 991529 [right, £POA].



FASHION *mother of the bride*

**Catwalk** is bursting with beautiful outfits on any given day, but this year? The choice is off. The Charts. If you're in any way fashion-forward, you'll want to stop by for classy numbers like the below gem. "We're loving the dynamic colour palette of this statement dress from John Charles [below, style 26872, £POA]," says the store's Louise Brown. "The feminine floral print and flattering bow waist, teamed with the luxuriously pleated bell sleeves, make it so unusual."

Fashion owes much to Elsa Schiaparelli, but, mostly, it's for the invention of this banging shade of pink, showcased flawlessly on Veni Infantino's 991517 below, £839, available from the inimitable **Patricia Forbes** in Broughty Ferry. "This dress and jacket combination is just fabulous," enthuses Karen Charles. "The stunning fuchsia hue and sculpted silhouette will set any mother of the bride or groom's mum apart from the crowd."

# All dressed UP

WHAT'S THE LATEST FROM SCOTLAND'S OCCASIONWEAR BOUTIQUES? WE'VE TAKEN A TRIP AROUND THE COUNTRY TO BRING YOU THE BEST FOR S/S 2020

Selection by **Rosie Patrick**

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Photo: tanyakiaie.com

"Real-life mother and daughter Riina and Juudit were cast for our 2020 photoshoot at Sorn Castle," reveals Glasgow-based designer **Joyce Young**. Riina and Juudit's instinctual bond is clear in every image. We're also intrigued by the idea of co-ordinating outfits for mums and daughters on the big day - after all, neutrals are occasionwear's most dominant trend (see p73). Whatever you both decide to wear, honour Joyce's final advice: "Remember to put aside some time to have your photographer capture those special mother/daughter moments before the wedding gets underway. You'll treasure them forever." →

**STRIKING MATCH**

## FASHION *mother of the bride*

**NEW IN**

Think mother of the bride/groom and **Condici** is top of the list for many. The stalwart brand has years of experience, and really knows what works and, crucially, what doesn't when it comes to occasionwear. Nonetheless, if you're looking for something fresh, **Condici** remains at the forefront. 2020's offering includes asymmetric contrast pleating (see style 70986, right, from £795) and sleek lilac trouser suits (style 71003, far right, from £765). **The future's bright!**



**BEAR WITH US**

Keeping an open mind when shopping for occasionwear is advice worth heeding – especially if it means ending up with something extraordinary. "It's not until you get into the changing room and start trying on your first choices that you'll get a sense of what suits and flatters you," considers Maggie Robin of Auchterarder's **Bear Necessities**. "Quite often, it's the polar opposite of what you imagined!" Break the mould for Couture Club's jewel-toned dress [above, £POA] and the retro-tinged dipped-hem dress and jacket [above left, £POA].



No search for an outfit is complete without browsing **Condici's** sister brand **Ispirato**. The company is queen of the stand-alone dress, which, let's face it, makes styling infinitely easier. For 2020, shifts come with covetable features aplenty: ¾-length sleeves, tiered skirts, lacy illusion necklines and sassy colours to take you from day to night without a costume change in sight. We've set our sights on delicate style ISE828 (above, from £445) in the delectable Mauve/Ice Cream colourway.

## VENI GOOD

As you'll likely have gathered from these pages, **Veni Infantino**

is wildly popular in Scotland and it's not difficult to see why: timeless shapes and trend-led details make for a winning partnership. This spring, expect more diversity than ever from Veni. This navy dress coat [right, style 991543, £POA] is essential for our cold climate, while the pearl embellishments on style 991503 [far right], £POA, are simply divine.

