

Jaeger linen suit £415

Below: 'Sonic' sandal, Dune, £65



Dear W.M reader

SUMMER'S HERE! LET'S SHOP FOR GOODIES

AT THE FABULOUS CAPITOL SHOPPING CENTRE!

Oh, how I love summer! Fave season by far and that's all because of fashion, fashion, fashion! So, I used the hot weather as an excuse to spend last weekend (yes, Sunday too!) at the Capitol in Cardiff . . . let me tell you what I bought!

First up and always on my mind: the three weddings we've been invited to this year! I want a simple, but stunning dress and knew I'd be spoilt for choice at the Capitol. Iopped into Kookai first up, because their sizing's always so flattering and this summer they've gone big on the season's essential: the dress. One floaty light green dress with exquisite embroidery work found, and I was sorted for the July wedding (I also picked up some lovely necklaces in there, and a fab metallic bag!).

Next, I whizzed into H&M. No wonder the likes of Stella McCartney and Madonna have designed for them. I snapped up a handful of floaty kaftans and smock tops from the H&M Loves Kylie and Beach Collection, plus some bug-eye sunglasses that were dead ringers for a pair I saw on the catwalk at London Fashion Week. I even found some holiday shorts for Johnny and the cutest little babygro for my cousin's little one. And all for the price of dinner at my favourite Italian! Talk about value!

But what about my wedding outfit mission? Well, I was spoilt for choice: my only problem was making a decision. I dashed into Coast, well known for its summer season occasionwear. They had all this season's trends: satin sash belts, lots of white and metallics, floral dresses and tiny jackets in sugar plum colours. I'm not ashamed to say I gave in and bought three dresses: so now I'll have to

go to Henley as well as all those weddings!

With my birthday coming up, Johnny had told me to have a scout around the jewellers . . . and the Capitol is jewel heaven! Parkhouse & Wyatt had the most beautiful brands, it was hard to choose between a watch, necklace and a posh pen for my diary!

Benetton Spring/Summer 2007



Accessorize, large front pocket basket £35



Dune sunhat, £25



We're talking the likes of Rolex, Cartier, Bulgari, Chopard, Mikimoto, Tag Heuer, Omega, Ebel, Lalique, Mont Blanc, Dunhill . . . the list goes on! Caught a peep in Paul Gentile at the most delicate gold and silver chains I've ever seen, and they bent over backwards to help me too. I do like good service, it makes my retail dreams come true!

Time for a breather. Had a sparkling water at Cafe Caribe and a delicious sandwich, too: well, a girl's got to keep her energy up when shopping. Next it was time to lose an hour in MAC: I had a makeover, and tried a whole load of new summer looks . . . I emerged looking like a golden goddess! Then popped up to the Sassoon Salon to book in for my usual summer highlights and trim. Don't want to look sloppy on the beach!

While on the first floor, I spied some great summery must-haves: a couple of surf-god T-shirts at Quiksilver for me and Johnny. Then, downstairs again, I saw a faded rose-pink hoodie at Fat Face. So cute! I swanned into Dune for wedding sandals: their range of strappy metallic heels can't be bettered (although Moda In Pelle gives them a run for their money! I went in there too, and bought a pair of gorgeous leather sandals embellished with blue gemstones to complement the funky minidress I got in Oasis).

What visit to the Capitol is complete without the big guns? I'm talking serious labels, ladies. Jaeger called my name and within five minutes I'd spied a lovely linen suit, a monochrome dress (so on trend!) and a silk shirt that'll last for years. They've really stepped up their game in recent seasons. I'm also loving Hobbs and Karen Millen, and I ricocheted between the two, trying to decide between a hot pink party dress in one, and a sexy silvery tunic dress in the other. What the heck: I got both! They'll go with that pure white cashmere mini-cardi I also couldn't resist in the lovely Phase Eight (such an elegant, grown-up shop, full of beautiful fashion!).

Finally, it had to be the treasure trove of Accessorize. The absolute best place for this summer's beach bag, and I bagged a straw cowboy hat too, plus a pair of beaded flip-flops that looked like they could have been Chanel or Chloe! Matched them to a pendant in Oasis, next door, too: will look great with the red bikini I bought there last week!

Phew! By six I was all done in. Luckily, the car park is right there so I only had to stagger a few yards with all my bags. All shopped out? Yup, but oh so happy. . .

CAPITOL SHOPPING CENTRE

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love
Fashionista



Sweetie stretch bracelets £8 and straw stetson £20, both from Accessorize

