

Everything moved fast after that first meeting in Sydney, perhaps because they had got to know each other online.

I suggested he come to the wedding of my Greek neighbours in New Zealand. I'd gone as a single woman to the previous weddings in that family and each time older family members would come up to me saying, "What's a pretty young woman like you doing alone?"

I decided next time I'd go with someone.

Leo came for a week and stayed for two. He had a trip to Thailand booked. Of course I drove him to the airport. We hadn't made any plans. At the airport he asked me, "Shall I come back?" When I said yes, I knew that it meant his living with me.

Leo did come back, did a cooking course in Christchurch and the couple, now married continue to travel the world together.

The dating agency

If the Internet is not your thing, there is the dating agency option. I spoke to Trea Tijmens, who runs Success Match, Switzerland's biggest dating agency and matchmaking service to find out what clients can expect from this type of service. In fact there are two services, one more personalised than the other. They allow Trea to identify the perfect partner, she claims. This is based on in-depth meeting and some psychological testing. Apparently the success rate is hard to quantify as once a client has found a partner they tend not to be heard from again. It is only those that don't work out who go back to the service for another introduction. To find out how it went, Trea runs an evaluation of the first date. It seems that 95% of clients are satisfied or even extremely satisfied with their first date and 70% are prepared to meet the person again. What about the third date I wondered? It is often around date number three that serious questions start to arise.

Success Match appeals in particular to busy expatriates who are finding that they have a lack of opportunity to meet someone

new or they are meeting lots of people but not the right one, people with different expectations and goals for the future. They don't want to waste time and so entrust their future relationship happiness to a dating agency.

In Step Two you looked at taking a different approach to your way of meeting someone. In particular you looked at:

- **Getting rid of limiting beliefs that hamper your search.**
- **Doing things differently like others interviewed in this book. Not dramatically different, just different.**
- **Identifying meeting places that work such as: Professional meetings, Relocation, Classes, Introductions through friends, the Internet.**
- **Checking your Internet profile to be sure it is fresh and appealing, reflecting what you really want.**
- **Dating agencies.**