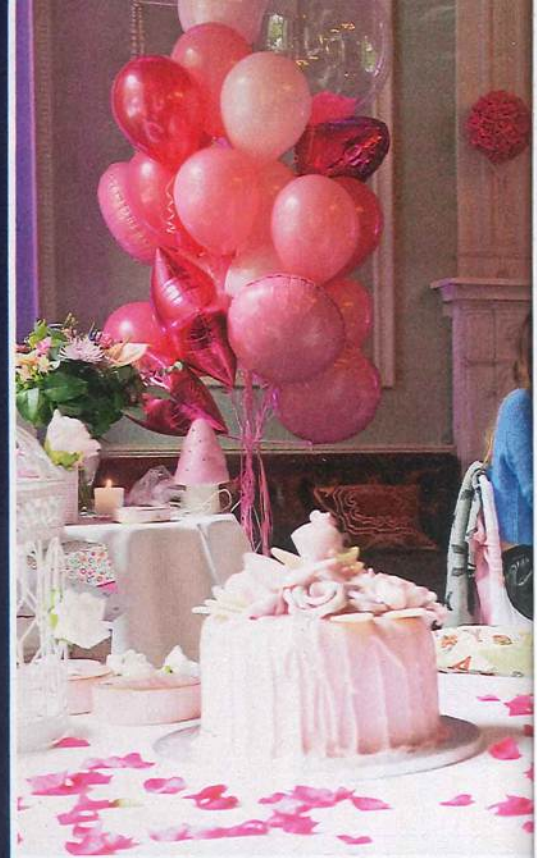


**FORMER PUSSYCAT DOLL  
KIMBERLY WYATT  
IS PRETTY IN PINK AND FEELING ACE AS SHE  
PREPARES TO WELCOME HER OWN BABY DOLL**

**'I'm ready and so excited to meet the little lady now'**



An excited Kimberly Wyatt opens her baby shower gifts, some of which are unashamedly girly (above). The former Pussycat Doll restrained her own instinct to think pink when it came to decorating the nursery: "We've kept it fairly neutral with a woodland theme"

**W**ith just weeks to go until her baby is due, Kimberly Wyatt could be forgiven for wanting to just sit at home with her feet up. But instead, as the former Pussycat Doll welcomes friends and family to her baby shower at Home House private members' club in London, she looks the ultimate glamorous mummy-to-be, wearing five-inch heels, a body-fitting dress and fabulous peach feather shrug.

"I don't know how she's doing it. JB would tell me off if I was in heels – but look at Kim, she looks amazing," laughs close friend Chloe Gill, who, moments after arriving with her eight-week-old son Ace – her first child with her husband, former JLS star JB Gill – passes him to a besotted Kimberly to cuddle.

"I've been getting my practice in with this little one," grins the American singer as she plants a kiss on Ace's full head of hair. "We've already decided on an arranged marriage. I can't wait for Ace to meet his little girlfriend," she laughs, rubbing her tummy.

"When I first held Ace I was so nervous but then I thought, 'This is beautiful, this is amazing, I can't wait for mine.' I'm ready now."

#### TICKLED PINK

As Kimberly is expecting a daughter with model husband Max Rogers, it wasn't surprising that the baby shower was adorned with pink flowers, Neom candles and balloons. Guests were also given pink Lily Belle friendship bracelets and the centrepiece was a pink cake topped with a rubber duck, from chocolatiers Choccywoccydoodah, which Kimberly couldn't resist tucking into despite her healthy, no-sugar regime.

"I've actually resisted going all girly pink in the nursery," she says as HELLO! joins her for a slice and a cup of tea. "Max has just finished painting it and we've kept it fairly neutral with a woodland theme, similar to our wedding back in February. The only pink thing we have is a gorgeous Hermès blanket from Max's agent in New York."

"We've had the furniture delivered and that, along with seeing everyone today, makes it feel like it's actually happening – I'm going to be a mommy."

In preparing for their new arrival, Kimberly took Max to her home town of Warrensburg, Missouri, in September to meet her extended family and friends for the first time.

"I introduced Max to all my redneck, hillbilly family. I think it was a bit of a culture shock for both sides," laughs Kimberly. "I was nervous, but Max slid right into the mix and it went well."

Kimberly has spoken out in the past about how she became estranged from her parents, Jeff and

**'I didn't grow up with the closest of families. Max and I are sort of recreating what I didn't have'**



Kathy, after they refused to believe she had been the victim of abuse when she was a young child. But after rebuilding bridges over the years, including inviting them to her wedding, she found the trip home with Max a positive experience and it has made her reflect on what it means to become a parent herself.

"It's changed everything," she says. "It's changed in the context of how my accomplishments and my ups and downs will affect my child, and what I can teach her and, hopefully, the path I can steer her away from or to. I didn't grow up with the closest of families but I feel already that Max and I are sort of recreating what I didn't have. It's that family vibe. I'm loving it."

Kimberly is honing her cooking skills and organising her home in readiness for her longed-for new arrival.

"I've been nesting and doing more of the 'pink' jobs and Max has been doing the 'blue' jobs as we call them. YouTube has become my friend. I've been looking up Jamie Oliver and Martha Stewart recipes – cooking my first roast is a goal. Also, I've taken up knitting and I love it. My grandmother Jane knitted a little blanket to carry me home from the hospital in and I wanted to do the same for my little girl. I just need to put the satin trim around the edge and it's finished," she beams proudly.

#### LONDON CALLING

It's ironic that Kimberly's first ever baby shower is not in her native America, where they are par for the course, but in her adopted home city of London, over Home House's quintessentially English champagne afternoon tea.

"I'm an Anglophile," she says. "I really love it here. As the seasons change and it gets a little colder, it starts to feel special around Christmas. I love it all. And Max is such an Englishman. He's very proud of his country. I've never felt that pride before, but I do when I'm here."

Kimberly's plan to build a strong family unit for her little girl in Britain appears to be coming together as her guests of honour – mother-in-law Denise and Max's sister Katey – arrive laden with presents of toys and cuddly monkeys.

"I didn't think I would be a grandmother so soon after the wedding, but I'm absolutely thrilled," beams Denise. "Kimberly has become one of the family and it's so lovely to share her day with her. She is such a lovely girl and they will make wonderful parents."

"This Christmas is going to be very special, with my first grandchild. There will be a huge pile of presents waiting under the tree for her." ►



Perfectly colour coordinated with her rubber duck cake (left), Kimberly (above) plays host to her female 49 friends and family at her baby shower (above left). Born in Missouri, she now calls London home and will stay here for "as long as the UK will have me"

# 'Max and I joke about what we want our daughter to do, but we honestly just want her to be happy'

She smiles and shakes her head in a "not a chance" kind of way.

"I have no plans to take time off. I really enjoy being busy. I've got my Beautiful Movements Cosmetics range and Kaydance fragrance, and my ambassadorships for [nutrition products] Maxitone and [audio company] Monster.

"We're lucky because the baby is coming around Christmas and New Year, when things slow down. But I'm ready to find the next TV adventure. I've got radio possibilities and I love to DJ, so I'm ready to push forward with all of it – and look after a baby."

Her career hopes for her daughter may surprise some of her fans.

"I'm quite keen for her to be a scientist. I'm a bit of a science geek on the side. *New Scientist* is one of my favourite magazines. I like to know what's being discovered on land and in space.

"Max and I joke about what we want her to do, but we honestly just want her to be happy and find her own passions in life."

As the last of the tea and scones disappears, Chloe's husband JB arrives to pick up his family.

"Max and I have been swapping notes," he laughs. "He and Kimberly are going to be amazing parents – they just have to be prepared for every eventuality."

As Kimberly jokingly strikes a pose as she practises pushing her new Bugaboo Bee around the room, Chloe offers some motherly advice: "Breastfeeding is brilliant to get your figure back. And sleep as much as you can. If you're relaxed and happy, it helps your baby feel relaxed, too. And you really need the support of your man, especially if things don't go to plan, like it did with me. I had to have an emergency Caesarean and that was never the plan."

Chloe gives a cheeky smile before adding: "We can't wait to meet their daughter and start planning our babies' wedding..."

As Kimberly waves goodbye to the last of her guests, she reflects on her good fortune.

"This has been such a special day, I feel so overwhelmed. I'm ready and so excited to meet the little lady now." **H**

INTERVIEW: DANIELLE LAWLER

PHOTOS: DAVE HOGAN

STYLING: ARABELLA BOYCE

HAIR & MAKE-UP: CAROLINE BARNES AT FRANK



Kimberly poses with her friends, former JLS star JB Gill, his wife Chloe and their baby son Ace (above) – who enjoys a cuddle from grandmother-to-be Denise Rogers (bottom), Kimberly's mother-in-law. In preparation for their own bundle of joy, Kimberly and her husband Max hit the shops (below right)

Says Katey: "Kimberly has set the bar extremely high for me when I have a baby – she's amazing. We're a really close family and Kimberly is part of that. I can't wait to become an aunty. Being here today to help her celebrate has made it all feel real."

### PASTURES NEW

The day's joy has helped put the announcement that producers have pulled the plug on Sky 1 talent show *Got to Dance*, on which Kimberly was a judge for five series, into perspective.

"When I started *Got to Dance* I had just left the Pussycat Dolls and was living in Los Angeles. I was so lucky and fortunate to have this opportunity to share my passion and give dancers a platform to shine. Now, nearly five years later, I'm married, calling the UK my home and am about to have a baby. *Got to Dance* really has brought a lot into my life. It's a tough one to say goodbye to."

But does it mean Kimberly will be able to enjoy some maternity leave?

