

Journeys of Love



Thank you for choosing me as your marriage celebrant for your upcoming wedding.

To help you prepare for our meeting, there are certain statutory requirements and considerations that I have outlined below. Each item will be discussed in detail when we meet, so please relax and take your time to collect any items that are applicable, including any information and ideas.

Things you will both need

- Evidence of date and place of birth original Birth Certificates, extract or an Australian or overseas passport.
- Photo ID valid passport or drivers' licence, proof of age card.
- Consent and Court approval (*if under 18 years of age*)

Other things you will need

- Date last marriage ended if divorced and court location.
- Copy of death certificate is widowed.
- Your parent's full birth names and current names (if known).
- Parents country of birth (if known).

Personal questions I am required to ask:

- Are you both over the age of 18?
 *If either one of you is under 18. Do you have the consent form from a guardian?
 - *If either one of you is under 18, do you have court approval?
- Are you related? (e.g., brother, sister, father, mother, adopted siblings)
- Have you been married previously?
 *How was your last marriage ended?
 *Do you have supporting evidence regarding any said marriage?

Things I am required to give you:

• A copy of "Happily Ever Before & After" brochure and advice on relationships and relationship education.

*Please be advised, the Notice of Intent to Marry must be filled out at least one month before your wedding date and no longer than eighteen months.

for you to ponder regarding your Marriage Ceremony

- Would you like a giving away/presentation to your partner? (e.g., Father, mother, brother, sister, uncle, guardian etc)
- Is the ceremony going to take place indoors or outdoors?
 *Do you have all the relevant council permits and licenses (if applicable)
 *Do you have a wet weather or hot weather contingency plan?
 *Have you considered ceremony access for any disabled guests?
 *Would you like a "Acknowledgment of Country" as part of your ceremony (an acknowledgement of indigenous land ownership)?
- Would you like any readings? (What will be read and who will read it)
 *How will the readings be provided and sourced?
- Would you like music? (Which songs will be played and when)
 *I recommend 4 songs, (1 for procession, 2 for signing, 1 for recession.)
 *How will the music be provided (e.g., IPOD, Cd, DVD, Live)
- The type of vows you would like. (Standard, customised)
- Are you exchanging rings and who will carry the rings?
- Would you like to include any rituals, customs, traditions? (e.g., Candle lighting, sand ceremony, dove release, hand fasting ceremony, butterfly release)
- Who will witness the signatures on your marriage certificate? (Two people are required and they must be over 18 years of age)

I hope that the above helps you to prepare for the initial meeting. If you have any questions regarding anything contained in this document, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Kind regards

Lesley Meinema Authorised Marriage Celebrant

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