

Adrian Downey CMC.JP NSW Celebrant

INTRODUCTION:

My name is Adrian Downey and I am a Civil Marriage Celebrant located in North Western Sydney NSW. I am a younger relaxed easy going Celebrant who looks forward to meeting with you to commence the journey to work with you towards your ceremony. I will work with you to create a ceremony that will exceed your expectations.

BOOKING FEE:

When you sign the ' Notice of Intended Marriage ' (NOIM) with me a \$100.00 booking fee is payable. This amount secures your date and is deducted from the total cost of the wedding fee of \$500.00 (*if you are looking at a smaller intimate ceremony with a few family and friends please contact me for the fee*). In the event of a cancellation; the booking fee is non refundable. Payment may be made by cash, direct deposit, BPAY®, PayPal, EFTPOS or credit card. PayPal and credit card **payments can be made [here](#)**.

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

You both must be over the age of 18 years. Your 'Notice of Intended Marriage' (NOIM) must be lodged with your Celebrant between a maximum of 18 months and **a minimum of 1 month** (in other words minimum time: no less than a calendar month) prior to the date of your marriage.

Witnesses: The law requires that two persons shall be appointed by the Bride and Groom as the legal witnesses to the marriage, who by law must be 18 years or over, and be able to speak, read and write English. The full names of the witnesses are required.

Note: The *Witnesses* are not required to attend any Meetings with the Marriage Celebrant, but must be present at all times at the place of the Wedding Ceremony. They are required to sign the Marriage Register at the completion of the Wedding Ceremony.

Proof of Birth: You are required by law to produce to the Marriage Celebrant before the marriage date, a Birth Certificate or a Passport. If born outside of Australia a birth certificate (translated into English) or an overseas issued passport is acceptable in lieu of a Birth Certificate.

Other Documents: Where there has been severance of a previous marriage, evidence is required to be produced of divorce documents ie Decree Absolute / certificate of divorce (divorce papers from the Family Court) or a Death Certificate (from Births, Deaths and Marriages) if a previous spouse is deceased. Information on how to get a certificate of divorce can be found [here](#).

ABIA finalist (Celebrants NSW)
Member of Australian Marriage Celebrants Inc &
Australian Federation of Civil Celebrants

Find me on Facebook & Twitter (nswcelebrant)



MEETINGS:

At least two meetings should be held with the couple:

At the first meeting the required documents will be shown to the Celebrant and the NOIM lodged and booking fee paid. I will also discuss with you the designing of your Wedding Ceremony and any other matters that you would like to clarify with me. After that, I will keep in touch with you by phone and email. In other words, I will be with you all the way on this beautiful journey leading up to your destination, your memorable Wedding Day.

A second meeting is arranged nearer the wedding date in order to finalise the details of the wedding ceremony. We can rehearse your wedding ceremony (if required). Also, the balance of the fee is paid.

MUSIC:

Please speak with me regarding your music requirements and I will assist where possible.

PA SYSTEM:

I will also supply a reliable PA system, so that the wedding ceremony can be heard clearly by all.

WEDDINGS HELD IN PARKS:

A wedding ceremony that the couple wish to have in a park, reserve, botanic gardens or on a beach, MAY require permission from the local council or trust. Some Council's may charge and allocate only limited time for a wedding ceremony.

For Outdoor Weddings in Parks etc I can supply a small fold up table if required.

It is your wedding ceremony and you have the choice of the wedding ceremony that you both wish to have on your special day, which may include readings, verses and vows. My reference books and examples of "Wedding Ceremonies, Readings & Poems" will guide you to select the ceremony of your choice.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time if I may be of further assistance.

www.nswcelebrant.sydney or

www.adriandowney.com.au

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THE CELEBRANTS ROLE

A Civil Marriage Celebrant is appointed by the Australian Government's Attorney-General's Department and is authorised to solemnise marriages anywhere in Australia in accordance with the Marriage Act, 1961.

Marriage Celebrants appointed since 2003 have undergone special training before being appointed. All Marriage Celebrants are required to undergo five hours of On-going Professional Development (OPD) per year so it is fair to say that most Celebrants are highly trained and qualified whether recently appointed or have many years' experience.

Although, traditionally, marriages have taken place in religious establishments, Civil Marriage Celebrants offer you a professional option. A civil ceremony can be equally as emotional, extremely professional and sensitive and above all include your wishes for your special day.

Civil Marriage Celebrants are professional people who will ensure that your special day is one to be remembered. They will officiate at formal, informal wedding ceremonies or themed ceremonies and, in most cases, are prepared to include some religious content which could be the reading of a prayer by a family member.

Civil Marriage Celebrants will also work alongside the clergy. For instance there are occasions where a couple wish to have their marriage blessed by a Minister of Religion from their local church and providing that Minister is happy the celebrant will include this in the ceremony.

Additionally, a Civil Marriage Celebrant will accommodate your choice of location for the marriage ceremony thus giving you total control of this special occasion.

Marriage Celebrants are governed by a strict Code of Practice as set down in the Marriage Act.

