

# SHERIDAN BRYANT JP (Qual), M.MSc

Authorised Marriage & Civil Celebrant

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## Where do we start?

There are many questions relating to where to start, some of the more commonly asked questions are summarised for you. Obviously, should you have any further questions regarding your ceremony, please don't hesitate to contact me.

### What do you, as a Celebrant, actually do?

- I create a ceremony that expresses your feelings, your words, and includes everything you could possibly wish for.....
- I attend to all necessary legal requirements regarding your marriage according to the Laws of Australia.
- I officially solemnize your marriage according to the Laws of Australia
- I must comply with the Australian Code of Practice for all registered Marriage Celebrants as set out by the Attorney General's Department.

### What do we need to do first?

Once you are happy for me to officiate at your ceremony, you will need to complete a form known as a "NOTICE OF INTENDED MARRIAGE" or NOIM. You can download the form from [www.ag.gov.au/celebrants](http://www.ag.gov.au/celebrants) (4 pages), which will outline the information required.

### Do we require any identification?

Absolutely! If you were born in Australia your **original** birth certificate (or an extract of it) must be sighted prior to your marriage being solemnized. To apply for a birth certificate in Queensland, visit [www.bdm.qld.gov.au](http://www.bdm.qld.gov.au). If you were born overseas, your **original** birth certificate, in English (that is, if it is in a foreign language, I require a "certified translation" of your birth certificate (preferably by the Embassy of your country of birth). Should this not be possible, an overseas passport is acceptable.

It is important to note that an Australian Passport **is not** an acceptable form of identification for Australian citizens.

**0418 887 646**

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## ***Do we need anything because one, or both of us, has been married before?***

Should either of you be divorced, you'll need to provide evidence of this, by way of your original Certificate of Divorce (Decree Absolute), if applicable, your late partner's original Death Certificate..

## ***Do we need to give any notice before we can marry?***

Yes, by law, you are required to give a minimum of one calendar month's notice. That is, if you complete the NOIM with me on March 15, your marriage may take place any time from April 16. You can give up to 18 months notice.

## ***When should we book a celebrant?***

Once you've decided on the date - it's best to book your celebrant as soon as possible to ensure you can confirm your preferred day and time of ceremony.

## ***How long does the ceremony usually take?***

Depending on the content of the ceremony, it "usually" takes approximately 20 minutes. We can discuss this at our meeting when you choose your vows, ring exchange vows, wedding ritual (should you choose one), etc.



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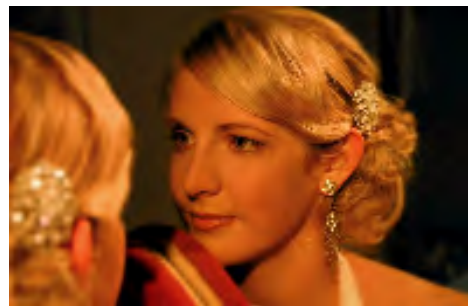
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## ***Do we need anyone else to sign anything at our wedding ceremony?***

Yes, you're required, by law, to have two witnesses who must be over the age of 18 years. These witnesses may be members of your family, your bridal party or someone special.

## ***We are both interstate/overseas at the moment and won't be returning to Queensland until a few days before our wedding. What should we do?***

You can download the NOIM form from [www.ag.gov.au/celebrants](http://www.ag.gov.au/celebrants) (4 pages). Once completed, you need to either mail or fax it to me. On your arrival in Queensland, I will need to sight your original identification documents; verify your signatures as sent to me on the NOIM and then we can easily communicate by email, telephone or fax each other to prepare your ceremony and include all your "wishes".

## ***What if immigration is an issue?***

One of you must complete the NOIM. If your partner is in the process of submitting a "Prospective Marriage Visa" application, the necessary letter for Immigration can be provided.

Of course, should you have any further questions, please call or send me an email.....



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## *First things first ...*

The first thing we need to do is get together, **obligation free**, to discuss your ceremony, and of course, to give you the opportunity to meet “me”.

The basic steps to create your ceremony are outlined below and, you will notice, that most of the ceremony is all about **your choices**.....

- *I must identify myself as being the Authorised Celebrant and as per the Marriage Act recite the Monitum and a legal “Asking”, these components are spread within your ceremony.*
- The Introduction
- The “Giving Away
- Your Vows
- Exchange of rings (or symbols)
- Declaration of Marriage
- Wedding Ritual
- Readings/Poems/Songs (these can be added at chosen points within the ceremony)
- *Signing of Marriage Certificate* (with 2 witnesses over 18 years)
- Presentation to guests

The sections in *“italic”* must, by law, be included to solemnize your marriage.

There is a vast selection of choices including ceremony music. Your ceremony is based on these choices and once your ceremony is completed, you’ll receive a “Ceremony Checklist” for approval and signature.



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## What does your fee include?

- All legal documentation required for your marriage as per the Marriage Act 1961.
- A ceremony **rehearsal** with all members of the wedding party prior to the day.
- A professional sound system ensuring all your guests will hear your ceremony.
- Certificate of Marriage and a copy of your ceremony in a professionally produced presentation folder.
- On the day, your ceremony professionally presented.
- Registration of your marriage with the Queensland Department of Births, Deaths and Marriages for registration.
- **Ensure all your dreams, wishes and expectations come true!**

You can be comfortable knowing that your ceremony will be one you, your family and your friends will remember, treasure and celebrate for years to come.

## *It's your decision – You can make your dreams come true.....*

**My Fee** – whatever your choice of ceremony style – simple (a romantic alternative to a Registry Ceremony) or ceremony with all the extra's; traditional or contemporary; irrespective of size – I understand everyone's wishes differ and each ceremony is created to reflect your personal dream as to how you promise your commitment to each other to celebrate your future together. My fee for each ceremony, therefore, differs according to the complexity of your choices. You can be assured that the ceremony written and created will reflect the unique couple you are about to become and will be one that, for you, for your family, and for your guests, will always be "a wedding ceremony to remember".

A non-refundable deposit of \$150 is required to secure your booking date and time and for the completion of the NOIM and legalities. The balance, as negotiated, is payable two weeks prior to your wedding.

*Should you have any questions at all, please feel free to contact me by*

**Phone**            0418 887 646  
**Fax**                07 5545 1141  
**Email**             [ceremonies@sheridanbryant.com.au](mailto:ceremonies@sheridanbryant.com.au)



### **Payment Options:**

**Cash, Money Order, Direct Deposit**

**For your convenience, Visa, Bankcard and Mastercard are accepted.**

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