



Getting Married in Approved Premises

Thank you for booking your ceremony with us. We confirm that we have booked your marriage at

On at am/pm

Fee £..... payable by/...../..... together with the checklist and copy of your chosen reading(s), if applicable.

We want your wedding day to run as smoothly as possible. Here are a few pieces of information to help you with your planning.

Before the Day

If you do not live in Bath and North East Somerset, it is essential that you collect the certificates from the Register Office where you gave your notice of marriage. Some Register Offices will post them directly to us, and should inform you (if they can do this) at the time of giving notice.

Planning the Ceremony

This pack contains four wedding ceremonies for you to choose from, and there are some further choices to be made in each of these ceremonies.

Please complete the checklist at the back of the ceremony booklet and return it to us, together with the fee, at least two months before the date of the wedding.

Readings and Music

You may wish to enhance your ceremony with readings of your choice. These must have no religious connotation. If you are in any doubt, please discuss it with us. You may wish for one of your guests to do the reading, but if you would like to have a reading and cannot find a guest to do this for you the Superintendent Registrar will be happy to read it. There are several places within the ceremony where you may wish to have music played. Again this must have no religious references.

On the Day

The Superintendent Registrar and the Registrar will arrive at the venue thirty minutes before the start of the ceremony. The groom should arrive thirty minutes and the bride ten minutes before the start of the ceremony. Usually the bride and groom are interviewed separately. The Registrar will check your personal details and will ask for your father's full names and occupation. This must be your natural, legally adopted father or stepfather. You will also be asked to confirm the names of your witnesses.

Marriage ceremony one





Marriage ceremony one



Marriage between /
on at

Good Morning/Afternoon ladies and gentlemen. May I extend a very warm welcome to you all to, and a special welcome to /

My name is and I will be conducting the ceremony and my colleague is and he/she will be registering the marriage.

On behalf of and I should like to welcome you all here today to share with them in their wedding ceremony.

Through their vows they will be making a commitment to each other and through your presence here you are expressing your support for them.

Lawful Impediment

You are here today to witness the marriage between and If any person present knows of any lawful impediment to this marriage, he or she should declare it now.

Who gives to be married to?

Suggested place for reading

This place in which you are now met has been duly sanctioned according to law for the celebration of marriages.

..... and, the purpose of marriage is that you may always love, care for and support each other through both the joys and sorrows of life.

Marriage requires closeness and distance; closeness of a couple growing together and enough distance to allow each partner to be an individual.

A good partner in such a marriage will be loving, caring and, above all, a best friend.

Shortly I am going to ask you both to make a declaration that you do not know of any lawful impediment to your marriage, then you will make your marriage vows to one another.

But firstly it is my duty to remind you of the solemn and binding character of the ceremony of marriage.

Marriage in this country means the union of two people voluntarily entered into for life to the exclusion of all others.

But more than this marriage is intended to provide the love and friendship, comfort and support that each can give to the other through times of joy and sorrow, plenty and hardship.

Suggested place for reading

We have now reached the part of the ceremony where you both have to make a declaration that there is no impediment to your marriage, and you have to do it in the words laid down by law.

Declaration

You have to say one of these by law

A. I do solemnly declare that I know not of any lawful impediment why I may not be joined in matrimony to

or

B. I declare that I know of no legal reason why I may not be joined in marriage to

or

C. By answering “I am” to the question “Are you free lawfully to marry

The moment has come for and to make their vows to each other.

Would you like to join us by standing

..... and we celebrate with you today.

We are glad to join with you in the solemnisation of your marriage, to witness your vows and to support you in your intentions for your future life together.

Choose one of the following

D. / will you have / to be your wife/husband, to live together in marriage?

Will you promise to be faithful to her/him and look after her/him throughout your lives together?

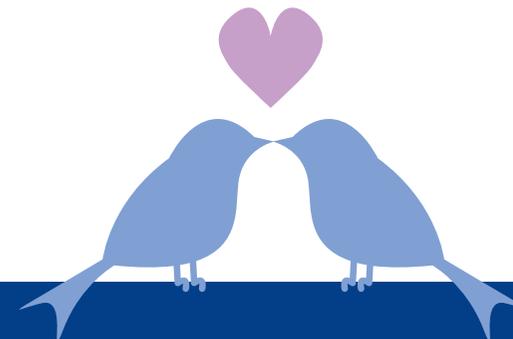
Will you love her/him not only when times are good but also during the more difficult periods of your lives?

I WILL

or

E. / do you take / to be your wife/husband, to love and cherish her/him, help her/him and honour her/him and give her/him understanding and comfort whatever the future may bring.

I DO



Contracting Marriage Vows

You have to say one of these by law

F. I call upon these persons here present to witness that I
do take thee to be my lawful wedded wife/husband.

or

G. I take you to be my wedded wife/husband.

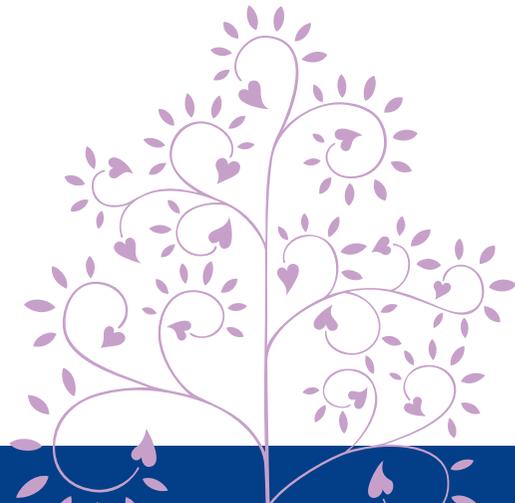
or

H. I take thee to be my wedded wife/husband.

I promise to love and cherish you, comfort and care for you, honour and protect you throughout our lives together. And this is my commitment to you.

Suggested place for a reading

We now come to the exchanging of rings which is a traditional way of sealing the contract you have both just made. The wedding ring is an unbroken circle, it has no beginning and no end. It symbolises unending and everlasting love and is an outward sign of the lifelong promise you have made to each other.



Rings

To be brought forward by

..... /, I give you this ring as a lasting reminder of the promises we have made today. It represents my commitment to cherish and respect you, and be faithful and loyal throughout our lives together.

This is a new beginning for and

May they have many happy years together and may all their hopes and dreams be fulfilled. May they believe in each other, and may the warmth of their love enrich not only their lives, but also the lives of those around them.

You have both made a solemn and binding contract with each other in the presence of your witnesses and before me, and I have very much pleasure in confirming that you are now husband and wife / wife and wife/ husband and husband*



*Delete as appropriate

Please email your chosen ceremony with marked choices to: register_office@bathnes.gov.uk

Superintendent Registrar
The Guildhall
High Street
Bath BA1 5AW

Tel: 01225 477234
Fax: 01225 477293

Checklist



Partner 1 full names _____

Forename to be used in ceremony _____

Partner 2 full names _____

Forename to be used in ceremony _____

Venue _____

Date

Time

Fee £

Approximately two months before your wedding we would like you to return your completed checklist to us with the ceremony fee (cheques to be made payable to: *Superintendent Registrar*).

Please select which ceremony you would like by circling your choice. Within each ceremony there are also further choices to make.

Which Ceremony? 1 2 3 4

Declaration **Option 1** A B or C **Option 2** D or E

Marriage Vows **Option 3** F G or H **Option 4** I or J

Please answer the following questions:

1. In which room will the ceremony take place? _____

2. How many guests will be present? _____

3. Are you arriving together or separately? _____

4. Will there be music? Yes / No

Music is appropriate at the following times

- As background whilst the guests are arriving
- For the entrance
- During the signing of the Register and the taking of photographs (7-8 minutes long)
- For the exit of the Bridal party.

5. Is Partner 1 / Partner 2 being given away? Yes / No By Whom? _____

6. Will there be rings? Yes / No How many? One / Two

7. Who will bring the rings forward during the ceremony?

8. Will there be any reading? Yes / No

1 Read by _____

2 Read by _____

3 Read by _____

Marriage ceremony two





Marriage ceremony

two



Marriage between /

on at

Good morning/afternoon ladies and gentleman. May I extend a very warm welcome to you all to, and a special welcome to /

My name is and I will be conducting the ceremony today. My colleague is and s/he will be registering the marriage.

On behalf of and I should like to welcome you here today to share with them in their wedding ceremony.

Through their vows they will be making a commitment to each other and through your presence here, you are expressing your support for them.

Lawful Impediment

You are here today to witness the marriage between and If any person present knows of any lawful impediment to this marriage, he or she should declare it now.

Who gives to be married to?

Suggested place for reading

This place in which you are now met has been duly sanctioned according to law for the celebration of marriages.

..... and the purpose of marriage is that you may always love, care for and support each other through the joys and sorrows of life.

Today you will exchange vows and promises which will unite you in marriage. These vows are a promise of a life long commitment, giving your families and friends the opportunity to meet together in celebration of your happiness, to impart their message of love and support.

..... and have found in each other happiness, fulfilment and love. They now wish to affirm their relationship in a formal and public pledge and to offer each other the security that comes from legally binding vows, sincerely made and faithfully kept.

Marriage is a desire by two people to share themselves and their experiences with each other and to show a willingness to accept each other for who they are.

Marriage means making a commitment to develop co-operation, friendship and mutual respect. It demands courage; the courage to be open, the courage to grow and change and the courage to sort out together the tasks of every day living.

Marriage requires closeness and distance – closeness of a couple growing together and enough distance to allow each partner to be an individual. It calls for honesty, patience, and of course, humour. Marriage is where each partner cares for the other and supports them in all that they do.

It is in this spirit that and are now before us. They now wish to affirm their relationship with this marriage.

Shortly I am going to ask you both to make a declaration that you do not know of any lawful impediment to your marriage and then you make your marriage vows.

But first it is my duty to remind you of the solemn and binding character of the ceremony of marriage.

Marriage in this country means the union of two people voluntarily entered into for life to the exclusion of others.

But not only this, marriage is a relationship which embodies all the warm and precious values that grow out of human companionship and love. We enter it joyfully and in the knowledge that love is both our highest achievement and life's most precious gift. Into this relationship and enter with deep commitment and high expectations.

Suggested place for reading

We have now reached the part of the ceremony where you both have to make a declaration that there is no impediment to your marriage, and you have to do it in the words laid down by law.

Declaration

You have to say one of these by law

A. I do solemnly declare that I know not of any lawful impediment why I may not be joined in matrimony to

or

B. I declare that I know of no legal reason why I may not be joined in marriage to

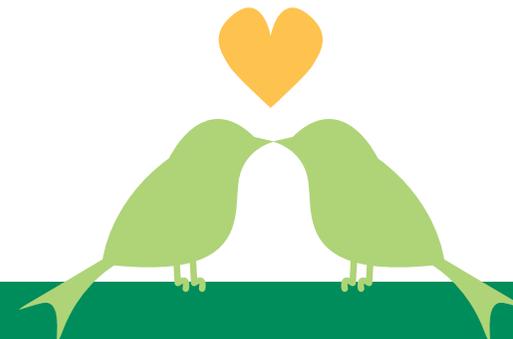
or

C. By replying “I am” to the question “Are you free lawfully to marry?”

The moment has come for and to make their vows to each other. Would you like to join us by standing.

..... and we celebrate with you today.

We are glad to join with you in the solemnisation of your marriage, to witness your vows and to support you in your intentions for your future life together.



Choose either of the following

D. / will you have / to be your wife/ husband, to live together in marriage? Will you promise to be faithful to her/him and look after her/him throughout your lives together? Will you love her/him not only when times are good but also during the more difficult periods of your lives?

I WILL

or

E. / do you take / to be your wife/husband, to love and cherish her/him, help her/him and honour him/her and give her/him understanding and comfort whatever the future may bring?

I DO

Contracting Marriage Vows

You have to say one of these by law

F. I call upon these persons here present to witness that I do take thee to be my lawful wedded wife/husband.

or

G. I take you to be my wedded wife/husband.

or

H. I take thee to be my wedded wife/husband.

I promise to love and cherish you, comfort and care for you, honour and protect you throughout our lives together, and this is my commitment to you.

Suggested Place for reading

Rings

We now come to the exchanging of the rings which is a traditional way of sealing the contract you have both just made. The wedding ring is an unbroken circle; it has no beginning and no end. It symbolises unending and everlasting love and is an outward sign of the lifelong promise you have made to each other.

To be brought forward by:

..... / I give you this ring as a symbol of our marriage and as a sign of my solemn promise to show you love, loyalty and respect. All that I am I give to you; all that I have I share with you. I promise to be faithful both in good times and bad, for so long as we both shall live.

This is a new beginning for and

May they have many happy years together and may all their hopes and dreams be fulfilled.

May they believe in each other, and may the warmth of their love enrich not only their lives but also the lives of those around them.

This day will form a milestone in your lives. You will look back upon it with love and happiness as the start of a new phase in your life together.

We hope that the feelings of love that you have for each other will deepen and grow even stronger throughout the years to come.

May no failure or misfortune ever part you and may you live full, rich lives together.

..... and you have made here today all those declarations which are prescribed by law and a solemn and binding contract with each other.

You have sealed that contract with the giving and receiving of a ring/s. In addition you have given to each other a promise of love and commitment.

I have very much pleasure in confirming that you are now husband and wife / wife and wife/ husband and husband*



*Delete as appropriate

Please email your chosen ceremony with marked choices to: register_office@bathnes.gov.uk

Superintendent Registrar
The Guildhall
High Street
Bath BA1 5AW

Tel: 01225 477234
Fax: 01225 477293



Checklist



Partner 1 full names _____

Forename to be used in ceremony _____

Partner 2 full names _____

Forename to be used in ceremony _____

Venue _____

Date

Time

Fee £

Approximately two months before your wedding we would like you to return your completed checklist to us with the ceremony fee (cheques to be made payable to: *Superintendent Registrar*).

Please select which ceremony you would like by circling your choice. Within each ceremony there are also further choices to make.

Which Ceremony? 1 2 3 4

Declaration **Option 1** A B or C **Option 2** D or E

Marriage Vows **Option 3** F G or H **Option 4** I or J

Please answer the following questions:

1. In which room will the ceremony take place? _____

2. How many guests will be present? _____

3. Are you arriving together or separately? _____

4. Will there be music? Yes / No

Music is appropriate at the following times

- As background whilst the guests are arriving
- For the entrance
- During the signing of the Register and the taking of photographs (7-8 minutes long)
- For the exit of the Bridal party.

5. Is Partner 1 / Partner 2 being given away? Yes / No By Whom? _____

6. Will there be rings? Yes / No How many? One / Two

7. Who will bring the rings forward during the ceremony?

8. Will there be any reading? Yes / No

1 Read by _____

2 Read by _____

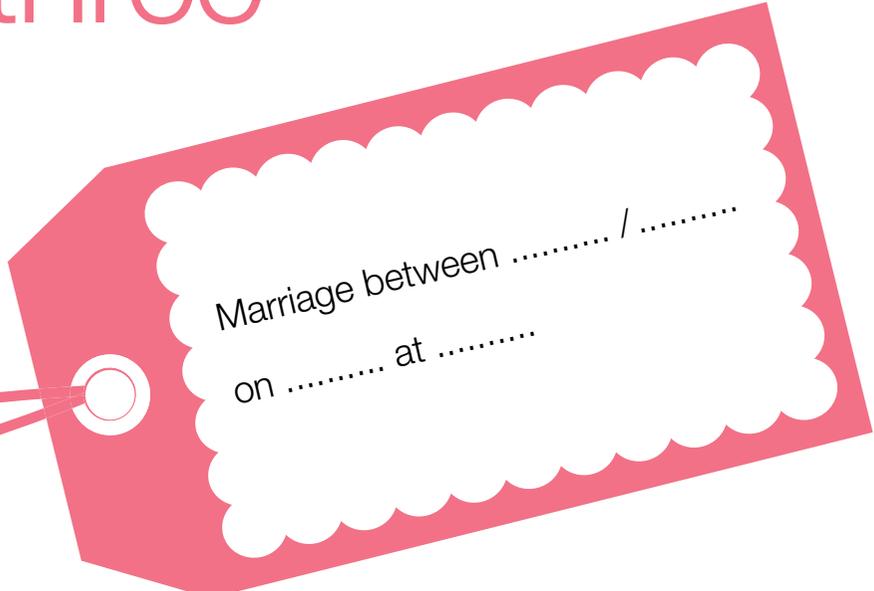
3 Read by _____

Marriage ceremony three





Marriage ceremony three



Marriage between /
on at

Good morning/afternoon ladies and gentlemen. May I extend a very warm welcome to you all to, which has been legally approved for the celebration of marriages.

My name is and I will be conducting the ceremony today, and my colleague will be registering the marriage.

Today's ceremony is extremely special for and because they will be exchanging vows and promises which will unite them together in marriage. They wish to share this occasion with those they love. So, on behalf of and I thank you all for coming here today to share with them in their wedding ceremony.

Lawful Impediment

You are here today to witness the marriage between and If any person present knows of any lawful impediment to this marriage, he or she should declare it now.

Who gives..... to be married to

Suggested place for a reading

or

couple to provide a brief relationship history to the Registrar e.g. when and where they met, funny stories etc..

This marriage ceremony will fulfil many purposes. Firstly we are here to celebrate the loving relationship that and have already created together. Secondly we are here to witness the vows and promises they will exchange and finally we are here to offer love, support and encouragement as they start this exciting adventure.

Marriage joins two people who trust the love they have found. It is a partnership in which each can grow and be their true self, whilst sharing in the development of each other. It is a statement to all those around them of what the two of them already know; that they have found in each other such friendship, support and love that they wish to share the rest of their lives together.

Marriage is an adventure – it is a mutual commitment of two people sincerely in love who share the same dreams about life. A successful relationship requires more than just love. It takes trust, to know in your hearts that you want only the best for each other. It takes dedication, openness to learn, and to grow, even through difficult times. It takes faith to go forward together without knowing what the future holds.

Suggested place for reading

Before you are joined in matrimony it is my duty to remind you of the solemn and binding contract you are about to enter into.

Marriage, in this country means the union of two people voluntarily entered into for life to the exclusion of all others.

I am now going to ask each of you in turn to declare before your witnesses and those assembled here today that you know of no lawful reason why you may not enter into this marriage together.



Declaration

You have to say one of these by law

A. I do solemnly declare that I know not of any lawful impediment why I may not be joined in matrimony to

or

B. I declare that I know of no legal reason why I may not be joined in marriage to

or

C. By answering “I am” to the question “Are you free lawfully to marry?”

In addition to the strong love and respect that and have for each other, they realise that marriage is a relationship which is always growing or changing and in recognising this they turn to you their family and friends to give them your encouragement and support as they take this step together.

Ladies and gentlemen we have reached the part of the ceremony where I will ask and to exchange their marriage vows with each other. I would like to invite you all to stand for this part of our ceremony please.

..... and we celebrate with you. We are glad to join with you in the solemnisation of your marriage. To witness your vows and support you in your intentions for your future life together.

Choose one of the following:

D. / will you take / whose hand you hold, choosing her/him alone to be your wedded wife/husband? Will you love her/him, and comfort her/him through good times and bad in sickness and health. Will you honour / at all times and remain faithful to her/him throughout your lives together?

I WILL

or

E. / do you take / to be your wife/husband, to love and to cherish her/him, help her/him and honour her/him, to live in truth with her/him, and show understanding and comfort whatever the future may bring?

I DO

Contracting Marriage Vows

At this part of our ceremony we are going to ask and to make their final vows and become legally joined in matrimony.

You have to say one of these by law

F. I call upon these persons here present to witness that I do take thee to be my lawful wedded wife/husband.

or

G. I take you to be my wedded wife/husband.

or

H. I take thee to be my wedded wife/husband.

Followed by:

I. I promise to love you when life seems easy and when it seems hard. When our love is simple and when it requires more effort. I will cherish, respect and honour you and will always remain truthful to you. Through these promises I dedicate myself to you for all time.

or

J. Today in the company of our family and friends, I marry my best friend. The one I laugh and cry with, the one I have learned from and grow with. The one I have chosen to nurture, support encourage and give myself to. I will stand always by your side through life's joys and sorrows, laughter and pain. Today I marry the one I love.

Suggested place for reading

Rings

To be brought forward by

The giving and receiving of a wedding ring signifies the promise of a lasting love and is a symbol to you and the world of your union in legal matrimony.

..... / I give you this ring as a symbol of my love and commitment to you. Wear it as a lasting reminder of the promises we have made to each other here today.

Closing

..... and you have both made the declarations prescribed by law and have made a solemn and binding contract with each other in the presence of all those assembled here today.

May you share together many new experiences and challenges so that you may grow as a couple.

May the love you have for one another remain constant and strong. May you never take each other for granted but always experience the wonder of your relationship. May you continue to laugh together often and enjoy each other's company every day.

Finally, congratulations to you both, I am delighted to announce that you are now husband and wife / wife and wife / husband and husband* together.



**Congratulations,
you may now kiss**

*Delete as appropriate

**Please email your chosen
ceremony with marked choices to:
register_office@bathnes.gov.uk**

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Bath BA1 5AW

Tel: 01225 477234
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Checklist



Partner 1 full names _____

Forename to be used in ceremony _____

Partner 2 full names _____

Forename to be used in ceremony _____

Venue _____

Date

Time

Fee £

Approximately two months before your wedding we would like you to return your completed checklist to us with the ceremony fee (cheques to be made payable to: *Superintendent Registrar*).

Please select which ceremony you would like by circling your choice. Within each ceremony there are also further choices to make.

Which Ceremony? 1 2 3 4

Declaration **Option 1** A B or C **Option 2** D or E

Marriage Vows **Option 3** F G or H **Option 4** I or J

Please answer the following questions:

1. In which room will the ceremony take place? _____

2. How many guests will be present? _____

3. Are you arriving together or separately? _____

4. Will there be music? Yes / No

Music is appropriate at the following times

- As background whilst the guests are arriving
- For the entrance
- During the signing of the Register and the taking of photographs (7-8 minutes long)
- For the exit of the Bridal party.

5. Is Partner 1 / Partner 2 being given away? Yes / No By Whom? _____

6. Will there be rings? Yes / No How many? One / Two

7. Who will bring the rings forward during the ceremony?

8. Will there be any reading? Yes / No

1 Read by _____

2 Read by _____

3 Read by _____

Marriage ceremony four





Marriage ceremony

four



Marriage between /

on at

Good morning/afternoon ladies and gentlemen. A very warm welcome to, which has been legally approved as a venue for the celebration of marriages.

Firstly, some introductions my name is and I will be conducting the ceremony today, and my colleague will be registering the marriage.

Today is an important and special day for and, because they will exchange vows and promises which will unite them together in marriage.

It is also an important day for you all as you witness and making their marriage vows and offer them your support for their future together.

Lawful Impediment

You are here today to witness the marriage between and If any person present knows of any lawful impediment to this marriage, he or she should declare it now.

Who gives to be married to

Suggested place for a reading

This marriage ceremony won't bring about a change in the way and feel about each other. They and you, their family and friends, know how much they love and respect each other and how much they will support each other through good and difficult times.

Today, and have the opportunity to show publicly how much they love one another by making this commitment together through the legally binding vows of marriage.

They recognise that marriage is where each partner cares for the other and supports them in all that they do. It requires honesty, patience and of course humour.

Suggested place for a reading

Before you are joined in matrimony it is my duty to remind you of the solemn and binding contract you are about to enter into.

Marriage, in this country means the union of two people voluntarily entered into for life to the exclusion of all others.

I am now going to ask each of you in turn to declare before your witnesses and those assembled here today that you know of no lawful reason why you may not enter into this marriage together.

Declaration

You have to say one of these by law

A. I do solemnly declare that I know not of any lawful impediment why I may not be joined in matrimony to

or

B. I declare that I know of no legal reason why I may not be joined in marriage to

or

C. By answering "I am" to the question "Are you free lawfully to marry"

Ladies and gentlemen we have reached the part of the ceremony where I will ask and to confirm to all those present here today that they are willing to join together in legal matrimony.

..... and we celebrate with you. We are glad to join with you in the solemnisation of your marriage. To witness your vows and support you in your intentions for your future life together.

D. / will you have / to be your wife/husband, to live together in marriage? Will you promise to be faithful to her/him and look after her/him throughout your lives together? Will you love her/him not only when times are good but also during the more difficult periods of your lives?

I WILL

or

E. / do you take / to be your wife/husband, to love and to cherish her/him, help her/him and give her/him understanding and comfort whatever the future may bring?

I DO

Contracting Marriage Vows

At this part of our ceremony we are going to ask and to make their final vows to become legally joined in matrimony.

You have to say one of these by law

F. I call upon these persons here present to witness that I do take thee to be my lawful wedded wife/husband.

or

G. I take you to be my wedded wife/husband.

or

H. I take thee to be my wedded wife/husband.

Followed by:

I. I promise to love, honour and cherish you, support, comfort and protect you, stand by you and be true to you always throughout our lives together.

or

J. I stand before you because you have won my heart. You are the one I pledge my life and love to. From this day forward I promise to love, respect and honour you. I will listen to you and be open and honest with you. I will stand by you through good times and bad. I promise this now and for all the days of my life.

Suggested place for a reading.

Rings

To be brought forward by

We now come to the exchange/giving of rings/a ring. This is the traditional way of sealing the contract you have both just made. The wedding ring is an unbroken circle, without beginning or end and will be the outward sign of the lifelong promises you have made to each other here today.

..... / I give you this ring as a symbol of our marriage and as a sign of my love and commitment to you. Let this ring always be a reminder of the marriage vows we have made to each other today.



Closing

..... and you have made here today all of those declarations which are prescribed by law and you have given to each other a promise of your continued love and commitment as you face the future together.

Your guests have witnessed your vows to love and support each other and I am sure they will offer you their continued support as you embark on married life together.

May you have many happy years together and may all your hopes and dreams be fulfilled. May no failure or misfortune ever part you and may you live full, rich lives together.

All that remains is for me to announce with very great pleasure that you are now husband and wife/wife and wife/ husband and husband*.



*Delete as appropriate

Please email your chosen ceremony with marked choices to: register_office@bathnes.gov.uk

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6. Will there be rings? Yes / No How many? One / Two

7. Who will bring the rings forward during the ceremony?

8. Will there be any reading? Yes / No

1 Read by _____

2 Read by _____

3 Read by _____