

# YOUR FAMILY MOMENTS

*Where Family and Memories Come Together*



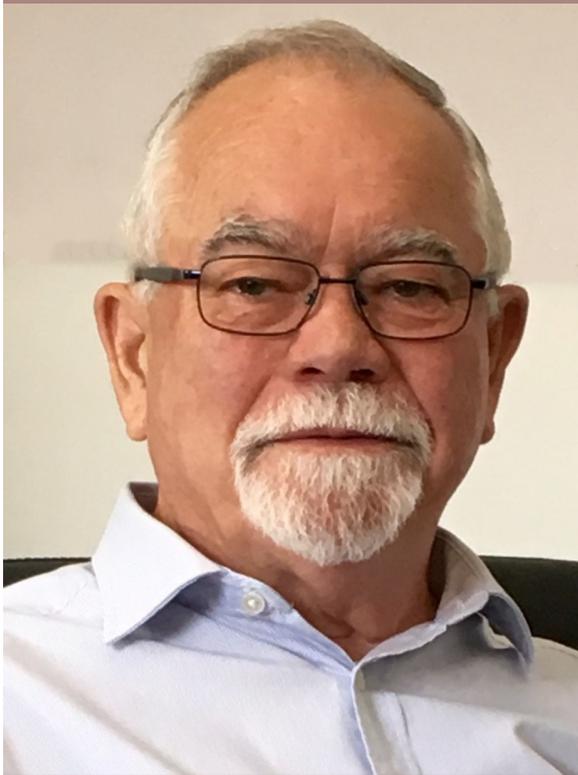
- ENGAGEMENTS
- WEDDINGS
- VOW RENEWALS
- COMMITMENT CEREMONIES
- ANNIVERSARIES
- MASTER of CEREMONIES

13A Pheasant Point Drive  
KIAMA NSW 2533

Phone: 0419 546 094

E-Mail: [your.family.moments@bigpond.com](mailto:your.family.moments@bigpond.com)

Web: [www.yourfamilymoments.com.au](http://www.yourfamilymoments.com.au)



John Clarke CMC - JP

B.A. (Psych.) UOW; M. Bus. (Mktg.) UTS

Member Australian Marriage Celebrants Inc.



## Creating a Day to Remember...

Hi I'm John, welcome to Your Family Moments...

I'm retired from full-time work as a motivational speaker and corporate trainer and now I occupy my days as a Certified Marriage Celebrant. I don't work any less hours but I'm having a lot more fun. This brochure will act as an introduction to me, my style and why you might like to talk to me about your upcoming wedding or any other relationship ceremony you're planning.

Most people who use a Civil Celebrant do so because they want to retain control over the content and conduct of their ceremony. This is achieved in two ways; firstly, I will work with you to develop your ceremony's structure. You will choose activities to include or exclude and will decide on the order in which they will occur. Secondly, you will create the words to be used at each stage of the ceremony and you'll make decisions about who will say those words. You should know now, I'm not a fan of off-the-shelf, just change the names, style of weddings. I promise to work with you both to create a wedding that is yours; and as bespoke as we can make it.

## First Things First...

May I suggest you begin at the beginning by discussing and answering these questions:

- What budget has been agreed between the people who will be paying for the day. Your budget should tell you who will pay for what. You won't need a contract but it will need to be written down.
- Where do you wish to hold the marriage ceremony? (check availability)
- Where do you wish to hold the reception? (check availability)
- What time and date do you want for the ceremony? This may determine the time for the reception.
- What is your bad weather plan?
- Who will you use to plan the wedding i.e. who will co-ordinate what has to be done? Will you use a professional?
- Who will conduct the marriage? (check availability)

Note: most marrying couples have no problems meeting the legal requirements for marriage but to be safe locking in a Celebrant and starting the paperwork at least six months before the day, is a good idea.

*Where family and memories come together...*

May I involve family and friends in the ceremony?

*Yes you may. As your Celebrant I have a part to play that makes your wedding legal but the rest of the ceremony is yours to design; including who does what.*

Who does the paperwork?

*One of the good things about using a celebrant is that I take care of the paperwork. Right through from the first form (NOIM - Notice of Intended Marriage) to the lodgement of all paperwork with Births, Deaths and Marriages and the payment of the associated fees.*

How much will it cost?

*The cost of having me as your Certified Marriage Celebrant, in 2017, will be a one time fee of \$550 (Inc. GST) which covers:*

- *Unlimited phone/e-mail contact*
- *Two design meetings*
- *A rehearsal, if required*
- *The Wedding*
- *Lodgement of all paperwork.*
- *Travel within the Illawarra*



## Who May Marry in Australia

To legally marry in Australia, a man and a woman must:

- not be married to someone else
- not be marrying a parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, brother or sister
- be at least eighteen years old, unless a court has approved a marriage where one party is aged between sixteen and eighteen years old
- understand what marriage means and freely consent to becoming husband and wife
- use specific words during the ceremony
- give written notice of their intention to marry to their authorised celebrant, within the required time frame.

## First Celebrant Meeting...

As the first step along the path to marriage we will meet; for that meeting you will need to bring with you:

- Your original Birth Certificate.
- Your current drivers licence.
- Your passport.
- If either of you has been married before, then you must show me proof that you are free to remarry. That proof is usually a Certificate of Divorce or a Death Certificate.

\*Note: If any of these documents are not in English, then it may be necessary to obtain a certified English translation of them before they can be used to identify you or determine your marital status.

\*\*Note: If I have any doubts as to your identity or marital status then it is my responsibility to ask you to provide additional information until that doubt is resolved.

\*\*\*Note: Should I believe either of you are not freely consenting to the marriage and/or you do not understand what marriage means, then I will not proceed.

*Where family and memories come together...*

## So you've chosen to be married by a Certified Marriage Celebrant, why?

I believe it's a decision primarily driven by you wanting to design a bespoke ceremony; a ceremony that reflects who you are; one tailored to your outlook on life.

As your Celebrant I want to challenge you to create a ceremony that makes a statement about the two of you and your love. A ceremony where family and friends and most importantly you, name your wedding day amongst the happiest days of your life.

Marriage is today a more considered decision than in years gone, where it was just what you did when you reached your twenties; not that the decision was shallow or ill-considered it was just normal.

A wedding guest said to me recently "It's the try before you buy that makes them so relaxed."; possibly but today I think it has more to do with societies expectations being that little bit more relaxed that sees more people marrying and more people staying married.

How we arrived at this point doesn't really matter, let's let the historians figure it out. You have more urgent priorities because you have a challenge in front of you, today. In a short period of time you have to be ready to walk that aisle and begin your married life, so let's get designing.

Car, carriage or surf-boat, how will you arrive? On who's arm, dad, mum, the netball team? Who will precede you, girlfriends, family, or the cute cousins? Who will be waiting with your prospective husband? Did they remember the rings? Will you use verses or poems, will someone sing or maybe a string quartet will herald your arrival? Will you thank the land's traditional owners? Of all the family and friends, who will receive a specific welcome? Aside from the legal vows what vows will you personally make to each other? Will you use a ceremony within a ceremony; for example a hand-fastening ceremony as a prelude to the exchanging of rings. The design possibilities are totally yours to explore and with my help we'll weave them into a ceremony to remember.

So let's get started!

# YOUR FAMILY MOMENTS



13A Pheasant Point Drive

KIAMA NSW 2533

Phone: 0419 546 094

E-Mail: [your.family.moments@bigpond.com](mailto:your.family.moments@bigpond.com)

Web: [www.yourfamilymoments.com.au](http://www.yourfamilymoments.com.au)