

# WHAT ARE THEY LIKE ?

Humanist wedding ceremonies are composed individually to suit the couple's specific requirements. However they generally follow a generic pattern. The bride usually arrives in the traditional manner (but she doesn't have to!) after which the celebrant says some words of welcome. After this there will be a mix of readings and music interspersed with appropriate words from the celebrant. Vows are made and rings are exchanged and then the celebrant will usually say some closing words before the happy couple leave amidst music and applause from their guests. Some couples like to light candles or have some other symbolism; others prefer a simpler, more straightforward ceremony. There are no rights and wrongs - the only real guidelines are that the ceremony should be secular and dignified.

At present Humanist weddings do not carry legal status in Ireland and couples should make their own arrangements in this regard.

## Sharing the Future

# HUMANIST WEDDING CEREMONIES

To enquire about a  
Humanist Wedding Ceremony  
contact  
Brian Whiteside  
Director of Ceremonies  
Humanist Association of Ireland  
086-3848940  
or  
[ceremonies@humanism.ie](mailto:ceremonies@humanism.ie)



Humanist Association of Ireland

## WHY ?

Traditionally most weddings were held in churches. The alternative was a registry office. Today, many couples do not want a religious service but want more than a registry office. For these couples a Humanist wedding offers the ideal solution.

## WHERE ?

Humanist weddings can be held anywhere - indoors or out in the open. Many couples choose to hold their ceremony in a hotel, country house or castle; others simply use their own garden. Some are held overseas - every year the list of venues gets longer.

*“Many thanks for making our day so very special. It was just perfect!”*

MORE AND MORE COUPLES TODAY ARE CHOOSING HUMANIST WEDDING CEREMONIES AS THEY OFFER A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY TO CELEBRATE YOUR MARRIAGE IN A VERY PERSONAL AND MEANINGFUL WAY.

*“All our guests said it was the best wedding ever. Thanks so much!”*

## WHEN ?

Humanist weddings can be held any day of the week. This is in contrast to registry office ceremonies which can only be held Monday to Friday. Humanist weddings can be conducted at any time of the day. They are often a little later than other weddings as there is usually no travel necessary from ceremony to reception.

## HOW ?

Humanist weddings are easy to arrange - simply make contact by email or phone (details on the back of this leaflet). Please give plenty of notice as demand for Humanist ceremonies is growing all the time.



Photographer: Claire Byrne