



Congratulations on your forthcoming wedding. We hope these notes will help you with planning and preparing for the “big day “.

## **Church Contacts for 2022:**

For Grundisburgh, Burgh, Boulge and Hasketon please contact your minister.

For these others please contact the Church Warden:

- Clopton: Doris Main 01473 737602
- Otley: Richard Treloar 01473 890271
- Swilland: Brian Williams 01473 785726
- Ashbocking: John Pollard 01473 890836

## **Fees**

These fees are set nationally for 2022:

- Publication of banns of marriage £32.00
- Certificate of banns of marriage of marriage at time of publication £16.00
- Marriage Service £480.00

N.B. If one of you is not resident in one of our parishes, your banns will have to be read in the parish in which you live. The fee for this is charged by the church that reads them. You cannot be married without this certificate from your home parish!!

There are also fees for organist, bells, and flower arranging, should you wish any of these, please discuss them with the people concerned, see the end of this leaflet for details.

There is a voluntary fee of £35.00 to cover the cost of a vergers, who ensures the church is open, and gets everything ready for the service, is available throughout the service to deal with any issues that may arise

and clears up after the service is over. In cold weather there is a fee of £20.00 as a contribution towards heating costs. Around the time of the Wedding, we will send you an invoice with payment details.

## **Legalities**

There are several legal requirements in getting married.

- If either one of you is resident in the parish, the wedding can take place after the readings of banns, in this parish and the parish of the other party.
- Non-resident couples may also need to establish a connection with the parish like living or having lived in the parish or regularly attended worship (normally for 6 months before).
- If either of you have been married before and there has been a divorce, there is not an automatic right to marriage in the parish church. Discussion should be had an early stage with the Rector.
- These days we do need to see a form of Id a passport and proof of address like a utility bill.
- Churches don't issue marriage certificates anymore, after the service you will need to apply to Suffolk Registrars to get a certificate.

## **Making the service special to you**

Weddings are very special days and we'll support you as much as we can in making the service 'yours'. There are certain parts that have to stay for the marriage to be made, but in the hymns, readings and other music the couple have lots of choice:

- Normally would have one or two readings – one of which would be from the bible. These would be read by friends or family. The Bible readings may reflect a theme, such as love, commitment, foundations for living, or more specifically about the love of God and the example Jesus gives us.

- You can choose two or three hymns to be sung or have other music.
- And you have the choice of music to come into, have played during the registration of the marriage and to leave to.

The Church of England Website <https://www.yourchurchwedding.org/> offers lots of suggestions for hymns, readings and music.

## Marriage by Design

**Care for the Family**  
Because family life matters  
Family life Events Courses Shop Get involved Faith in the Family

Courses for parents  
Courses for couples  
Courses involving faith  
Train to support others  
Near you  
Facilitators

Sign up to our Family newsletter

YOUR TITLE  
Please select  
YOUR EMAIL  
YOUR PHONE

Marriage Preparation courses

Marriage by Design is a popular course for anyone preparing to marry.

Marriage Preparation is different to Wedding preparation as it's all about laying the foundations for a successful and long-lasting marriage. It considers all sorts of questions that might not come up in normal life, like managing conflict, money and time issues, priorities and how a couple might handle things like long

term illness. It's something we strongly recommend.

In 2022 we will run this course on Zoom on three Weds evenings in February. Please contact us for details, outside of these times you can use the materials through the Care for the Family website.

## Planning Meetings

To start the preparation for the service we need to have some planning meetings with you. These can be done by Zoom or face to face.

- More than three months before the date we need to meet to get (if we don't already have) your identity details, marital status, and citizenship/right to remain status and that inevitably means we'll need to take copies of passports and proof of address. At that stage we will look at the broad outline of the service and timings. Mark Cresswell will arrange this meeting with you directly.

- For most couples banns are read about three months before and for our churches Mark will let you know when that is so you can come to hear them.
- In the run up to the service Katrina or Mark will meet with you to discuss the details of the service. This will include your music choices, readings and readers, and the order of service.
- A couple of days before the service, usually in the evening, the person taking the service will have a rehearsal with you and all those who are playing a role like bridesmaids and the best man. It's a very good time to iron out any remaining questions and uncertainties.

## **Other arrangements:**

**Music** please liaise with the minister conducting your wedding.

Organist's fees are normally £60.00. Organist's fee is £100 at Grundisburgh and Burgh.

If the wedding is to be recorded the fee rises to £100.00 or £140 in Grundisburgh and Burgh.

To discuss and make all the necessary musical arrangements, please contact **John Cooper** for a wedding in **Grundisburgh and Burgh** 01473 254132 and in **Hasketon and Boulge Maurice Jones** 01473 735545.

For other churches please ask your minister.

The choir at Grundisburgh charges £10 per head, with a maximum charge of £100. At Hasketon and Boulge the fee is £85

**Bells**- please contact at Otley: Jimmy Wightman - 01473 890258;  
Clopton : David Stanford -01394 384017;  
At Ashbocking – Liz Christian 01473 890767.

To book bells in other churches - please contact Steve Pettman 01394 286246. The charge for bells is £20 per bell. There is a minimum of 6 bells. Payment for bells is in cash on the day of the wedding. There are no bells at Boulge.

If there are any other questions please do let us know.