

Good afternoon, my name is Meg Marshall and it gives me great pleasure to be here today to officiate the marriage of Groom and Bride.

We are here today to join Groom and Bride in celebrating their love for each other. It is fitting and appropriate that you, their family and friends, be here to witness and to participate in their union. For the ideals, the understanding, and the mutual respect with which they bring to their life together, had their roots in the love, friendship and guidance you have given them. The union of two people makes us aware of the changes wrought by time. But the new relationship will continue to draw much of its beauty and meaning from the intimate associations of their past.

Groom and Bride have asked one of their close family members to assist in this part of the ceremony.

These are the hands of your best friend, young and strong and full of love for you, that are holding yours on your wedding day, as you promise to love each other today, tomorrow, and forever.

These are the hands that will work alongside yours, as together you build your future. These are the hands that will passionately love you and cherish you through the years, and with the slightest touch, will comfort you like no other.

These are the hands that will hold you when fear or grief fills your mind. These are the hands that will countless times wipe the tears from your eyes; tears of sorrow, and tears of joy.

These are the hands that will tenderly hold your children. These are the hands that will help you to hold your family as

one.

These are the hands that will give you strength when you need it. And lastly, these are the hands that even when wrinkled and aged, will still be reaching for yours, still giving you the same unspoken tenderness with just a touch.

And now in the sight of the creator, I hereby seal these two souls, binding them as one for eternity

Thank you family member that was lovely.

**I am duly authorised by law to solemnize marriages according to law.**

**Before you are joined in marriage in my presence and in the presence of these witnesses, I am to remind you of the solemn and binding nature of the relationship into which you are about to enter.**

**Marriage according to law in Australia is the union of a man and a woman to the exclusion of all others voluntarily entered into for life.**

Groom, do you choose Bride to be your partner in life, to support and respect her in her successes as well her failures, to care for her in sickness and in health, to nurture her and to grow with her throughout your life together

I do

Bride, do you choose Groom to be your partner in life, to support and respect him in his successes as well his failures, to care for him in sickness and in health, to nurture him and to

grow with him throughout your life together

I do

Fantastic, Groom please repeat after me:

I, Groom, take you Bride in front of our family and friends to be my lawful wedded wife. I promise to love you, to laugh and cry with you, and to be the best father I can be to our children.

Bride, please repeat after me:

I, Bride, take you Groom in front of our family and friends to be my lawful wedded husband. I promise to love you, to laugh and cry with you, and to be the best mother I can be to our children.

Thank you.

Best Man, can you please step forward with the rings:

Groom, please repeat after me:

With this ring, I wed you and pledge my love

Bride, please repeat after me:

With this ring, I wed you and pledge my love.

It now gives me enormous pleasure to announce that you are husband and wife! Groom, you may now kiss your beautiful bride.

\*The Kiss \*

In order to make this lovely union official, there are a few

documents that we need to sign – we will be back with you as soon as possible.

\*Document signing\*

As I present you with your marriage certificate, I wish you every happiness together and thank you for allowing me to part of such a special day.

Groom and Bride would love for you to stay on and join them in celebrating their marriage in the home of their dear neighbours. They will be leaving for about an hour for family photos shortly and ask if immediate family could stay close by for everyone else nibbles will be available and dinner will be served when they return.

I am incredibly honoured to introduce for the very first time – Groom and Bride Smith!!!!