

Alternative ceremonies unique to each couple

Trained by the Interfaith Seminary, Angie Alexandra is just one of a growing number of Interfaith ministers and celebrants working across Scotland who have been granted authorisation by the Registrar General in Edinburgh to hold legal wedding ceremonies anywhere in Scotland as registered people, rather than a ceremony needing to take place in a registered premises.

Reflecting this, Angie has held alternative weddings at sunrise on a beach, on the banks of River Affric, at the foot of Lochnagar, on a boat on Loch Ness, and under a full moon at a ruined castle, as well as in hotels, castles and private homes and gardens.

Freedom with location is just one aspect of having an alternative or interfaith ceremony. Perhaps more importantly, Interfaith ceremonies are unique to a couple and, by their nature, respectful of every person's ideology.

Angie explained: "We believe every individual has their own inner path to love, wisdom and peace. Whether a couple consider themselves to be spiritual, religious or non-religious, mixed faith, humanist or agnostic or something else, their ceremony can reflect this.

"We can open a ceremony with words which respect the wisdom and beauty to be found in all of humanity and nature, in all faiths and no faith.

"As a ceremony is unique to an individual couple, it can be as traditional or alternative, informal, humorous or deeply sacred as they wish. We ensure the wording and content both benefits the occasion and is personal and meaningful for a couple.

"Initially we talk to a couple to find out what they love about each other and what their hopes and dreams are for their future married life. We also discuss ideas for readings, music and vows.

"This dialogue provides the inspiration for a ceremony which reflects a couple's unique personalities. We offer ideas and suggestions, and can include elements which acknowledge a couple's birth tradition or current beliefs. So a ceremony might include a Christian or Native American prayer or it might feature ritual from any sacred path – a pagan or Wiccan hand-tying, a Jewish stamping on the glass, or a shamanic elemental blessing.

"Each ceremony is unique and individual, just as every couple is unique and individual. It's our privilege to help each couple express this."

To find out more about Interfaith ministers visit www.alternativeceremony.org or call Angie Alexandra on 01309 692523.



**Interfaith
Foundation**

PERSONAL MEANINGFUL UNIQUE LEGAL CEREMONIES OF MARRIAGE

**Inclusive, Religious, Spiritual, Mixed Faith, Humanist
Alternative, Traditional, Creative, Green, Handfastings**

Created and held by Interfaith Ministers across Scotland
for more information or to find a Minister, contact Angie or Sonja

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