



New Register House
3 West Register Street
Edinburgh
EH1 3YT

(0131) 314 4434

February 19, 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

As part of its ongoing programme of work on the solemnisation of marriage and registration of civil partnership, National Records of Scotland (NRS) is undertaking an audit. This audit relates to celebrants who have been authorised by the Registrar General to solemnise marriages or register civil partnerships on the nomination of a belief body. The purpose of the audit is to ensure that nominating bodies continue to conform to the statutory definition of a belief body. I am therefore writing to you to seek information that will enable the Registrar General to determine this issue.

The statutory definition of a belief body is "an organised group of people the principal object (or one of the principal objects) of which is to uphold or promote philosophical beliefs and which meets regularly for that purpose". When A Quiet Revolution was originally required to satisfy the Registrar General that it was a belief body, the information requested in relation to that requirement included the following:

- A copy of AQR's constitution or statement of faith, containing the aims and beliefs of the group together with details on the appointment of office bearers
- The number of members, both locally and within the UK (if applicable)
- Details of how often AQR met to uphold and promote philosophical beliefs, such as calendars of events, minutes of meetings and so on, as well as details of how members are given notice of these meetings
- Information about the form of marriage ceremony to be used, where appropriate.

For the purpose of this audit, I would therefore ask you to respond within 28 days of the date of this letter, enclosing updated information and materials in regard to:

- Details of current office bearers (including any recent or proposed changes to membership of those offices)
- Current membership numbers, as at the end of 2018
- Details of meetings held since the start of 2018 to uphold and promote the body's philosophical beliefs. In relation to each meeting, information provided should include date, venue and the usual means by which members were given notice of the meeting
- A copy of your current form of marriage ceremony.



National
Records of
Scotland

I would be happy to talk through any aspect of this request, and can be contacted on the details above.

Yours

ROD BURNS
Deputy Registrar General

Stewart R (Russell)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 04 March 2019 22:02
To: NRS : Marriage Mailbox
Subject: Change of address

Thanks for the letter addressed to our registered address for the Chair, [REDACTED]. Please note for your records, [REDACTED] has changed address.

[REDACTED]

You can also continue to contact us through my address as Administrator [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

OSCR the charities regulator has been notified.

We will reply to your letter soonest.

All best,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
A QUIET REVOLUTION
Humanist Celebrants
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

www.humanistcelebrantscotland.com
www.facebook.com/aquietrevolution
www.linkedin.com/in/barbarachalmers

A charity registered in Scotland SC046655

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Burns R (Rod)

From: Stewart R (Russell) on behalf of NRS : Marriage Mailbox
Sent: 12 March 2019 09:01
To: Burns R (Rod)
Subject: FW: FAO Rod Burns - A Quiet Revolution return
Attachments: 190311 AQR-National Records of Scotland update.docx

Hi Rod

Please see email from A Quiet Revolution.

Thanks

Russell Stewart
Casework Administrator

National Records of Scotland
New Register House
Edinburgh
EH1 3YT

Tel: 0131 314 4475
Fax: 0131 314 4532

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 11 March 2019 18:57
To: NRS : Marriage Mailbox <marriage@nrscotland.gov.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FAO Rod Burns - A Quiet Revolution return

Please find attached information requested in your letter of 19 February.

I hope this is helpful. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you need more.

All best,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
A QUIET REVOLUTION
Humanist Celebrants

[REDACTED]
quietrevolutionaries@gmail.com

www.humanistcelebrantscotland.com
www.facebook.com/aquietrevolution
www.linkedin.com/in/barbarachalmers

National Records of Scotland information request March 2019

Details of current office bearers

Chair: Jane Alcorn

Trustees: Jacquie Winning, Maggie O'Hara Watt, Erinclare Scrutton

Current membership

156 (celebrants, affiliates and individuals/couples/families)

Meetings

Held quarterly in Project Café, The Lighthouse, CCA, Tinderbox, home meetings.
Notice by email 2 weeks in advance.

Marriage ceremony

There is no standard ceremony. All ceremonies contain one of the 4 legal declarations approved by GRO.

Senior Registrar
Paebles

or
01835 824000 ext 8701
www.scotborders.gov.uk/weddings

Scottish Borders Registration Service are working in partnership with the Home Office to stop Sham and Forced Marriage/Civil Partnership.

From: Rod.Burns@nrscotland.gov.uk [mailto:Rod.Burns@nrscotland.gov.uk]
Sent: 22 March 2019 16:02
To: Gemma.Kirkland@nrscotland.gov.uk
Subject: FW: Urgent request for information - marriage authorisation
Importance: High
Sensitivity: Confidential

***** This email was received from the GCSX *****

Hi Gemma -- just gone out. Rod

From: Burns R (Rod)
Sent: 22 March 2019 16:01
To: Gemma.Kirkland@nrscotland.gov.uk
Subject: Urgent request for information - marriage authorisation
Importance: High

Dear Gemma.Kirkland@nrscotland.gov.uk

As you will be aware, National Records of Scotland (NRS) is the non-ministerial department of Scottish Government which authorises celebrants to solemnise marriages on a temporary basis. I have received information which suggests that for an upcoming wedding on May 11, 2019, you are planning to perform the ceremony with your father, a retired Church of Scotland minister, signing the schedule (and with the wedding thus registered as a religious marriage).

We do not currently have any application from you to solemnise a wedding on a temporary basis (though I understand you have previously been authorised with A Quiet Revolution). If your father is to solemnise the marriage from beginning to end, as a Church of Scotland minister performing a religious marriage, this of course causes no difficulty. However, as you are not currently authorised, NRS must be satisfied that you are taking no part in this or any other marriages until such time as you have successfully applied for authorisation on a temporary basis. (Doing so remains an offence under section 24 of the Marriage (Scotland) Act 1977.)

I would be very grateful if you could respond to me as a matter of urgency to clarify the arrangements for the solemnisation of this wedding.

Thank you. I can be contacted between Tuesday and Friday each week on the details below.

015



David Burns

Deputy Registrar General
National Records of Scotland

Preserving the past; recording the present; informing the future

New Register House
3 West Register Street
Edinburgh, EH1 3YT

(0131) 314 4434

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Tha am post-d seo (agus faidhle neo ceanglan còmhla ris) dhan neach neo luchd-aimnichte a-mhàin. Chan eil e ceadachd a chleachdadh ann an dòigh sam bith, a' toirt a-steach còraichean, foillseachadh neo sgaoladh, gun chead. Ma 's e is gun d'fhuair sibh seo gun fhiosd', bu choir cur às dhan phost-d agus lethbhreac sam bith air an t-siostam agaibh agus fios a leigeil chun neach a sgaoil am post-d gun dàil.
Dh'fhaodadh gum bi teachdaireachd sam bith bho Riaghaltas na h-Alba air a chlàradh neo air a sgrùdadh airson dearbhadh gu bheil an siostam ag obair gu h-èifeachdach neo airson adhbhar laghail eile.
Dh'fhaodadh nach eil beachdan anns a' phost-d seo co-ionann ri beachdan Riaghaltas na h-Alba.

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Rodgers L (Lynne)

From: Rodgers L (Lynne) on behalf of NRS : Marriage Mailbox
Sent: 25 March 2019 16:46
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Marriage in northern Ireland

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your e-mail.

I would advise you to contact the General Register Office for Northern Ireland as I think you will have to seek approval as a marriage officiant. The following link provides the contact details:

<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/contacts/contacts-az/general-register-office-northern-ireland>

Kind regards

Lynne

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 March 2019 12:30
To: NRS : Marriage Mailbox <marriage@nrscotland.gov.uk>
Subject: Marriage in northern Ireland

Hi there,

We've had a request to marry a couple in Northern Ireland. I wasn't clear if we're able to or not and to whom we apply... presumably we have to apply to a body in NI rather than Scotland.

Are you able to advise please?

Many thanks.

[REDACTED]
A QUIET REVOLUTION
Humanist Celebrants

[REDACTED]
quietrevolutionaries@gmail.com

www.humanistcelebrantscotland.com
www.facebook.com/aquietrevolution
www.linkedin.com/in/barbarachalmers

A charity registered in Scotland SC046655

Rodgers L (Lynne)

From: Rodgers L (Lynne) on behalf of NRS : Marriage Mailbox
Sent: 28 March 2019 14:18
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Fao Rod Burns - AQR celebrants

Hello [REDACTED]

Thank you for your e-mail which I forwarded on to Rod Burns.

It has been agreed that [REDACTED] can be granted temporary authorisation to conduct weddings on behalf of A Quiet Revolution.

As is usual, on [REDACTED] first application for authorisation, we will need the two letters of support as well as the full names of the couple getting married and the date and venue of the wedding.

Kind regards

Lynne

From: [REDACTED] <quietrevolutionaries@gmail.com>
Sent: 26 March 2019 21:07
To: NRS : Marriage Mailbox <marriage@nrscotland.gov.uk>
Subject: Fao Rod Burns - AQR celebrants

I'm writing as requested to confirm that [REDACTED] is no longer going to be practising as a Humanist celebrant associated to A Quiet Revolution.

I would like to apply for permission for [REDACTED] to be approved as a Humanist celebrant. [REDACTED] will be applying shortly for permission for a wedding in August so if you need further information in the meantime, please let me know.

All best,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
A QUIET REVOLUTION
Humanist Celebrants

[REDACTED]
quietrevolutionaries@gmail.com

www.humanistcelebrantscotland.com
www.facebook.com/aquietrevolution
www.linkedin.com/in/barbarachalmers

A charity registered in Scotland SC046655

Begin forwarded message:

From: [REDACTED]

Subject: Re: GRO

Date: 26 March 2019 at 13:07:37 GMT

To: [REDACTED] <quietrevolutionaries@gmail.com>

Morning [REDACTED],

Hope you are all well and enjoying first flush of Spring.

I've been speaking with Rod Burns at GRS and he would like to have an email from you advising that you are no longer sponsoring my Celebrancy. That will allow him to update his records so that he and I have a clear direction moving forward.

I hope that will be possible,

All the best

[REDACTED]

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From: Rod.Burns@nrscotland.gov.uk [mailto:Rod.Burns@nrscotland.gov.uk]
Sent: 10 August 2017 17:51
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: GSX: RE: United Kingdom Society of Celebrants

Thanks [REDACTED] - this is shocking, I agree. The courses are nigh on a thousand pounds, and useless to anyone who is wishing to solemnise 'family' weddings without authorisation from NRS. I also can't see how a person who has undergone the course could apply for authorisation given that they wouldn't be associated with a religious or belief body, and therefore have no locus to apply. I think I'll drop them a line to see whether the courses make clear to potential applicants that they will need to seek authorisation from the RG in order to solemnise weddings in Scotland.

Thanks for bringin this to my attention.

I suspect, by the way, that this is the sort of situation where a 'celebrant' might come along seeking the registrar to 'just do the legal bits', and run into our policy statement directing authorities not to participate in such hybrid ceremonies ...

Rod

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 August 2017 16:14
To: Burns R (Rod)
Subject: United Kingdom Society of Celebrants

Rod

I had notices from a couple with a celebrant from this organisation

<http://www.uksoc.com/civil-celebrant-training-distance-learning-option-a/>

They are calling their training courses "civil celebrant" training.

From what I can see they seem to be taking a lot of money for courses and the celebrant here [REDACTED] said they'd told [REDACTED] that as [REDACTED] completed [REDACTED] diploma [REDACTED] can now do a wedding. I've referred [REDACTED] to NRS for authorisation but just found the website and was shocked.

We had a lot of discussions about this sort of organisation as part of the executive. I'm sure there still are but I recall you saying that you wanted to know of any such organisations.

[REDACTED]
District Registrar/Customer Service Officer
Highland, Fort William and Bailachulish
Tel 01597 704583
Fax 01597 707250

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... a' bhaintinn ri gnothachas Chomhairle na

Burns R (Rod)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 January 2018 10:51
To: Burns R (Rod); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fuze Ceremonies
Attachments: Screen Shot 2018-01-25 at 10.23.34.png; 000_Advertorial_HumanistSociety(1)
(1).pdf

Morning both,

We have just been notified of the attached Facebook post by Fuze Ceremonies. Obviously, this causes us significant concern and perhaps evidences some of our anxieties regarding the damage to Humanism by commercial operators.

Please also find attached the advert referred to in the post.

We appreciate that couples asking for clarification about the authorisation of a celebrant may be uncomfortable for Fuze but nothing we have said is either false or could be considered derogatory. In our view couples should be made aware of the authorisation limits placed on a marriage officer. The Action Research we submitted highlighted that even when asked many of these organisations were not open and honest about their authorisation status.

Although Fuze have expressed concern regarding the impact on their commercial operation we are unsure why given they exist to meet the needs of their community, why would they see themselves in competition with HSS who only marries our members.

Many thanks
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Head of Ceremonies and Chaplaincy
Humanist Society Scotland

Please note my core days of work are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
[REDACTED]

Humanist Society Scotland

Registered Address: Playfair House, 6 Broughton Street Lane, Edinburgh, EH1 3LY.

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@FuzeCeremonies

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Fuze Ceremonies

17 hrs · 6

The Humanist Society of Scotland (HSS), Respectful and tolerant?

Communications from the Humanist Society of Scotland have continued their campaign to try to discredit other Humanist organisations in Scotland. Humanism is about tolerance and respect for others, amongst other things.

Whilst there are many wonderful celebrants in the HSS, there are others who have verbally attacked other Humanists in public just because they are not part of the HSS. This goes against every part of the Humanist ethos.

The most recent publication in the Scottish Wedding Directory attempts to warn people off using non-HSS Humanists 'always ask if the celebrant can confirm they have authorisation to marry you on your chosen date, at the time of your booking'. This is misleading and an attempt to take commercial advantage. Again, this goes against every part of the Humanist ethos.

We would like to ask that the HSS refrain from this behaviour. No-one in Fuze, or any of the other Humanist organisations in Scotland behaves in this way, surely it is time to practice the Humanist beliefs that you promote?

Fuze offer free funeral celebrants as another way of practising their Humanist beliefs <https://fuze Ceremonies.co.uk/.../20.../tackling-funeral-poverty/>



THINKING ABOUT A HUMANIST CEREMONY?

The HSS promise

IF YOU LOVE THE IDEA OF HAVING A MEANINGFUL, PERSONALISED WEDDING CEREMONY, THIS COULD BE THE PERFECT OPTION FOR YOU

Did you know that Scotland is one of just eight countries in the world where you can have a legal Humanist marriage? The charity Humanist Society Scotland campaigned for this legal right and has been the most trusted provider of Humanist ceremonies ever since, paving the way for thousands of couples to have the Humanist wedding they always dreamed of.

Humanist wedding ceremonies are hugely popular, and it's easy to see why. They're personal, meaningful and all about the couple; their love, their hopes for the future and their promises to each other. A Humanist Society ceremony is made to measure, so couples know it will be the perfect fit!

HOW DO I FIND A CELEBRANT?

Check out the Humanist Society Scotland website (humanism.scot), where you can look through profiles of celebrants. Early in 2017, Humanist Society Scotland was prescribed into Scottish marriage law, making it the first and only belief body to have that status. This means that HSS celebrants don't have time-limited authorisation to conduct legal marriages, unlike other Humanist celebrants.

When you're looking for a Humanist celebrant, always ask about their authorisation. If a celebrant is not with the Humanist Society their authorisation will certainly be time-limited and they might have to apply for permission for each ceremony they wish to conduct. When you book, always ask if the celebrant can confirm they have authorisation to marry you, on your chosen date, at the time of booking.

WHAT MAKES HUMANIST SOCIETY SCOTLAND UNIQUE?

Humanist Society Scotland is a national charity and part of the international Humanist movement, working for a fairer and more compassionate world. They're also pretty fantastic at delivering ceremonies. With a packed training and support programme for celebrants, it's easy to see why they are the most trusted provider of Humanist ceremonies. Only Humanist Society celebrants have the backing of a national charity and they're the only ones who can offer the HSS Promise, outlined on the right.

For more information, visit humanism.scot



1. BE ASSURED, WE'RE INSURED

You can be assured if you book an HSS Registered Celebrant they are covered by our Public Liability Insurance.

2. WE'VE GOT IT COVERED

It is very rare that the celebrant you have booked is unable to conduct your ceremony, and this would only be in extreme circumstances such as serious illness. However, as the largest provider of humanist ceremonies in Scotland we have the network to find you a replacement, even at very short notice.

3. DEVELOPING SKILLS TO GIVE YOU THE BEST

All HSS-registered celebrants must complete intensive training and mentoring programs before they are registered to conduct any type of ceremony. Our celebrants participate in ongoing practice development sessions to ensure they have up-to-date information about marriage in Scotland and that their skills are always top notch!

4. SETTING THE STANDARD

All our celebrants work to a set of standards to ensure your experience is the best it can be. Our celebrants are also subject to a complaints and grievance process. If in the unlikely event you have any concerns about your ceremony, we will do all we can to resolve the matter.

5. BEST OF ALL, WE'RE A CHARITY!

The Humanist Society Scotland is a registered Scottish charity and our accounts are published annually. As a charity we campaign for a fairer society and are involved in supporting people through our community food projects, chaplaincy services, school visitors and so much more! ♦

Burns R (Rod)

From: Burns R (Rod)
Sent: 25 January 2018 13:19
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Fuze Ceremonies

Thanks [REDACTED] – for me, this comes under the heading of unacceptable behaviour we should try to formally screen out: as with registrars (or anyone else) running down other organisations, there should probably be a kind of default positivity requirement akin to a General Anti Avoidance Rule in tax affairs – we would regard it as unacceptable behaviour for any authorised celebrant to engage in negative debate about any other celebrant or group (while obviously remaining open to receiving views about conduct where we would need to take action).

Would that be workable, I wonder?

Rod

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 January 2018 10:51
To: Burns R (Rod); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fuze Ceremonies

Morning both,

We have just been notified of the attached Facebook post by Fuze Ceremonies. Obviously, this causes us significant concern and perhaps evidences some of our anxieties regarding the damage to Humanism by commercial operators.

Please also find attached the advert referred to in the post.

We appreciate that couples asking for clarification about the authorisation of a celebrant may be uncomfortable for Fuze but nothing we have said is either false or could be considered derogatory. In our view couples should be made aware of the authorisation limits placed on a marriage officer. The Action Research we submitted highlighted that even when asked many of these organisations were not open and honest about their authorisation status.

Although Fuze have expressed concern regarding the impact on their commercial operation we are unsure why given they exist to meet the needs of their community, why would they see themselves in competition with HSS who only marries our members.

Many thanks
[REDACTED]

Burns R (Rod)

From: Burns R (Rod)
Sent: 26 January 2018 10:15
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Fuze Ceremonies

Thanks [REDACTED] – agreed, but in an ideal world we could rely on everyone to uphold professional standards without need of the QRs; however, we definitely need those! Does a requirement to be, and behave, positively in that way seems feasible to you?

Shall we get an April date in calendars, then?

Rod

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 January 2018 16:16
To: Burns R (Rod)
Subject: Re: Fuze Ceremonies

Thanks Rod.

It's a concern that something like that would be required. I would have expected any organisation to be responsible enough not to engage in this behaviour. It would perhaps be more understandable were it factually accurate but seems more of a panic that a charity might harm their commercial operation.

We have no issues being open about our authorisation status (pre and post prescribed status) and as the national charity for Humanism believe those seeking a Humanist Ceremony should have access to all the facts to allow them to make an informed choice as opposed to being faced with pretty websites and individual celebrant adverts being pushed on directories and social media forums. It is rather astounding that any group of Celebrants would suggest being transparent about the legalities of a ceremony is a commercial threat.

I had hoped to type up my notes from our meeting but my attention was redirected this morning. I'll endeavour to get something across to you early next week.

We also hoped to arrange a follow up meeting in April?

Thanks
[REDACTED]

On Thu, Jan 25, 2018 at 1:18 PM, <Rod.Burns@nrcotland.gov.uk> wrote:

Thanks [REDACTED] – for me, this comes under the heading of unacceptable behaviour we should try to formally screen out: as with registrars (or anyone else) running down other organisations, there should probably be a kind of default positivity requirement akin to a General Anti Avoidance Rule in tax affairs – we would regard it as unacceptable behaviour for any authorised celebrant to

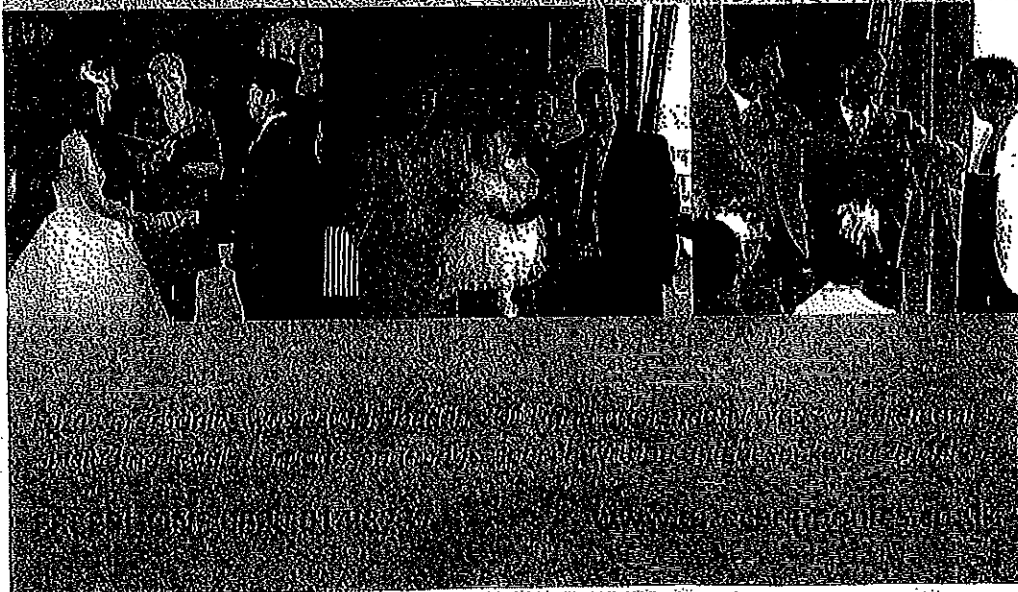


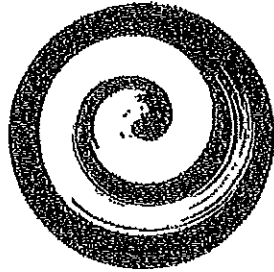
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Helping you celebrate your day in your own way.

At Fuze Ceremonies, we offer unique, personal and memorable celebrant services in Scotland...

- Legal Humanist Marriage Ceremonies
- Affirmation and renewal of vows
- Baby Naming Ceremonies
- Award winning • Full back up procedure
- Fully licensed, insured and disclosure checked
- Online booking system
- The Fuze Foundation helps others too





FUZE CEREMONIES

The Fuze Foundation

By choosing Fuze Ceremonies to conduct your ceremony, you will be supporting the work that we do through the Fuze Foundation. Established in 2011, we assist humanitarian charities and offer free ceremonies to those in need and to families who have lost a baby or child.

The Fuze Foundation has given thousands of pounds to organisations including cancer charities, hospices and mental health charities.

In addition to the advancement of secularism in Scotland, it is important that those with humanist beliefs have a voice. We recognise and support this through the Foundation. Supporting the advancement of human rights is key to religious and racial harmony, equality and diversity of the nation.

Today's society recognises that there are many in need of our help, whether as a result of youth, age, ill health, financial hardship or any other disadvantage.

If you would like to contribute to our work, please contact us by email or telephone to arrange a free consultation.



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THIS IS YOUR LIFE...

Big Party or Retirement planned? Everyone has a story...

Our expert writers and presenters will interview the 'victim's' friends and family to develop a highly entertaining presentation, as a poignant and memorable addition to any celebration.

Our team will compose and choreograph a 30 minute presentation:- which can include music, photographs and videos.

The surprise element is an all important part, so it's all kept under wraps until the right moment!

On the day, we'll arrive at the party and surprise your guest with this wonderful presentation.

We can also arrange filming of the presentation, and of course, the 'Star' of the show gets to keep the Big Red Book!



info@fuzeceremonies.co.uk
www.fuzeceremonies.co.uk
FREEPHONE 0800 014 8237

Burns R (Rod)

From: Burns R (Rod)
Sent: 13 June 2018 16:49
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Caledonian Humanist Association

Thanks [REDACTED] - unfortunate timing, I know. The mills in here grind quite slowly, but we're getting there. Happy for you to share the timing details with the board, as that would be what went into the answer to a direct letter. What happened with the Fuze cases?

Rod

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 June 2018 14:35
To: Burns R (Rod)
Subject: Re: Caledonian Humanist Association

Thanks Rod, it's just so disappointing when we have raised concerns about this group with evidence we think is significant. That the group have stated they do not meet and the membership is basically fraudulent seems significant and contrary to the definition of a belief body as per the Act.

I think we're at a bit of a loss as it seems so obvious to us. We are confident that these organisations are not genuine belief bodies, they do nothing other than train Celebrants and then host a website for them all to promote themselves.

It's good that there is some progress with the letters for the first round but I expect, given our concerns our Board of Trustees will opt to write formally around the CHA decision and will likely consider seeking a Judicial Review to challenge it.

On an aside we have had three calls today from couples who have been let down by Fuze; we'll make sure they have a Humanist Celebrant where we can but emotions are running quite high so they may contact your office directly.

Thanks
[REDACTED]

On Wed, Jun 13, 2018 at 12:34 PM, <Rod.Burns@nrscotland.gov.uk> wrote:

Hi [REDACTED] - this happened a while back, as per usual procedures. CHA were first authorised in March 2015 on a temporary basis. After a couple of years, with no significant problems, they were considered for movement onto the 3-year cycle in February 2017; this then happened automatically at the next available point in the cycle, January of this year. As you know on the current system (which will likely be completely overhauled by the QRs) this longer period of authorisation is far more efficient for NRS to administer, as HSS's movement to it sometime back prior to your being prescribed proved. The issues raised re CHA are in our middle set of enforcement letters. (Incidentally I just had a number of technical questions back on the first set which I'm answering today.) Happy to talk through - Rod

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 June 2018 12:25
To: Burns R (Rod)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Caledonian Humanist Association

Hi Rod

At a meeting of our Area Officers yesterday I was advised that the Caledonian Humanist Association now have 3 yearly authorisation to solemnise marriage. I assumed this was inaccurate given when I asked this specific question when we met in May.

However, having looked online this morning I see the attached Facebook post from [REDACTED] clearly stating that Caledonian Humanist Association Celebrants now have three yearly authorisation and specifically 'The Registrar has recognised the good work carried out by the Caledonian Humanist Association and we've been upgraded to 3 year approval'

We have raised serious concerns regarding this group which so far have not been investigated. Our concerns are beyond what seems to be considered 're-education'. I would be surprised that any organisation would have their authorisation status changed when clear evidence has been provided to support the position that the group are not a Belief Body as per the terms of the Act.

Please can you confirm if Celebrants from the Caledonian Humanist Association now have the status of three yearly authorisation. If this is indeed accurate then our Board of Trustees will need to explore the available legal options to challenge the grounds for this decision up to and including a Judicial Review.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Director of Services
Humanist Society Scotland

14

Burns R (Rod)
14 November 2018 11:47
NRS : Marriage Mailbox
Kirkland G (Gemma)
RE: Change of Legal Status of Fuze Foundation and cover required due to maternity leave

yes, happy; fits with the earlier reasoning, and makes sense. Rod

(Lynne) On Behalf Of NRS : Marriage Mailbox
November 2018 11:35
Rod <Rod.Burns@nrscotland.gov.uk>
(Gemma) <Gemma.Kirkland@nrscotland.gov.uk>
Change of Legal Status of Fuze Foundation and cover required due to maternity leave

see latest e-mail below from [redacted]
I have a problem with granting the request. We did agree that 3 new celebrants could be
and temporary authorisation to cover for maternity leave one of whom is [redacted]. It
just be a matter of [redacted] and [redacted] swapping places really.
you therefore content that we grant [redacted] request?
happy to discuss.

From: [redacted]
Sent: 13 November 2018 14:56
To: NRS : Marriage Mailbox <marriage@nrscotland.gov.uk>
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Re: Change of Legal Status of Fuze Foundation and cover required due to maternity leave

Dear Lynne

Many thanks for your email and consideration. It will help us a lot as we have many ceremonies that need
to be covered. Could I ask that [redacted] becomes a temp celebrant to cover maternity (as
currently has a 3 year licence) and [redacted] becomes an authorised Marriage Officer. [redacted]
availability is limited and [redacted] is better places to cover maternity leave.
If you are agreeable to this, do I need to do anything other than request a set of forms to authorise [redacted]
On Mon, 15 Oct 2018 at 14:19, <marriage@nrscotland.gov.uk> wrote:

Dear [redacted]



National
Records of
Scotland

New Register House
3 West Register Street
Edinburgh
EH1 3YT

(0131) 314 4434

February 19, 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

As part of its ongoing programme of work on the solemnisation of marriage and registration of civil partnership, National Records of Scotland (NRS) is undertaking an audit. This audit relates to celebrants who have been authorised by the Registrar General to solemnise marriages or register civil partnerships on the nomination of a belief body. The purpose of the audit is to ensure that nominating bodies continue to conform to the statutory definition of a belief body. I am therefore writing to you to seek information that will enable the Registrar General to determine this issue.

The statutory definition of a belief body is "an organised group of people ... the principal object (or one of the principal objects) of which is to uphold or promote philosophical beliefs and which meets regularly for that purpose". When Fuze Foundation was originally required to satisfy the Registrar General that it was a belief body, the information requested in relation to that requirement included the following:

- A copy of Fuze's constitution or statement of faith, containing the aims and beliefs of the group together with details on the appointment of office bearers
- The number of members, both locally and within the UK (if applicable)
- Details of how often Fuze met to uphold and promote philosophical beliefs, such as calendars of events, minutes of meetings and so on, as well as details of how members are given notice of these meetings
- Information about the form of marriage ceremony to be used, where appropriate.

For the purpose of this audit, I would therefore ask you to respond within 28 days of the date of this letter, enclosing updated information and materials in regard to:

- Details of current office bearers (including any recent or proposed changes to membership of those offices)
- Current membership numbers, as at the end of 2018
- Details of meetings held since the start of 2018 to uphold and promote the body's philosophical beliefs. In relation to each meeting, information provided should include date, venue and the usual means by which members were given notice of the meeting
- A copy of your current form of marriage ceremony.



National
Records of
Scotland

I would be happy to talk through any aspect of this request, and can be contacted on the details above.

Yours

ROD BURNS
Deputy Registrar General

Chair, The Fuze Foundation

Friday, 22 February 2019

Ref: Your Letter dated 19 Feb 2019, Audit of Celebrants

Dear Mr Burns,

Please find the information that you have requested in your letter dated the 19th Feb 2019. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any additional information. I can be contacted on anne@fuzeceremonies.co.uk or mobile [REDACTED]

Details of Current Office Bearers

Anne Widdop is the Chair of the Fuze Foundation and has been since it was established in 2012. Morag Webster is the Treasurer. 9 Feb 2018 Cindy Cosgrove stood down as a Trustee. Victoria Bland stood down as Secretary 27 Dec 2018.

Current Members and Supporters

Only our Celebrants are members of the Fuze Foundation. We do not ask the public to become members but ask them to become supporters.

- At the end of 2018 we have 36 members
- At the end of 2018 we have 4594 supporters

Details of meeting held since the start of 2018

Date / Venue of Trustee meetings: 9th Jan 2018, 9th Feb 2018, 19 Feb 2018, 26 July 2018, 11 March 2018, 12 Sept 2018, 1 Nov 2018, 2 Oct 2018, 9th Jan 2019. All of these meetings took place at The Atrium in Coatbridge and the meetings are notified via emails.

Date of member meetings: 18th August 2018, 17th October 2018, 22 Dec 2018 at The Atrium in Coatbridge and at Urban Brasserie in a private room. In addition to this there have been several other sub-group meetings about campaigns (Death Café, Coffin Club, Funeral Poverty). I would be happy to provide dates and attendees at these meetings, if you wish this level of detail. The meetings are notified via emails.

Copy of Current form of Marriage Ceremony and Legal Vows

Ceremony Structure

Entry music

Introduction: *Include some words on why couples have chosen a Humanist ceremony and some words about Humanism.*

Reading / music: *Readers could be members of family or friends or the Celebrant.*

Thoughts about marriage

Reasons why the Couple love each other

Friday, 22 February 2019

Personal vows

Exchange of rings

Legal vows (compulsory) *See the choices of wording that must be included.*

Celebrant Declaration

Signing the Schedule

Closing Words / Reading / music

Exit to music

Legal Vows

One of the options below must be chosen and used exactly as described.

Option 1.

<Bride/groom/name>, would you now please repeat the following words after me:

"I call upon these persons here present to witness that I, <bride/groom full name>* solemnly and sincerely declare that I accept you <bride/groom full name>* as my lawfully <wedded husband/wedded wife/in marriage>".

Option 2.

<Bride/groom/name>, would you now please repeat the following words after me:

"I <bride/groom/name>* sincerely declare that I accept you <bride/groom/name>* as my lawfully <wedded husband/wedded wife/in marriage>".

Option 3.

<Bride/groom/name>, would you now please repeat the following words after me:

"I solemnly and sincerely declare that I <bride/groom full name>* accept you <bride/groom/name>* as my lawfully <wedded husband/wedded wife/in marriage>* to the exclusion of all others".

Option 4.

<Bride/groom/name>, would you now please repeat the following words after me:

"I <groom/name>*, accept you <bride/name>* as my <husband/wife/in marriage>*"

*full name

Chair, The Fuze Foundation

Friday, 22 February 2019

Additional Information - Communications to Members and Supporters

The Fuze Foundation publishes a monthly newsletter to members and a monthly newsletter to supporters and publishes information daily on Facebook and Twitter.

Yours Sincerely

Chair, The Fuze Foundation

By email and post

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s L (Lynne)

Rodgers L (Lynne) on behalf of NRS : Marriage Mailbox
29 March 2019 08:50

RE: Fuze Foundation Marriage Officer changes

Thank you for your further e-mail.

It has been agreed that two new celebrants can be granted temporary authorisation to cover maternity leave. Apologies for missing this out from my previous reply. I will try and get the nomination forms in respect of your four other celebrants sent off to you today.

Done
HR
29/3/19

If you are wishing to appeal the decision about a celebrant for Knoydart please write direct to Rod Burns, Deputy Registrar General laying out an business case in detail. Rod's address is

Rod Burns
Deputy Registrar General
National Records of Scotland
New Register House
Edinburgh
EH1 3YT

E-mail: rod.burns@nrscotland.gov.uk

Kind regards

Lynne

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 26 March 2019 09:31

To: NRS : Marriage Mailbox <marriage@nrscotland.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: Fuze Foundation Marriage Officer changes

Hi Lynne

Thanks for your email. Can I assume we can have 2 temp again to cover maternity?

I would like to appeal the decision ref [Redacted]. Can you confirm how this decision was arrived at and the basis for this? Is there some-one else I should write to?

Another key argument is one about the local economy. There are people many who have requested to marry there, but when they find out how much extra it costs for the Celebrant/Civil Ceremony, they go elsewhere. This is a vital income for a very small rural economy and could play an important role in the continued viability economically to the people living there.

Many thanks for your help.

On Fri, 22 Mar 2019 at 17:03, <marriage@nrscotland.gov.uk> wrote:

part

I apologise for the delay in replying to your e-mail.

We are happy to agree to your request for two new marriage celebrants to be granted authorisation and for four celebrants who have or are about to leave the Fuze Foundation. I will arrange for the nomination forms to be sent out to you.

With regard to your request for a marriage officer to be authorised to conduct weddings in Knorydant on behalf of the Fuze Foundation, we understand the reasoning behind the request. However, having a dedicated marriage office for what is probably a small clientele seems disproportionate and couples wishing to have a belief wedding could be catered for by other Fuze celebrants who have previously indicated that they would be willing to travel (albeit at additional expense which we would regard as reasonable for people adjusted to island/remote life and such occasional extra expenses).

A local registrar can undertake a civil marriage ceremony for couples who don't wish to have a religious or belief wedding or for couples who haven't been able to get a belief celebrant and so the community is still provided for.

Kind regards

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Rodgers L (Lynne)

From: Burns R (Rod)
Sent: 28 March 2019 16:37
To: NRS : Marriage Mailbox
Cc: Kirkland G (Gemma)
Subject: RE: Fuze Foundation Marriage Officer changes

Hi Lynne -- thanks. I'd tend to agree that community residents have probably factored in such additional costs, and it would seem excessive for there to be a dedicated celebrant just for that community. However, [REDACTED] has asked to appeal this and asked who next to write to; that would be me. Would you mind asking [REDACTED] to write to me directly, laying out any business case in detail? I can then respond in kind. Further appeal, I think, would be to Paul as RG if there was to be one.

Rod

From: Rodgers L (Lynne) <Lynne.Rodgers@nrscotland.gov.uk> On Behalf Of NRS : Marriage Mailbox
Sent: 27 March 2019 16:37
To: Burns R (Rod) <Rod.Burns@nrscotland.gov.uk>
Cc: Kirkland G (Gemma) <Gemma.Kirkland@nrscotland.gov.uk>
Subject: FW: Fuze Foundation Marriage Officer changes

Hello Rod

Please see further e-mail from [REDACTED] asking to appeal the decision about having an authorised celebrant on Knoydart.

[REDACTED] seems to be implying that Knoydart relies on people getting married there and that if there is no dedicated marriage celebrant to carry out these weddings then this could have a detrimental effect on the community's economy.

I am sure if couples have their heart set on getting married in Knoydart they would be willing to pay any extra costs and probably would expect to do so. The community seems to have managed so far.

Couples wishing to have a civil ceremony and are prepared to arrange for a registrar to travel to Knoydart may change their minds if there is a chance they might be able to save money by choosing a celebrant who is resident in the community. This is understandable. However, it would be giving Fuze a monopoly and would be unfair to other celebrants who might have been chosen. Would you agree?

I think a further reply should perhaps come from you?

Happy to discuss.

Lynne

Support

Humanism in Scotland

Much of what happens in our world is what we humans cause to happen, but with a positive mindset and inclusive cooperation, we are capable of addressing the many issues that we face.



As part of our commitment and sponsorship, we at Humanism in Scotland were pleased to have a stand at the recent Disability Equality Scotland AGM. We are not a membership organisation and so we were not in pursuit of members, but rather promoting our beliefs of 'free thinking'; 'personal autonomy'; and 'individual and collective responsibility'.

Our beliefs also include the views that age is just a number, and certainly not a measure of worth; value or contribution, and that those with disabilities or impairments can contribute their views to help right wrongs in society.

Humanism in Scotland offers support aimed at empowering people and their resilience to enhance their lives, whether through bereavement support or 'declutter your mind' sessions, all of which help reacting to and dealing with the roller coaster of life. And we offer unique rites of passage ceremonies, including weddings, baby naming ceremonies, and funerals.

A working group established in February 2008 by the Scottish Government acknowledged that we are all part of a multi-cultural society which incorporates a variety of beliefs. It recognised that we all share equal rights and responsibilities. It set out ways to facilitate dialogue so that belief groups, whether religious or not, could work together constructively to make our society better for all of the people who live and work in 21st century Scotland.

It is people recognising and appreciating our diverse multiple identities as well as some key things which bind us together as a society: Our common humanity with shared belonging as people living in Scotland, contributing to its future, listening to one another and working together for the common good.

HnS - Human Resource Policy

though not a conventional subscription-type membership org, a level of formal membership is essential for 2 reasons. Firstly in a Mgt/Advisory role as Office Bearers with honorary status - Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary & Treasurer, whereby those in post, both in time and commitment, give freely of their specialisms. Secondly as Celebrants, whose affiliation dues, derived via a modest 5% of their ceremony income, in return for the org's support, promotion & publicity - being the source of funding for the self-sustaining ethos of the ~~not-for-profit~~ ~~unincorporated charity~~ status. The Board is the 'HnS Executive', inclusive of OB's, Celebrant representation and others as appropriate as eg. Webmaster, Infotech media & Publicity etc.

HnS - Celebrants

There are imperatives which apply to every Celebrant, which includes: HnS Identity, Verifiable Primary Employment / Registered Carer, PVG Authorisation, CR (Credit Reference), Disciplines in personal income tax liability, Fee Structure, Preferred presentation via Lectern - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yMO1v0Yg1o> Its Hands-Free Expression - Its stature- Its Professionalism -Its Formality- Its Officialdom -Its Gravitas . HnS currently has 5 registered Celebrants who conduct a range of humanist ceremonies at varying levels of activity. In anticipation of increasing demand, the complement of Celebrants may increase to a level not more than 10, cognizant of area location/carbon footprint. The increase in number can be achieved by adoption of previously registered / experienced Celebrants (Probation 3 months) with primary employment, who will pay a one-off first year £500 affiliation fee from which their PVG, CR check, lectern & current year dues will offset. Affiliation for subsequent years will be a maximum of £500 or 5% of actual ceremony income. Any un-trained person (Probation 12 months)? with primary employment who passes the above vetting process will pay an initial £200 which will cover the PVG, CR check & lectern. On acceptance for celebrant training, which will progressively include all ceremony types, the applicant will pay an additional £300 for related training costs.

HnS - Financial Control

Celebrant's annual affiliation aligns with the Calendar year (January 1st >December 31st). HMRC category reporting aligns with the fiscal year (April date >April date) includes Operating Statement and Balance Sheet. There is therefore a 3 month overlap whereby affiliations due from a calendar year accrues to the corresponding HnS fiscal year. HnS surplus accrues primarily to deserving charities, or in furthering the philosophy & relevance of Humanism. HnS Bxoc December 2017

Stewart R (Russell)

From: Stewart R (Russell) on behalf of NRS : Marriage Mailbox
Sent: 12 February 2018 10:49
To: Kay MT (Marie)
Cc: Smith WE (Wilma); Reilly AE (Anne); Murray S (Sharon)
Subject: New Church Code

Good Morning

Humanism in Scotland has now been given the church code: 834

Any weddings prior to today's date should be coded 889

Thanks

Russell Stewart
Casework Administrator

National Records of Scotland
New Register House
Edinburgh
EH1 3YT

Tel: 0131 314 4475
Fax: 0131 314 4532

Rodgers L. (Lynne)

From: NRS : Marriage Mailbox
Sent: 26 July 2018 10:55
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Humanism in Scotland

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your e-mail.

When any religious or belief body whose celebrants are required to be authorised by NRS approach us with a request for additional celebrants to be authorised, we ask for a robust case to be made as to why an additional marriage celebrant is required as we would be concerned that the need for substantially more celebrants could be seen to go against the provisions of the Marriage (Scotland) Act 1977, which provides that celebrants should not for the purpose of profit and gain carry on a business of solemnising marriage.

Any additional celebrants you recruit do not have to be from another Humanist organisation. As my colleague, Russell Stewart, stated in his e-mail dated 29 December 2017 to you, if any celebrants you have recruited are from another organisation and you wish them to be granted authorisation as well as putting forward a robust case in support of this we would need evidence that they have resigned from and have had their resignation accepted by their previous organisation/group.

Therefore you are entitled to recruit anyone you deem suitable to join your organisation – you are not restricted to recruiting ex-members of other Humanist organisations. However, a robust case has to be made as to why you require an additional celebrant to be authorised.

I hope that my reply has clarified matters.

Kind regards

Lynne

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 July 2018 11:31
To: Rodgers L. (Lynne)
Subject: Humanism in Scotland

Dear Lynne . . I'm sure an email rather than a phone call suits best, given the pressures at NRS - Hope you're looking after your good self.

In recent times, as a relatively new humanist org, we have provided documentation (attached again here) as to our subject ethos and future plans/aspirations and your decision, for which we thank you, on the approved temporary legal marriage status of [REDACTED] is part of that, bringing our current marriage celebrant numbers to 4, which includes me as stand-in, in case of emergency.

It is my understanding that further additions to our marriage celebrant numbers (to our declared maximum of 10) will have to be via transfer of existing registered celebrants from other humanist orgs, so that the total numbers of marriage celebrants doesn't increase overall.

We have a new enquiry which doesn't comply with that requirement. The person concerned is [REDACTED], having previously been for 10 years, [REDACTED]

Does this case in point necessitate that I decline such interest?

Thanks as always,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

This email has been scanned by the Symantec Email Security.cloud service.
For more information please visit <http://www.symanteccloud.com>

This email has been received from an external party and has been swept for the presence of computer viruses.

Burns R (Rod)

From: Burns R (Rod)
Sent: 04 September 2018 17:29
To: NRS : Marriage Mailbox
Subject: Quick request

Importance: High

How do – I'm offering urgent comments on a draft submission re Humanist celebrants to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]'s asked in an annex for the marriages carried out in 2017 by the following. Do you know these, or would it be the FER team - ?

Rod

A Quiet Revolution
Humanism in Scotland
Humanist Association Scotland
Humanity Hall
The Love Society
Alba Ceremonies

Burns R (Rod)

From: Rodgers L (Lynne) on behalf of NRS : Marriage Mailbox
Sent: 05 September 2018 09:49
To: Burns R (Rod)
Cc: Stewart R (Russell)
Subject: RE: Quick request

Hello Rod

Russell had kindly gathered the information which is as follows:

2017 Marriages

A Quiet Revolution - 8
Humanism in Scotland - 54
Humanist Association Scotland - 79
Humanity Hall - 37
The Love Society - 61
Alba Ceremonies - 55

I hope this is helpful.

Lynne

From: Burns R (Rod)
Sent: 05 September 2018 09:20
To: NRS : Marriage Mailbox <marriage@nrscotland.gov.uk>
Cc: Stewart R (Russell) <Russell.Stewart@nrscotland.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Quick request

Yes please – apols, should have been more precise! Rod

From: Rodgers L (Lynne) On Behalf Of NRS : Marriage Mailbox
Sent: 05 September 2018 08:34
To: Burns R (Rod)
Cc: Stewart R (Russell)
Subject: RE: Quick request

Hello Rod

I assume it is the total number of weddings for each organisation.

We'll try and get you this information for later this morning – only Russell and I are in today.

Lynne

From: Burns R (Rod)

New Register House
3 West Register Street
Edinburgh
EH1 3YT

(0131) 314 4434

February 19, 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

As part of its ongoing programme of work on the solemnisation of marriage and registration of civil partnership, National Records of Scotland (NRS) is undertaking an audit. This audit relates to celebrants who have been authorised by the Registrar General to solemnise marriages or register civil partnerships on the nomination of a belief body. The purpose of the audit is to ensure that nominating bodies continue to conform to the statutory definition of a belief body. I am therefore writing to you to seek information that will enable the Registrar General to determine this issue.

The statutory definition of a belief body is "an organised group of people ... the principal object (or one of the principal objects) of which is to uphold or promote philosophical beliefs and which meets regularly for that purpose". When Humanism in Scotland was originally required to satisfy the Registrar General that it was a belief body, the information requested in relation to that requirement included the following:

- A copy of HIS's constitution or statement of faith, containing the aims and beliefs of the group together with details on the appointment of office bearers
- The number of members, both locally and within the UK (if applicable)
- Details of how often HIS met to uphold and promote philosophical beliefs, such as calendars of events, minutes of meetings and so on, as well as details of how members are given notice of these meetings
- Information about the form of marriage ceremony to be used, where appropriate.

For the purpose of this audit, I would therefore ask you to respond within 28 days of the date of this letter, enclosing updated information and materials in regard to:

- Details of current office bearers (including any recent or proposed changes to membership of those offices)
- Current membership numbers, as at the end of 2018
- Details of meetings held since the start of 2018 to uphold and promote the body's philosophical beliefs. In relation to each meeting, information provided should include date, venue and the usual means by which members were given notice of the meeting
- A copy of your current form of marriage ceremony.



National
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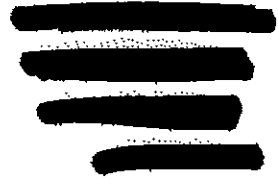
I would be happy to talk through any aspect of this request, and can be contacted on the details above.

Yours

ROD BURNS
Deputy Registrar General



Humanism In Scotland



17th March 2019

Dear Mr Burns,

NRS -- Nominating Bodies -- Audit

The enclosed relates to the response from Humanism In Scotland (HinS) Our answer addresses the subject matter in the same order as specified in your subject letter of 19th February 2019.

1. **Office Bearers** : Our current Officers remain unchanged in post, as applied since 2014. These are Ronald McLaren (Ron) as Chair; Marzleh Targhi as Vice Chair; Linda Paterson as Secretary; Paul Arkell as Treasurer; All have full-time employment and their role on behalf of HinS is shown on numbered document ~ See attached **1**
2. **Membership** ; We are not a subscribing membership organisation, simply because we affirm the individual right to autonomy as decreed in the universal moral and ethical code as defined in the current Declaration ("IHEU) of the International Humanist and Ethical Union. See attached. ~ **2**
3. **Meeting Activity** ; Meetings are neither prevalent nor necessary for purposes of upholding and promoting our philosophical life stance, being ably presented as our "Declaration on a single side of an A4 sheet. That means there is no need to 'redesign the wheel', because it is reviewed and updated if/as necessary every three years at the IHEU Congress which is held at various world locations. Our meetings attendance and engagements therefore are invariably about the relevance of humanism as a social paradigm which complies with the ECHR imperatives. Our latest initiative brings Humanism into direct association with those of religious faith ~See attached. * **3**
4. **Marriage Ceremony** ; Comprehensive self-explanatory Humanist marriage documentation is attached which I trust will confirm our compliance with all legal imperatives and protocols. **4+**

As aye / always ☺



cc ~ HinS Office Bearers

1

HinS - HR/Celeb/Fiscal Policies

Intro:

Although Humanism in Scotland is not a conventional subscription-type membership org, a level of formal membership is essential for 2 reasons. Firstly in a Management/Advisory role as Office Bearers with honorary status - Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary & Treasurer, being those in post representing the Board structure as the 'HinS Executive' who give freely of both their time and specialisms, including as appropriate, Celebrant representation and others on a part time basis - Webmaster, Info-tech, Media & Publicity, Organisational Engagement, Volunteer Outreach -- Make a difference and/or Empowerment options, Actions deemed by HinS as priority for the Common good.

Celebrants:

As the source of funding for the self-sustaining ethos of its 'not-for-profit', 'non-charitable' status, there are imperatives which apply to every Celebrant, which includes: Full conformance with HinS Identity & Contact detail, Verifiable HMRC Primary Employment / Registered Carer / Be-friender etc / Retired / Pensionable status / Disciplines observed for income tax liability, PVG Authorisation, CR (Credit Reference), Ceremony Fee Structures compliance, Preferred presentation via Lectern or equivalent - Its professional, official gravitas and solemnity, in Hands free mode and certainly not in similar portrayal to >>>>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wMOIvr0Yg1o>

HinS currently has 5 registered Celebrants who conduct a range of humanist ceremonies at varying levels of activity. In anticipation of increasing demand, the complement of Celebrants may increase to a level of not more than 10, cognizant of area location/carbon footprint impact. The increase in number may be achieved by adoption of previously registered/experienced Celebrants with primary employment (Probation 3 months), who will pay a one-off first year affiliation fee of £500 from which their PVG, CR check, lectern & current year dues will offset. Affiliation for subsequent years will be a maximum of £500 or 5% of actual gross ceremony income. Any un-trained person

(1)

(Probation 12 months) with primary employment who fulfils the above vetting criteria will pay an initial £200 which will cover the PVG, CR check & lectern. On acceptance for celebrant training which can progressively include all ceremony types, the applicant will pay an additional £300 for related training costs.

There are imperatives which apply to every Celebrant, which includes: HInS Identity, Verifiable Primary Employment or Retirement Status, Registered Carer, PVG Authorisation, CR (Credit Reference), Disciplines in personal income tax liability, Fee Structure, Preferred presentation via Lectern - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wMOIvr0Yg1o> Its Hands-Free Expression - Its stature- Its Professionalism -Its Formality- Its Officialdom - Its Gravitas . HInS currently has 5 registered Celebrants who conduct a range of humanist ceremonies at varying levels of activity. In anticipation of increasing demand, the complement of Celebrants may increase to a level not more than 10, cognizant of area location/carbon footprint. The increase in number can be achieved by adoption of previously registered / experienced Celebrants (Probation 3 months) with primary employment, who will pay a one-off first year £500 affiliation fee from which their PVG, CR check, lectern & current year dues will offset. Affiliation for subsequent years will be a maximum of £500 or 5% of actual ceremony income. Any un-trained person (Probation 12 months)? with primary employment who passes the above vetting process will pay an initial £200 which will cover the PVG, CR check & lectern. On acceptance for celebrant training, which will progressively include all ceremony types, the applicant will pay an additional £300 for related training costs.

Affiliation dues:

Celebrant's annual affiliation aligns with the Calendar year (January 1st >December 31st). All HMRC category reporting aligns with the fiscal year (April date >April date). Celebrant affiliations due from the calendar year therefore accrues to the corresponding HInS fiscal year. HInS surplus accrues primarily to furthering the philosophy & relevance of Humanism, via routine petition support which enhances progressive action for the common good.

HInS - Financial Control

①

As originally intended in 2014 and as soon as is practicable, HinS is to become self-sustaining at which time, the £25 per month (organisational development support), plus the small pension amount of £56 per month (capital funding loan), currently directed into the HinS bank account-should/could/might be reassigned if needed/appropriate to ongoing development. As recently agreed by HinS Hon Treasurer, the submission of annual tax liability for fiscal year 2017>2018-- has allowed that specific tax code be carried forward with no further reference to its ([REDACTED]) TSB bank account. Thereafter with effect from fiscal 2017>2018, the account is renamed as Humanism in Scotland (HinS -- HMRC registered status - Not for Profit. Henceforth, the annual HinS financial statement on a fiscal basis need only be produced for information purposes, and only for HinS Office Bearers, Celebrants and any others who contribute as members. As a not for profit organisation, there is no requirement for an annual Tax Return to be submitted to HMRC. As above, HMRC style category reporting aligns with the fiscal year (April date >April date) including Operating Statement and Balance Sheet. Any surplus or deficit will be carried forward into the next fiscal year. The first of these financial statements will be produced within 3 months after April 2019 -- importantly not for open access circulation.

HinS Exec Nov 2018

2



Humanism in Scotland



(The worldwide humanist moral and ethical code is what we're all about, adopted at the tri-annual World Humanist Congress in The Netherlands in 2002 CE. The most recent 2014 Congress in Oxford – England, reaffirmed this 2002 original as still relevant)

The decrees of our humanist moral and ethical code, taken either singly or combined, relate to all/any issues that affect or effect human well-being.

Humanism, the outcome of a long tradition of free thought *d1, has inspired many of the world's great thinkers and creative artists and gave rise to science itself *d2. The decrees of modern Humanism are :

1. Humanism ... is ethical *d1. It affirms the worth, dignity and autonomy of the individual *d2, and the right of every human being to the greatest possible freedom, compatible with the rights of others *d3. Humanists have a duty of care to all of humanity including future generations *d4. Humanists believe that morality is an intrinsic part of human nature based on understanding and a concern for others, needing no external sanction *d5.
2. Humanism ... is rational *d6. It seeks to use science creatively, not destructively *d7. Humanists believe that the solutions to the world's problems lie in human thought and action rather than divine intervention *d8. Humanism advocates the application of the methods of science and free inquiry to the problems of human welfare *d9. But Humanists also believe that the application of science and technology must be tempered by human values *d10. Science gives us the means but human values must decide the ends *d11.
3. Humanism ... supports democracy and human rights. *d12. Humanism aims at the fullest possible development of every human being *d13. It holds that democracy and human development are matters of right *d14. The principles of democracy and human rights can be applied to many human relationships and are not restricted to methods of government *d15.
4. Humanism ... insists that personal liberty must be combined with social responsibility *d16. Humanism ventures to build a world on the idea of the free person responsible to society *d17, and recognizes our dependence on and responsibility for the natural world *d18. Humanism is not dogmatic, imposing no creed upon its adherents *d19. It is thus committed to education free from indoctrination *d20.
5. Humanism ... is a response to the widespread demand for an alternative to dogmatic religion *d21. The world's major religions claim to be based on revelations fixed for all time, and many seek to impose their world-views on all of humanity. Humanism recognises that reliable knowledge of the world and ourselves arises through a continuing process of observation, evaluation and revision *d22.
6. Humanism ... values artistic creativity and imagination and recognizes the transforming power of art *d23. Humanism affirms the importance of literature, music, and the visual and performing arts for personal development and fulfilment *d24.
7. Humanism ... is a life stance aiming at the maximum possible fulfilment through the cultivation of ethical and creative living, offering an ethical and rational means of addressing the challenges of our times *d25. Humanism can be a way of life for everyone everywhere. Our primary task is to make human beings aware in the simplest terms of what Humanism can mean to them and what it commits them to *d26. By utilizing free inquiry, the power of science and creative imagination for the furtherance of peace and in the service of compassion, we have confidence that we have the means to solve the problems that confront us all *d27. We call upon all who share this conviction to associate themselves with us in this endeavour.



Humanism in Scotland



The primary focus and policy of much of humanist activity in Scotland rests on the provision of non-religious ceremonies which mark life's rites of passage, alongside related matters such as celebration, bereavement, condolences, testimonials, memorials and commemorations, but not to the wider ethos of humanism. Whereas a non-religious life view and engagement with secular humanist ceremonies sits well with the 1st decree of the Humanist Declaration, as regards the right to one's individual autonomy and the right to choose, the global paradigm of humanism is of much more significance than that and to disregard that is a short-sighted dilution of its intent. A 'Live and let live' approach is not unconditional!

There is a large gulf between a priority emphasis on provision of humanist ceremonies and the big picture that is humanism. The basis in 2006 for humanist accreditation to conduct legal marriage in Scotland was/is the philosophical imperative of the ethical & moral code of the IHEU Declaration of 2002. The Declaration which remains unaltered, 17 years on in 2019 and beyond, has a world-wide provenance by virtue of its constitution, as effected at the IHEU tri-annual congress which requires its review and updating as appropriate to current/new experience/evidence. That is what sets it apart from faith-based life stances which are invariably steeped in pre-documented history of some 1500+ > 2000+ years. Its offered central message of the Golden Rule predates religion via prior Greek and Chinese philosophy and stands as a global philosophical life view, both as an International non-governmental organisation (NGO) with representation on various United Nations committees and other international bodies, besides its formal presence via its 'Humanism' teaching module in the Scottish Qualifications Authority guidance, as part of the Curriculum for Excellence.

We are very concerned that any prevailing policy perception of humanism in general that has no place in positive/negative/critical comment or persuasion to adopt any form of life view other than that of a non-religious life stance shows a complete lack of understanding as to what humanism and its paradigm is all about. That elementary understanding seriously diminishes its global impact.

In this new organisation, with its network of supporters who either engaged with humanism through its ceremonies, philosophical research or via its outreach in Scottish statutory, civic and 3rd sector society etc, and who are also keenly interested in everyday aspects of life and the issues which affect us all both now and into the future, they are now encouraged, empowered and engaged with campaigning and/or supporting activity in furtherance of the betterment of humankind and our planet.

The footnote of the 2002 Declaration reads

Humanism . . . is a life stance aiming at the maximum possible fulfillment through the cultivation of ethical and creative living, offering an ethical and rational means of addressing the challenges of our times. Humanism can be a way of life for everyone everywhere. Our primary task is to make human beings aware in the simplest terms of what Humanism can mean to them and what it commits them to. By utilising free inquiry, the power of science and creative imagination for the furtherance of peace and in the service of compassion, we have confidence that we have the means to solve the problems that confront us all. We call upon all who share this conviction to associate themselves with us in this endeavour.



A Generic Manifesto (Faith & Belief neutral-aka Golden Rule)

- Knowledge of our world is derived from observation, experimentation and rational analysis, a science based approach which can solve problems and develop beneficial technologies. That is enhanced by recognition of the value of inspirational thought based approaches in the arts and inner experiences which we subject to analysis via critical intelligence.
- Humankind is an integral part of nature resulting from unguided evolutionary change, accepting our lives as all there is, sufficient and enough, distinguishing things for which we might wish or imagine them to be from the reality of things as they are. We welcome the challenges of the future and despite, undaunted, are drawn to that which is yet to be known.
- Ethical values are derived from human need and interests arising from experience as befitting human welfare, shaped by circumstance and concern re our interdependence on our global ecosystems and its flora and fauna.
- Fulfillment of life emerges best from participation in the service of humane ideals, thereby providing sense of purpose with wonder and awe at the joy and beauty of human existence, along with its challenges and tragedies which can occur, either through no individual fault, inevitability and the finality of death.
- Humans are social by nature, finding meaning in relationships, whilst striving for the lives others, free from cruelty with mutual care, concern and a cooperative attitude with no need of violence or coercion.
- Individual happiness is optimized by working in harmony with others, for the social benefits which arise from freedom from mere survival and suffering, towards global communities which always pursue the common good.
- **Those who are governed by reason desire nothing for themselves which they do not also desire for the rest of humankind. (Baruch Spinoza)**

3

The European Convention (ECHR) guarantees specific rights and freedoms and prohibits unfair and harmful practices.

The Convention secures:

- the right to life (Article 2)
- freedom from torture (Article 3)
- freedom from slavery (Article 4)
- the right to liberty (Article 5)
- the right to a fair trial (Article 6)
- the right not to be punished for something that wasn't against the law at the time (Article 7)
- the right to respect for family and private life (Article 8)
- freedom of thought, conscience and religion (Article 9)
- freedom of expression (Article 10)
- freedom of assembly (Article 11)
- the right to marry and start a family (Article 12)
- the right not to be discriminated against in respect of these rights (Article 14)
- the right to protection of property (Protocol 1, Article 1)
- the right to education (Protocol 1, Article 2)
- the right to participate in free elections (Protocol 1, Article 3)
- the abolition of the death penalty (Protocol 13)



Relevance - Where does humanism fit in Society?

Humanism is the only non-religious life-stance which offers a written moral and ethical code. Titled the 'IHEU Declaration' (of 2002), which remains current in 2019 and beyond, is elegantly presented on a single side of an A4 sheet, containing several decrees which engage with a rational approach to life across many key aspects of sustainable living and well-being. The decrees of its code are subject to regular scrutiny via the tri-annual International Humanist & Ethical Union congress, which requires its review and updating as appropriate to current/new experience/evidence. That is what sets it apart from faith based life-stances which are invariably steeped in pre-documented history of some 1500+ > 2000+ years.

There is a large gulf between a priority emphasis on provision of humanist ceremonies and the big picture that is humanism. The basis in 2005 for humanist accreditation to conduct legal marriage in Scotland was/is the philosophical Imperatives of the IHEU Declaration's ethical & moral code. Its offered central message of the Golden Rule predates organised religion via Greek and Chinese philosophy and stands as a global philosophical life view, both as an international non-governmental organisation (NGO) with representation on various United Nations committees and other international bodies, besides its formal presence via its 'Humanism' teaching module in the Scottish Qualifications Authority guidance, as part of the Curriculum for Excellence.

We are concerned that any prevailing policy perception of humanism in general that has no place in positive/negative/critical comment or persuasion to adopt any form of life view other than that of being non-religious, shows a complete lack of understanding as to what humanism and its paradigm is all about. That elementary mis-understanding seriously diminishes its global impact. 'Live & let Live' is not un-conditional!

'Humanism in Scotland' with its network of people who either found meaning in its code, through its engagement in society or via its non-religious ceremonies and who are also keenly interested, both now and into the future, in everyday aspects of life and the issues which affect us all, are now encouraged to engage with campaigning or supporting activity in furtherance of the betterment of humankind and our planet.

The banner of 'Humanism in Scotland' does that as the basis for our representation in all aspects of society and life... so let's look at a few current hot topics in which humanism has something to say... Undemocratic privilege > Poverty > Worklessness > Self-indulgence > Obesity > Drug culture > Cavalier Banking > Tax Evasion > Undignified Dying > Population Growth > Global Warming > Curricular mythology > Sectarianism > Fracking > Money laundering > Gender inequality > FGM > Stifled autonomy... etc... etc... all of which concerns are embedded for action in the life-stance of world-wide humanism.

2015 Ron McLaren - (Chair - Humanism in Scotland) info@humanism-scot.org www.humanism-scot.org

Humanism allows free thinking -- a rational life view

3

Organisations alpha order

- Ahmadiyya Muslim Community
- Add Ons - Introducing >
- One
- Bledge - sub
- Care 2
- Common Weal (a supported org)
- Defence Humanists
- DES - members/supported org
- Edinburgh Secular Society - mem
- Eklesia - (a supported org)
- Equality Network (a supported org)
- Festival of Remembrance
- Fairtrade
- Friends of the Earth (d)
- Global Citizen
- Global Justice (d)
- Greenpeace - (a supported org)
- GWT - (members)
- Guardian Environment
- Health & Social Care Integration
- Humanists UK > H4BW - (supported org)
- Inter Faith & Belief Groups - mem
- IHEU - (a supported org)
- Mercator Net
- MQ - Need to Talk?
- NHS Tayside - representative
- National (a supported org)
- National Geographic
- Perth & Kinross CEAG - mem
- Police Scotland advisor
- RME Education Network
- Responses to our critique
- Schools - various
- Scottish Secular Society - members
- Tayside Equality Groups - members
- Third Sector Interface
- University of the Highlands & Islands
- UNICEF (d)
- Wiley Humanities

Make a Difference alpha order

- Advocacy > M a D
- Amnesty > M a D
- Change > M a D
- Warming/Reality/ 350d > M a D
- Child Philosophy > M a D
- Children's Rights > M a D
- Corporate Malevolence > M a D
- Death with Dignity > M a D
- Disabled rights > M a D
- Education > M a D
- Equality & Diversity > M a D
- Fairtrade > M a D
- Friends of Earth > M a D
- Four Paws > M a D
- Global Citizen > M a D
- Government Nonsense > M a D
- Greenpeace > M a D
- Human Rights > M a D
- Independent Age/Life > M a D
- NHS & Health > M a D
- Pseudo science > M a D
- Pollinators > M a D
- PETA > M a D
- Student Activism > M a D
- Some of Us > M a D
- Various > M a D
- Unstoppable/38D > M a D

Ceremonies

- Legal Weddings
- F A Q
- Our Approach & Fees
- Renewal of Vows
- Naming Ceremonies
- Funerals & Memorials
- Other Ceremonies
- Stephen Fry affirms >
- Celebrants

Empowerment alpha order

- Armchair activists
- Active Listening (p)
- ARC
- Bereavement Counselling (p)
- Community Cohesion
- Creationism > refuted
- Do people have power ?
- Death with Dignity
- Education
- Education > RMPS (p)
- Flora & Fauna International
- Humanism > Relevance to Society
- Humanism > Worldwide via IHEU
- Humanism > Decrees
- Humanism > in Scotland +
- Inequality in Scotland
- LGBTQ & GLOW
- Mindfulness
- Mindfulness - In minutes
- More United
- Mozilla
- National Secular Society - mem
- Parity in being
- Privacy via Encryption
- Science

Philosophy alpha order

- Belief in Dialogue
- Happiness - what ?
- Healing of Community
- Humanist Beliefs
- Humanist Values
- Humanist Action
- Humanism - the ethos
- Humanism in Society
- Labels? - Our Common Humanity?
- Micro-philosophy
- Morality & Ethics
- Secular Scotland - members
- Values in Harmony

3



DUNDEE INTERFAITH ASSOCIATION
(RE-ENVISIONED: GOING NOW)

INTERFAITH AND BELIEF Dundee and Tayside & FABIO
SCOTTISH CHARITY NUMBER 216

Faith and Belief today

*common humanity.. common aims..
common effect.. common good*

Friday 16th November

- 6.30 - 8.30pm

Dundee University Chaplaincy

*Working together in harmony, an
opportunity to influence and share in
how people of different faiths and beliefs
can identify and effect their common
cause, in pursuit of the common good*

GENERAL

3

Type of organisation

- 1 The organisation will be, upon registration, a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO).**

Scottish principal office

- 2 The principal office of the organisation will be in Scotland (and must remain in Scotland).**

Name

- 3 The name of the organisation is Faith and Belief (Dundee and Tayside)**

Purposes

- 4. The organisation is established for only the following charitable aims.**

- 4.1 to bring about in Dundee and Tayside, a greater depth of cooperation and understanding between communities / people of diverse faith and belief.**

- 4.2 To bring together in deeper dialogue along with others, the faith and belief communities of Dundee & Tayside with a view to building understanding and engagement for cooperative action which promotes inclusion and justice.**

- 4.3 To encourage and provide opportunities for all people, including young persons and children, to learn about and be aware of the beliefs and practices of local diverse faith and belief communities.**

- 4.4 To celebrate the common values of our faith and belief communities, especially via the promotion / betterment of human flourishing and human rights for the one human family**

- 4.5 To support individuals & communities who affirm religion, faith, belief or none as protected characteristics.**

Powers

- 5 The organisation has power to do anything which is calculated to further its purposes or is conducive or incidental to doing so.**

- 6 No part of the income or property of the organisation may be paid or transferred (directly or indirectly) to the members - either in the course of the organisation's existence or on dissolution - except where this is done in direct furtherance of the organisation's charitable purposes.**

Liability of members

- 7 The members of the organisation have no liability to pay any sums to help to meet the debts (or other liabilities) of the organisation if it is wound up; accordingly, if the organisation is unable to meet its debts, the members will not be held responsible.**

Lrt

Wed 1v Hello



Hello Br name & Gr name ☺

Our approach to legal humanist marriage is progressed in separate stages as below.

- 1 As advocates of marriage, our Celebrant/Marriage Officers of H in S represent what humanism is all about – what it says and means, particularly in its approach to weddings, allowing as it does, such personal flexibility in making it truly your own. The first steps in the process acquaint you with a typical structure of a humanist wedding ceremony along with the legal requirements and our respective obligations as to how these are complied with. An initial meeting with you is appropriate to talk these through, with a discussion about developing your ideas for the ceremony. Can I suggest meeting somewhere mutually convenient at whatever date/time suits?
- 2 Along with further information regarding the ethos of humanism, our formal agreement sets out our arrangement for the ceremony and the key details – venue, date, time etc. which we both sign and retain for our records. We advise & emphasise the mandatory legal requirements along with our respective responsibilities and guide / assist you in whatever way you wish or need in composing your ceremony script so that it becomes uniquely your own, (all incl in the fee of not more than £380). We can complete these details when we meet as it also sets out our respective obligations, including what you must do re the banns and registration procedures as required of Scottish Law. The most memorable wedding ceremonies (not a service = worship) are those where the composition is personal to you as the couple, with friends/families input etc..
- 3 We then provide a large range of written material and example scripts which offers ideas and options of wording, plus other aspects of your wedding, again assisting you as much as is needed. Therefore, together or individually and should you wish, even kept private until the day, you not only compose/choose your commitments & vows, but also the music, the welcomes, the introductions, the readings, your story and the choreography/stage management of the ceremony, detailing the inclusion of your friends or family involvement etc. Making it uniquely your own provides the opportunity in your ceremony at which you speak openly and honestly, facing and declaring before all of your guests, your words in your way and style, with your emotions and sincerity brought to the fore.

Finally, but importantly, our Celebrants also commit to only your ceremony on your chosen date and I hope we can be of service to you.

Best regards


ceremonies@humanism-scot.org 01337 842352



Humanism in Scotland Agreement - Wedding Ceremony



Marriage Details	
Day > Date > Time of Ceremony	
Venue/Location/Postcode	
Full name of Celebrant	████████████████████
Designation	Celebrant/Marriage Officer - Humanism in Scotland
Address	████████████████████
Telephone / Mobile	████████████████████
Email address	████████████████████
Full name of Bride <i>Unmarried name</i>	
Address	
Telephone Home / Mobile	
Email address	
Full name of Groom	
Address	
Telephone Home / Mobile	
Email address	

Signatures: To confirm your booking, please sign, retain a copy and return one to Ron.
By signing this booking form, you are agreeing to the terms & conditions herein & overleaf.

Celebrant	████████████████████	DATE	1st registered 30/5/2001
Bride		DATE	
Groom		DATE	

Terms & Conditions

Responsibilities of your Celebrant

1. To provide a professional service at all times, ensuring that the ceremony is dignified, meaningful and personal within a broad Humanist ethos & framework
2. To ensure that the marriage is solemnised in accordance with the Marriage (Scotland) Act 1977 and in a location that is safe and dignified.
3. The Celebrant must obtain the Marriage Schedule from the bride and groom before the ceremony can commence.
4. To ensure that the marriage takes place on the date and place specified on the Marriage Schedule.
5. To ensure that the Marriage Schedule is correctly signed in permanent black liquid ink by the bride, groom, two witnesses and the Celebrant.
6. Any necessary amendments to the Marriage Schedule are made and initialed in permanent black liquid ink. *Note: The date and place of marriage cannot be altered without the express permission of the Registrar.*
7. If in the extremely unlikely event of your Celebrant being unable to conduct the ceremony for some reason; such as illness etc. your Celebrant will ensure another authorised Celebrant will be available to conduct your ceremony.

Responsibilities of the Bride And Groom

1. To contact the Registrar in the district where the marriage is to take place, to submit the Marriage Notice forms (M10), not later than 4-6 weeks before the date of the wedding, if either of you is not a British citizen, you are responsible for ensuring that the correct documentation is provided in order to be married in Scotland. See www.nrscotland.gov.uk
2. To inform the Registrar that the marriage will be solemnised by a registered Celebrant of Humanism in Scotland, by both completing Section E of the M10 forms. *Note: In addition to the M in S fee, statutory fees are payable to the Registrar for the submission of Marriage Notices & for copies of your officially/registered Marriage Certificate.*
3. To collect the Marriage Schedule from the Registrar during the week prior to the marriage. *Note: One of the parties to the marriage must collect it in person.*
4. To deliver the Marriage Schedule to your Celebrant on or before the day of the ceremony. *Note: the marriage cannot be legally conducted without the Marriage Schedule.*
5. To advise the Registrar in advance if there is any possibility of the marriage not taking place on the date, or at the specified place or venue.
6. To take care of the signed Marriage Schedule and to return it to the Registrar within 3 days of the wedding taking place, so that the marriage can be registered. *Note: Anyone (trusted) can return the Signed Schedule to the Registrar.*
7. To pay the agreed fee and expenses for the humanist ceremony as shown, within the week preceding the ceremony.

CEREMONY FEES	
Legal Marriage Fee:	£350.00
Booking Deposit (Deducted from Marriage Fee)	£80.00
Travel expenses: Exceptional mileage at 30p per mile.	£
Other agreed expenses: extraordinary travel costs - (ferry - train - flight - overnight accommodation etc.)	£
Balance due	£

Rodgers L. (Lynne)

From: Burns R (Rod)
Sent: 15 May 2018 09:16
To: NRS : Marriage Mailbox; McCafferty J (John)
Cc: Kirkland G (Gemma)
Subject: RE: Lynne Rodgers - Additional Celebrant

Thanks Lynne – yes, happy. Fulfilling an earlier approval (rather than this being a new request) –
Rod

From: Rodgers L. (Lynne) On Behalf OF NRS : Marriage Mailbox
Sent: 15 May 2018 08:57
To: Burns R (Rod); McCafferty J (John)
Cc: Kirkland G (Gemma)
Subject: FW: Lynne Rodgers - Additional Celebrant

Hello Rod and John

Please see [REDACTED]'s e-mail below.

It was agreed back in February that an additional celebrant could be granted temporary authorisations to cover the Ayrshire area. As you will see the organisation has not been able to recruit and train a suitable candidate based in Ayrshire but have recruited a celebrant based in Aberdeen who is willing to travel and fulfil the organisation's commitments in the Ayrshire area.

There are only two marriage celebrants at the moment and they are based in Aberdeenshire. The number of weddings they are being asked to conduct are increasing steadily and most of them are in the Aberdeenshire area. Therefore I would recommend that [REDACTED] be given temporary authorisations to help Humanity Hall fulfil its commitments.

Do you agree please?

Happy to discuss.

Lynne

From: [REDACTED] [mailto:Secretary@humanityhall.scot]
Sent: 11 May 2018 15:01
To: NRS : Marriage Mailbox
Subject: Lynne Rodgers - Additional Celebrant

Dear Lynne,

Further to our additional Celebrant request the volume of work in the North East of Scotland has meant it has not been possible for us to recruit and train a suitable candidate based in Ayrshire. However, we have recruited a celebrant, [REDACTED], based in Aberdeen who is willing to fulfil our commitments further south and reduce the workload for our celebrants in the north-east. It will also allow me to reduce my personal ceremony commitment and spend more time on other Humanity Hall business.

ne)
Rodgers L (Lynne) on behalf of NRS : Marriage Mailbox
15 May 2018 08:57
Burns R (Rod); McCafferty J (John)
Kirkland G (Gemma)
FW: Lynne Rodgers - Additional Celebrant

and John
[redacted] s e-mail below.

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u agree please?
y to discuss.

ie
[redacted] [mailto:Secretary@humanityhall.scot]

n:
t: 11 May 2018 15:01
NRS : Marriage Mailbox
tject: Lynne Rodgers - Additional Celebrant

ear Lynne,
Further to our additional Celebrant request the volume of work in the North East of Scotland
has meant it has not been possible for us to recruit and train a suitable candidate based in
Ayrshire. However, we have recruited a celebrant, [redacted], based in Aberdeen who is
willing to fulfil our commitments further south and reduce the workload for our celebrants in
the north east. It will also allow me to reduce my personal ceremony commitment and spend
more time on other Humanity Hall business.

We envisage [redacted] first ceremony to be [redacted]
Peterhead for [redacted] and [redacted]. Should you find this acceptable we will provide
two letters supporting [redacted] application.

Thank you for your consideration,
Best wishes,
[redacted]

Temp Hall report on
R103/3/289

Rodgers L (Lynne)

From: Rodgers L (Lynne) on behalf of NRS : Marriage Mailbox
Sent: 06 December 2018 08:39
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Attention Lynne Rodgers - Humanity Hall

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your e-mail and attachments.

It has been agreed that [REDACTED] can be given temporary authorisation and I will arrange for his letter of authorisation with regard to the wedding on 23 February 2019 to be issued in due course.

However, I should point out that if you wish to have any more additional celebrants authorised, a much more robust case would have to be made in support of your request so as to avoid any concern that the need for substantially more celebrants could be seen to go against the provisions of the Marriage (Scotland) Act 1977, which provides that celebrants should not for the purpose of profit and gain carry on a business of solemnising marriage.

We would therefore be looking for evidence of an increase in demand and membership and details about geographical distribution.

Kind regards

Lynne

From: [REDACTED] <Secretary@humanityhall.scot>
Sent: 26 November 2018 16:08
To: NRS : Marriage Mailbox <marriage@nrscotland.gov.uk>
Subject: Attention Lynne Rodgers - Humanity Hall

Dear Lynne,

Given the increased demand from our membership for our ceremonies we request consideration for another celebrant, our candidate is [REDACTED]. It is envisaged [REDACTED] first ceremony will be on the 23rd February 2019, details attached along with a letter of support from myself and our Treasurer.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Secretary Humanity Hall
Richmond House
Richmond Road
Huntly, AB54 8BG
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <Secretary@humanityhall.scot>
Sent: 31 January 2019 13:50
To: Rodgers L (Lynne) <Lynne.Rodgers@nrscotland.gov.uk>
Subject: Additional Celebrant - Humanity Hall

Dear Lynne,

Given the pressure of our ceremony demand and current celebrant availability we ask consideration for an additional celebrant:

[REDACTED]

We are confident [REDACTED]'s authorisation would meet our requirements for the foreseeable future. It is envisaged [REDACTED]'s first ceremony would be on the 26th of April details attached. As well as letters from myself and our Treasurer supporting [REDACTED]'s request, I have attached a document outlining our need and reasons for requesting an additional celebrant. Should you require any additional information please contact me. Thank you for your consideration.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Secretary Humanity Hall
Richmond House
Richmond Road
Huntly, AB54 8BG

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Rodgers L (Lynne)

Rodgers L (Lynne) on behalf of NRS : Marriage Mailbox
06 February 2019 13:19
'Secretary'
RE: Additional Celebrant - Humanity Hall

From:
Sent:
To:
Subject:

Many thanks [REDACTED]

We hope to be in touch with you shortly.

Kind regards

Lynne

From: Secretary <secretary@humanityhall.scot>
Sent: 05 February 2019 15:45
To: NRS : Marriage Mailbox <marriage@nrscotland.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Additional Celebrant - Humanity Hall

Good afternoon Lynne,

Thank you for your prompt attention.

Our membership is growing at a larger than expected rate and we currently have 524 members.

Hope this helps, but please let me know if you require any further information.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]
Secretary Humanity Hall
Richmond House
Huntly

On 5 Feb 2019, at 15:19, <marriage@nrscotland.gov.uk> <marriage@nrscotland.gov.uk> wrote:

<image002.gif>

Hello [REDACTED]

Thank you for your e-mail.

Can you please let me know how many members Humanity Hall has at present?

Once we have this information we can then consider your request.

Kind regards

Lynne

vs L (Lynne)

Rodgers L (Lynne) on behalf of NRS : Marriage Mailbox
06 February 2019 16:03
Burns R (Rod)
Kirkland G (Gemma)
FW: Additional Celebrant - Humanity Hall
Case for Additional Celebrant.docx; [REDACTED] Secretary.pdf;
Treasurer.pdf

Re: [REDACTED]
Comments: [REDACTED]

Re: Rod

see request from [REDACTED] for an additional celebrant for Humanity Hall.

Apparently membership is growing at a larger than expected rate and [REDACTED] informed me that Humanity Hall now has 524 members. There are 5 celebrants at the moment and [REDACTED] is asking for a further celebrant to help with the increase in the demand for their services.

My only concern is the fact that [REDACTED] and fellow celebrant [REDACTED] also run ceremonies, [REDACTED] which although not part of Humanity Hall provides additional services for Humanity Hall ceremonies. This would appear to be a commercial enterprise which includes to some extent wedding planning. We are unable to access the website to obtain further information. There may be a conflict of interest here?

From the information [REDACTED] has provided it would appear that both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are 'full time' celebrants while the others have jobs and limited availability which is why they require an additional celebrant to cope with demand and to 'stand in' for any celebrant unable to attend a pre-arranged wedding.

Are you content for the request for an additional celebrant to be granted?

Happy to discuss.

Lynne

From: [REDACTED] <Secretary@humanityhall.scot>
Sent: 31 January 2019 13:50
To: Rodgers L (Lynne) <Lynne.Rodgers@nrscotland.gov.uk>
Subject: Additional Celebrant - Humanity Hall

Dear Lynne,

Given the pressure of our ceremony demand and current celebrant availability we ask consideration for an additional celebrant.

[REDACTED]

We are confident [REDACTED]'s authorisation would meet our requirements for the foreseeable future. It is envisaged [REDACTED]'s first ceremony would be on the 26th of April details attached. As well as letters from myself and our Treasurer supporting [REDACTED]'s request, I have attached a document outlining our need and reasons for requesting an additional celebrant. Should you require any additional information please contact me. Thank you for your consideration.

e)

Burns R (Rod)
08 February 2019 14:52
NRS : Marriage Mailbox
RE: Additional Celebrant - Humanity Hall

-ylnne) <Lynne.Rodgers@nrscotland.gov.uk> On Behalf Of NRS : Marriage Mailbox
2019 13:21
<Rod.Burns@nrscotland.gov.uk>
(Gemma) <Gemma.Kirkland@nrscotland.gov.uk>
Additional Celebrant - Humanity Hall

draft OK to go?

(Rod) <Rod.Burns@nrscotland.gov.uk>
February 2019 14:12
Marriage Mailbox <marriage@nrscotland.gov.uk>
(Gemma) <Gemma.Kirkland@nrscotland.gov.uk>
Additional Celebrant - Humanity Hall

ne – maybe we could go back to them for formal confirmation of the info we need (i.e. clear water between CS and HH, and the former is not an integral part of the latter re compromising its authorised status by running a marriage business) – with approval on satisfactory info, perhaps?

ars L (Lynne) <Lynne.Rodgers@nrscotland.gov.uk> On Behalf Of NRS : Marriage Mailbox
February 2019 16:03
(Rod) <Rod.Burns@nrscotland.gov.uk>
LG (Gemma) <Gemma.Kirkland@nrscotland.gov.uk>
Additional Celebrant - Humanity Hall

see request from [redacted] for an additional celebrant for Humanity Hall.
Membership is growing at a larger than expected rate and [redacted] informed me that
Humanity Hall now has 524 members. There are 5 celebrants at the moment and [redacted] is asking
for another celebrant to help with the increase in the demand for their services.

only concern is the fact that [redacted] and fellow celebrant [redacted] also run ceremonies. [redacted] which although not part of Humanity Hall provides additional services for humanity Hall ceremonies. This would appear to be a commercial enterprise which includes to me extent wedding planning. We are unable to access the website to obtain further information. There may be a conflict of interest here?

From the information [redacted] has provided it would appear that both [redacted] and [redacted] are 'full time' celebrants while the others have jobs and limited availability which is why they require an additional celebrant to cope with demand and to 'stand in' for any celebrant unable to attend a pre-arranged wedding.

Are you content for the request for an additional celebrant to be granted?

Happy to discuss.

Lynne

From: [redacted] <Secretary@humanityhall.scot>
Sent: 31 January 2019 13:50
To: Rodgers L (Lynne) <Lynne.Rodgers@nrscotland.gov.uk>
Subject: Additional Celebrant - Humanity Hall

Dear [redacted]

Given the pressure of our ceremony demand and current celebrant availability we ask consideration for an additional celebrant:

[redacted]

We are confident [redacted]'s authorisation would meet our requirements for the foreseeable future. It is envisaged [redacted]'s first ceremony would be on the 26th of April details attached. As well as letters from myself and our Treasurer supporting [redacted]'s request, I have attached a document outlining our need and reasons for requesting an additional celebrant. Should you require any additional information please contact me. Thank you for your consideration.

Best wishes,

[redacted]
Secretary Humanity Hall
Richmond House
Richmond Road
Huntly, AB54 8BG
[redacted]
[redacted]

Rodgers L (Lynne)

From: [REDACTED] <Secretary@humanityhall.scot>
Sent: 11 February 2019 01:46
To: NRS - Marriage Mailbox
Subject: RE: Additional Celebrant - Humanity Hall

Dear Lynne,

Sorry for the brevity of my reply on Friday - I was out at the time and in my haste to reply to you timeously I failed to mention I was going to send you a fuller clarification.

On re-reading my original submission to you I can see I inadvertently implied Ceremonies.Scot provided services for Humanity Hall whereas any involvement Ceremonies.Scot may have in a couple's day is independently commissioned directly by the wedding couple. Humanity Hall conducts ceremonies for its members free of charge whether or not they have commissioned Ceremonies.Scot. Ceremonies.Scot is in no way integral to Humanity Hall or its ceremonies.

All of Humanity Hall's ceremonies are in the format of the sample ceremony we have submitted to you and must conform to our stated beliefs. Humanity Hall believes the commitment a couple make to one another in front of their witnesses is very special and should be celebrated in accordance with their chosen beliefs and not limited by their financial means, therefore we provide marriage ceremonies free of charge for all our members.

Many couples often arrange for their marriage ceremony to be part of a larger event including set decorators, photographers, specific locations and such like. Should our members include these extras we still conduct their marriage ceremony free of charge.

Ceremonies.Scot has no role within Humanity Hall however, as in our previous submission, we outlined some of the services Ceremonies.Scot can provide for individuals: "... include a range of wedding related services to a varying degree depending on the couple's needs including scouting for and advising on possible ceremony locations and accommodation; booking venues and wedding suppliers as well as managing, choreographing and scripting wedding ceremonies." For example: couples may commission Ceremonies.Scot to compose a love story charting their relationship, which is then presented on their wedding day in the same manner as a poem or reading.

Should Ceremonies.Scot be approached to conduct marriage ceremonies the enquirer is informed Ceremonies.Scot is not a belief group and is therefore not authorised to conduct marriage ceremonies; they are then directed towards Humanity Hall and other Humanist groups.

I hope this information helps, but please contact me should you wish any further clarification.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Secretary Humanity Hall
Richmond House

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Lynne.Rodgers@nrscotland.gov.uk <Lynne.Rodgers@nrscotland.gov.uk> On Behalf Of
Lynne.Rodgers@nrscotland.gov.uk
8 February 2019 15:01
Secretary@humanityhall.scot
RE: Additional Celebrant - Humanity Hall

[REDACTED]
In response to your e-mail below requesting an additional celebrant for Humanity Hall,
we appreciate the reason for your request we note you have stated that Ceremonies.Scot
provides additional services for Humanity Hall ceremonies. We therefore need to be assured
Ceremonies.Scot is not an integral part of Humanity Hall as this would compromise
Humanity Hall's authorised status by running a marriage business.
We would be grateful therefore if you would provide further clarification with regard to
Ceremonies.Scot's role and its involvement with Humanity Hall.
We look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards
Lynne

From: [REDACTED] <Secretary@humanityhall.scot>
Sent: 31 January 2019 13:50
To: Rodgers L (Lynne) <Lynne.Rodgers@nrscotland.gov.uk>
Subject: Additional Celebrant - Humanity Hall

Dear Lynne,
Given the pressure of our ceremony demand and current celebrant availability we ask
consideration for an additional celebrant:

[REDACTED]
We are confident [REDACTED]'s authorisation would meet our requirements for the foreseeable future. It
is envisaged [REDACTED]'s first ceremony would be on the 26th of April details attached. As well as
letters from myself and our Treasurer supporting [REDACTED]'s request, I have attached a document
outlining our need and reasons for requesting an additional celebrant. Should you require any
additional information please contact me. Thank you for your consideration.

Best wishes,
[REDACTED]

Burns R (Rod)

From: Stewart R (Russell)
Sent: 15 February 2019 08:43
To: Burns R (Rod)
Subject: Nominators Details
Attachments: Renomination Exercise - Group 1 - Datafile - A Nominators Datafile.doc

Hi Rod

I have attached the list of nominators and included the rest in the table below

I have also included The Alba Society and A Quiet Revolution just in case they were to be included too.

The Love Society	Ms Marion McGunnigle Chairperson The Love Society 66 Rockmount Avenue Barrhead Glasgow G78 2HL
Humanity Hall	Mr Bryan S Begg Secretary Humanity Hall Richmond House Richmond Road Huntly, AB54 8BG
Humanist Association Scotland	Mr Duncan F Robertson Chairperson Humanist Association Scotland 30 Liberton Gardens Edinburgh EH16 6JR
The Alba Society	Mrs Tracey Taskan Chairperson 62 Hyslop Road Stevenston KA20 6HP
Scottish Spiritualist Churches	Mrs Kathleen M Lawrence 3 MacLean Grove Stewartfield East Kilbride G74 4TJ
A Quiet Revolution	Ms Barbara Chalmers A Quiet Revolution 43 Craigbank

Sauchie
Clackmannanshire
FK10 3EG

I hope this helps, good luck

Thanks

Russell Stewart
Casework Administrator

National Records of Scotland
New Register House
Edinburgh
EH1 3YT

Tel: 0131 314 4475
Fax: 0131 314 4532

Address	Our_ref	Sal	Body
Mr A McSorley Knowehead Farm Yieldshields Carfuke ML8 4QY	R103/1/486 - Caledonian Humanist Association	Mr McSorley	Caledonian Humanist Association
Ms A Widdop Grahams Manse Arisalg Inverness-shire PH39 4NJ	R103/1/488 - Fuze Foundation	Ms Widdop	Fuze Foundation
Mr R C McLaren The Coach House Mugdrum Newburgh Fife KY14 6EH	R103/1/492 - Humanism in Scotland	Mr McLaren	Humanism in Scotland
Mr D F Robertson 30 Liberton Gardens Edinburgh EH16 6JR	R103/1/489 -- Humanist Association Scotland	Mr Robertson	Humanist Association Scotland
Mr G J Duff 3 Beigrave Gardens Edinburgh EH12 6NE	R103/1/482 - Humanist Fellowship of Scotland	Mr Duff	Humanist Fellowship of Scotland
Mr N Flowers 16 Billings Road Motherwell ML1 3BU	R103/1/481 - Independent Humanist Ceremonies	Mr Flowers	Independent Humanist Ceremonies
Mr H Hill Flat C 51 Dalblair Road AYT KAT 1UQ	R103/1/484 - The Scottish Humanists	Mr Hill	The Scottish Humanists