

Director of Education OneSpirit Interfaith Foundation

0333 332 1996 (option 2)

admin@osif.org.uk/ www.interfaithfoundation.org

21 March 2019

Registrar General New Register House 3 West Register Street EDINBURGH EH1 3YT

Dear Registrar General

As part of our commitment to quality and audit we would like to confirm that all the ministers / celebrants authorised by OneSpirit Interfaith Foundation have an active connection with our organisation.

I am therefore writing to ask for a list of ministers who have:

- 1. 3 year authorisation
- 2. active temporary authorisation

I understand that if ministers have held temporary authorisation, but have not held a ceremony for a significant period of time, then the temporary authorisation is suspended. Is that correct?

I have an additional request for your statisticians. In the Vital Event Reference Tables 2017, table 7.05 shows that there were 426 marriages held by OneSpirit Interfaith Foundation celebrants/ministers. The table also shows a number of ceremonies held by those with temporary authorisation (two lines: Christian and non-Christian). Could you confirm whether the OneSpirit ministers with temporary authorisation are included in the 'One Spirit' category (line 14 on the excel spreadsheet), or are included in the 'Temporary Authorisation' categories (lines 13 and 16).

Your response will help us to tally our internal data with the published figures,

Yours sincerely

Director of Education



Marriage and CP Section New Register House Edinburgh EH1 3YT Tel: 0131 314 4447

e-mail: marriage@nrscotland.gov.uk

Director of Education OneSpirit Interfaith Foundation

OneSpirit Interfaith Foun

Your ref:

Our ref: R103/1/174 - One Spirit interfaith

Seminary

Date: 10 April 2019

·Dear

Thank you for your letter dated 21 March 2019 requesting a list of ministers who have been granted a 3 year period of authorisation and a list of ministers who have active temporary authorisation.

As requested I have attached a list of ministers who are currently on our register of approved celebrants and whose authorisations are due to expire on 31 December 2019. I have also attached a list of all the OneSpirit Interfaith celebrants who have been granted temporary authorisation both in the past and those who we regard as currently active (shown in red). It would be helpful if you could let us know if any of the celebrants listed are no longer supported by your organisation.

If a temporarily authorised celebrant has been asked to conduct a wedding but has not requested authorisation for 5 years or more from the date of their last authorisation, he/she would be required to provide letters of support from two office bearers from within his/her religious or belief body as we would have to be assured that the body is still happy for the celebrant to conduct weddings on its behalf.

With regard to your query about statistical information, I have received confirmation from my colleagues in Vital Events Branch that all of the OneSpirit ministers are in the OneSpirit line in the VE reference table rather than in the temporary authorisation line.

I hope that my reply is helpful.

Yours sincerely

MRS L RODGERS Casework Supervisor

FULL AUTHORISATION (3 Year Period)

Angela Mary Alexandra

· Kate Atchley

Eve Marie Balllie

Morag Isobel Cameron

Jennifer Therese Doherty

Sonja Ganga Eckl-Riel

Judith Elizabeth Hampson

Natasha Hood

Marle-Louise Jones

Davina Margaret McCluskle

Marie Hernqvist O'Neill

Jane Susan Patmore

William Lawrence Russell

Carol-Ann Searle

Carolyn Gibson Stewart

Kevin Thompson

Sarah Alice Varney

Rosalind Jane Watt

Catherine Wright

TEMPORARY AUTHORISATION

Nicola Susan Alan

Victor Lewis Ball

Barbara Campbell

Avril Joy Carson

Nicola Margaret Coombe

Katherine A Derby

Jona Eicher

Peter Fairbrother ·

Sally Nancy Gardner

Clare Gately

Neil Giddins

Sandra Hazel Gilfillan

Ocean Graham

Frances Grant

David Gray

Chloe Greenwood

Andrew Samuel Bell Hunter

Lindsay Jarrett

Shirley MacDonald

Susanna Christine Michaelis

Kirsteen Murray

Adele Napier

Darota Maria Owen

last authorisation 07/06/2014

one authorisation 12/05/2012

active

last authorised 21/09/2013

last authorised 26/05/2013

last authorised 24/09/2016

one authorisation 16/09/2016

active

one authorisation 04/05/2014

one authorisation 25/04/2015

one authorisation 10/08/2013

last authorisation 21/08/2016

active

one authorisation 27/07/2018

one authorisation 01/09/2018

last authorisation 13/05/2017

active

one authorisation 28/10/2017

active

last authorisation 02/06/2018

last authorisation 01/07/2017

one authorisation 17/10/2014

active

Ray Perronnelle

Diana Elizabeth Raven

Tara Omar Scherlander

Ilsemarle Weber

Jude Wills

last authorisation 24/05/2014
active
one authorisation 31/05/14
last authorisation 06/07/2013
active

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

Sent: 04 September 2018 17:29

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

Subject: Quick request Importance: High

How do – I'm offering urgent comments on a draft submission re Humanist celebrants to a submission re Humanist celebrant re Humanist celebrants to a submission re Humanist re Humanist re Humanist re Humanist re Hu

Rod

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

Burns R (Rod)

From:

Stewart R (Russell)

Sent:

15 February 2019 08:43

To:

Burns R (Rod)

Subject: Attachments: Nominators Details 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



New Register House 3 West Register Street Edinburgh EHI 3YT

(0131) 314 4434

February 19, 2019



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 The Alba Society 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 TAS'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 TAS 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.



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







Mr Rod Burns
New Register House
3 West Register Street
Edinburgh
Scotland
EHI 3YT

7th March 2019

Dear Mr Burns,

Please find attached the audit information requested in your letter of 19th February 2019. As you will see from the information we recently held our AGM, we thought it would be best to wait until after this meeting to prepare the information your requested in order to ensure that it was completely up to date. We hope this information is of use to you.

Thank you for your time and attention regarding this matter. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us using the details above.

Yours faithfully,

Co-founder & Joint Chairperson The Alba Society

Co-founder & Joint Chairperson The Alba Society

oint Chairperson/ Co-Founder	Michelle Watt			
oint Chairperson/ Co-Founder	Tracey Taskan			
ecretary	Carol Young			
reasurer/ Support Counsel	Jacqueline Thomson			
upport Counsel	Michael Young			
NEMBERSHIP NUMBERS (AS AT	AT THE END OF 2018) 17			
ATE OF MEETINGS	VENUE	NOTES		
5.01.2018				
3.02.2018				
0.03.2018				
3.05.2018				
14.06.2018				
19.07.2018				
24.08.2018				
04.10.2018		Cancelled/re-arranged		
11.10.2018		New date instead of 04.10.2018 – hosted by Joint Chairperson (Tracey)		
22.11.2018		Hosted by Secretary (Carol)		
21.12.2018				
25.01.2019				
22.02.2019				
01.03.2019		AGM		

MEANS OF NOTICE: The date for each meeting is decided by the attendees at the conclusion of the previous meeting. All members are notified of the next meeting via phone/text message or email/Facebook, depending upon individual preference and requirements. Some of our members require transport to attend the meetings. This is provided by members who have access to a vehicle.



Partner 1: (Full name)

Partner 2: (Full name)

Date of Marriage:

Time of Marriage:

Place of Marriage:

Celebrant:

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Good morning/afternoon ladies and gentlemen and welcome to the (*VENUE*). My name is and I have been authorised by the Registrar General to solemnise the marriage of *GROOM & BRIDE* in my capacity as a Marriage Celebrant of The Alba Society.

We are gathered here today to celebrate the marriage of *GROOM* and *BRIDE* to whom I now extend a very special welcome on this happy occasion. *GROOM* and *BRIDE* have asked me to thank you all for being here on this day of deep meaning and significance as they will make the vows that will join them together for life.

Before we continue with the ceremony, we pause to reflect on those who cannot be here today. Those who have shaped our characters, moulded our spirits and touched our hearts. Although separated from them physically, love had bound you to them eternally. Although they may be out of sight, they are not out of mind as BRIDE and GROOM begin this new chapter in their lives together.

Before we proceed, could I now ask who gives BRIDE to be married to GROOM today?

THE CEREMONY

You GROOM and you BRIDE are about to be married in accordance with the law of Scotland in the presence of your two witnesses and guests assembled here. You are both individuals, each with your own ideas, aspirations and beliefs. Your marriage is the bonding of two unique people.

Where once you held hopes and dreams for your own individual futures, you now look outwards, together, in the same direction, to the future you will share. In your future together, happy occasions will come surely as the morning. Difficult times will come surely as the night. When things go joyously, be grateful for the happiness you share with one another. When times are difficult, simply be glad that you have each other, offering strength and support to bear the weight of any of life's burdens.

Be there for one another and never lose sight of the fact that there is no difficulty, in this life, that enough love cannot overcome. Love is most beautiful when it is understood, when it is present in all of our activities, when it gives us the strength and commitment required to fulfil ourselves as individuals.

Marriage cannot be a goal in itself. With this in mind, build your relationship continuously. Work on enriching your lives together. Seek diversity of life and be supportive of one another's goals, desires and dreams, ensuring that you remain strong and determined when it comes to fulfilling them.

Above all, make each other happy and always remember that it is love that brought you here today and that it is by love that your marriage will endure.

Your decision to marry is an indication of your love for one another, your faith in your future together and a sign of your commitment to each other. No other ties are more tender or more binding than the vows you are about to make to one another and as long as you endeavour to fulfil these vows throughout your lives together, your marriage will be a long and happy one.

Before you *GROOM* and you *BRIDE* are joined in marriage I must remind you of the binding character of the yows you are about to make to one another. Today, in the presence of your witnesses and guests, you will be asked to declare separately that first of all there is no legal impediment to your marriage, and then to state that you accept each other as husband and wife.

Could all guests please be upstanding for the declarations of marriage?

TO GROOM: Will you please take *BRIDE'S* right hand in yours and look to one another as you make your vows.

DECLARATIONS OF MARRIAGE

TO GROOM:

I call upon those present here today, to witness that I, GROOM, solemnly and sincerely declare that I know of no legal impediment to my marrying this woman, BRIDE, whose hand I now hold and that I accept BRIDE as my lawful, wedded wife, to love, honour and cherish, from this day forward, to the exclusion of all others.

TO BRIDE:

I call upon those present here today, to witness that I, *BRIDE*, solemnly and sincerely declare that I know of no legal impediment to my marrying this man, *GROOM*, whose hand I now hold and that I accept *GROOM* as my lawful, wedded husband, to love, honour and cherish, from this day forward, to the exclusion of all others.

EXCHANGE OF RINGS

There are rings to be exchanged today and although this is not a legal requirement to be married, it has become a tradition throughout the years. A ring was chosen as a symbol of marriage because of its shape. The never-ending circle of a wedding band, symbolises a love that is constant and everlasting.

Could I now ask BESTMAN to come forward with the rings?

GROOM: Please place BRIDE'S ring on the third finger of her left hand and repeat after me:

I give you this ring as a token of my faith in our marriage. Wear it as a reminder, of the vows we have spoken and know that I love you.

BRIDE: Please place GROOM'S ring on the third finger of her left hand and repeat after me:

I give you this ring as a token of my faith in our marriage. Wear it as a reminder, of the vows we have spoken and know that I love you.

These rings are given and received as symbols of your love and commitment to each other, however, it is the solemn vows which you have taken, that will join you together for life.

Following these binding declarations which you have made before me, in the presence of your witnesses and guests assembled here and by the authority vested in me by the Registrar General for Scotland, it now gives me great pleasure to declare that you *GROOM* and you *BRIDE* are now husband and wife.

You may now kiss the bride.

PHOTOS

Ladies and Gentlemen, please be seated as I invite the bride and groom forward with their two witnesses to sign the marriage schedule. There will be an opportunity for photographs after the official photographer.

CONCLUSION

Ladies and Gentlemen please be seated once again as we conclude today's ceremony. *GROOM* and *BRIDE*, in some ways tomorrow may seem no different than yesterday, but in fact, today, you have both given and received one of the most valuable and precious gifts of life – the gift of true and abiding love within the devotion of marriage.

May your hands be forever clasped in friendship and your hearts forever Joined in love. May the love and happiness you share today grow ever stronger and may your future together, as husband and wife, be even more wonderful than you ever dreamt possible.

Ladies and Gentlemen, it now gives me great pleasure to present to you, Mr & Mrs

Please be upstanding to applaud them as they leave the marriage room to continue with the day's celebrations.



New Register House 3 West Register Street Edinburgh EH1 3YT

(0131) 314 4434

February 19, 2019



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- A copy of SSC'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 SSC 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.



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



SCOTTISH SPIRITUALIST CHURCHES

: website:www.scot.spirit.coll.co.uk

22 February 2019

Mr R Burns
National Records of Scotland
New Register House
3 West Register Street
Edinburgh EH1 3YT

Dear Mr Burns

Thank you for your letter of 19 February and I set out below the information you require:

The Scottish Spiritulist Churches was formed in 2001 and a centre was opened by me in Glasgow where I ran church services twice a week and run courses on mediumship, healing etc.

The centre closed in 2009 as the rent was exhorbitant. The account was closed and the Charity became a virtual Charity.

There are seven Ministers under the Charity.

There is one member - who opened the Soul Sanctuary Centre in Paisley five years ago under the umbrella of the Charity. The runs the following:

Tuesday and Thursday evenings - clairvoyant meetings
Wednesdays - mediumship training
Healing and Angel workshops held during the year.
Guest mediums take workshops on their particular mediumistic therapy
Bereavement Counselling workshops

These are announced at meetings and advertised on the internet

A copy of the current marriage ceremony attached.

I hope this covers the information you ned.

Yours sincerely

ORDER OF MARRIAGE SERVICE SCOTLAND

•
We are gathered together in the sight of God, the Spirit World and this company, to join together this man and this woman in the Holy Bond of Marriage. As we meet to witness the commitment of
Marriage was ordained to compliment man and woman, therefore, the good qualities of one should strengthen the good qualities of the other. When there is love and understanding between husband and wife, then true happiness can be experienced, for mutual understanding and co-operation are the foundation upon which all true marriages are based. The will of one must never be selfishly imposed upon the other.
Marriage is an institution in the law of the land and is desirable for the happiness and welfare of mankind. It has been made honourable by the faithful keeping of good men and women of all ages. Marriage involves the most tender and lasting ties that can unite them in this life, for they have become so sure of their love and they will commit themselves to each other in the name of God. We know that love survives death and that same love unites us in the World of Spirit so that those who love each other may be together in eternity.
This outward ceremony can only be the symbol of the inner contentment between two hearts and two minds.
The Minister shall now address the couple to be married and will say: YOU SEEK TO BE JOINED IN MARRIAGE. I AM REQUIRED TO ASK YOU IF YOU KNOW OF ANY REASON WHY YOU MAY NOT LAWFULLY BE MARRIED TO EACH OTHER, TO DECLARE IT NOW.
Since no reason has been declared let us ask God's Blessing upon this union.
The Minister shall say to the Bride and Bridegroom:
AS A SEAL TO THE VOWS YOU ARE ABOUT TO MAKE, GIVE EACH OTHER THE RIGHT HAND
Then they shall say after the Minister:
I NOW TAKE YOUTO BE MY WIFE IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD AND BEFORE THESE WITNESSES I PROMISE TO BE A LOVING FAITHFUL AND LOYAL HUSBAND TO YOU, THROUGHOUT MY EARTHLY LIFE
I

Alternatively this form may be used:		
PROMISE TO BE A LOVING FAITHFUL AND LOYAL HUSE THROUGHOUT YOUR EARTHLY LIFE	OUR WIFE AND BAND TO YOU,	TO YOU
Answer, IDO		
DO YOUTO BE YOUR FAITHFUL AND LOYAL HUST THROUGHOUT YOUR EARTHLY LIFE	OUR HUSBAND BAND TO YOU,	AND TO YO
Answer; I DO		

Here the ring(s) shall be given to the Minister who shall return it (them) saying:

AS A TOKEN OF THE COVENANT INTO WHICH YOU HAVE ENTERED, THIS RING IS GIVEN AND RECEIVED (THESE RINGS ARE GIVEN AND RECEIVED)

The ring(s) being placed on the fourth finger of the left hand, the Minister shall say:

BY THIS SIGN YOU TAKE EACH OTHER, TO HAVE AND TO HOLD FROM THIS DAY FORWARD, FOR BETTER FOR WORSE, FOR RICHER FOR POORER, IN SICKNESS AND IN HEALTH, TO LOVE AND TO CHERISH THROUGHOUT YOUR EARTHLY LIVES.

The Minister may join the hands of the couple and say:

SINCE YOU HAVE NOW PLEDGED YOURSELVES TO ONE ANOTHER IN THE COVENANT OF MARRIAGE AND HAVE MADE YOUR DECLARATION BEFORE GOD AND THESE WITNESSES, I PRONOUNCE YOU TO BE HUSBAND AND WIFE. IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. AMEN

THOSE WHOM GOD HAS JOINED TOGETHER, LET NO MAN PUT ASUNDER.

A short address may be given by the Minister

BENEDICTION;

May God bless and presive you. May He look favourably upon you and so fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace that you may live together in this life, and that in the world to come you may have peace and joy everlasting.

Husband and Wife and witnesses to sign the Register, during which time an appropriate piece of music may be played.

WILL YOU PLEASE STAND TO WELCOME MR & MRS

ON THEIR FIRST JOURNEY TO THEIR MARRIED LIFE