

Vocal Events

WEDDING VIBES

MAY 2026
NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the Wedding Vibes Newsletter for May 2026.

What if planning your wedding right now actually worked in your *favour*?

With Autumn in full swing and a bit of uncertainty around the cost of living, things have naturally slowed down across the wedding industry... but here's the upside—this could be the perfect window for you.

More availability. More flexibility. And those mid-week weddings? They're becoming a smart (and seriously beautiful) way to celebrate without stretching the budget. Just a quick tip from me—your celebrant does need to be booked at least 30 days before the big day so your Notice of Intended Marriage can be lodged on time.

Inside this month's newsletter, I've put together a few helpful gems to guide you along the way...

- A simple guide on how to change your name after your wedding
- How to secure that perfect ceremony location (without the stress)
- And a featured poem, "*Just the Two of Us*", perfect for couples dreaming of something intimate, meaningful, and surrounded by their closest people

If you're starting to plan, or even just thinking about what your day could look like, you're in the right place.

Congratulations to the couples married last month, being your Celebrant, MC DJ and/or Magician is a great honour and Steph and I wish you all the very best.

Nurul and Joshua – 11th April

Jackie and Shaun – 16th April

Jasmine and Jamie – 17th April



How to Change Your Name!

One of the most exciting post-marriage tasks is changing your surname to your partner's name. Traditionally, the female would take her husband's surname, but today we often see husbands taking their wife's surname, or couples choosing to hyphenate their surnames together.

There is no legal obligation to change your name and parties to the marriage may be motivated by different reasons to do so. The process is relatively simple and involves the Certificate of Marriage from the NSW Register of Births, Deaths and Marriages (or appropriate register in other states).

Generally your celebrant will order the certificate from the appropriate registry office when they register your marriage and it will be sent to you via registered post typically within 5-10 business days. I have found in NSW average is 5 days.

The certificate looks similar to a birth certificate and has all the details of the marriage including legal names, date and place of birth, parent names, and witness names as well as location and date of the marriage.

This article is written referencing NSW, but other States and territories are similar. Easy to follow guidelines on how to change your name can be found here:

www.nsw.gov.au/family-and-relationships

Essentially:

- Changing your surname after marriage is a free service
- Your surname can change to your partner's name or be a hyphenated joining of your two surnames.
- Simply take your marriage certificate and your current IDs to Services NSW
- They will arrange your change of name and will issue you with a new drivers licence and medicare card.

Once you have your new drivers licence and medicare card, you simply go to your banks and other institutions with your new id's.

If you wish to change more than your surname you may have to pay a fee. Your Services NSW representative will help you out. It is a very simple process.

How to Secure a Wedding Location!

Planning a Park Wedding? Here's What You Need to Know

There are many fabulous locations to hold your beautiful wedding ceremony, but most public locations will require you to book your location or risk a fine.

If you're dreaming of saying your vows surrounded by nature—think lush gardens, peaceful parks, or even a waterfall in the background—the best place to start is your local council website.

It might not sound glamorous... but trust me, this is where the magic begins.

Head to the “book a wedding ceremony” or “venue hire” section and you'll find a list of beautiful, approved locations ready for you to say “I do.” For example, the Central Coast Council has a great range of parks and spaces across the region.



If you're after something a little more adventurous or tucked away in nature, some incredible spots are managed by the National Parks and Wildlife Service. Places like Somersby Falls or the Hickson Street Lookout are absolutely stunning for a ceremony backdrop.

Your perfect ceremony location starts with one simple step—
knowing where (and how) to book it.

Now, here's the part most couples don't realise...

Each location comes with its own set of guidelines—things like guest numbers, seating, styling, permits, and fees. Some are super flexible, others a little more structured, however knowing this early saves a lot of stress later on.

And one big tip from me (after being part of a lot of weddings over the years)...

If you fall in love with a spot—lock it in early.

The popular locations book out quickly, especially for those golden afternoon ceremony times.

If you ever want a hand choosing the right space or figuring out what works best for your ceremony, just reach out, I'm always happy to help guide you through it.

Just the Two of Us!

By Jamie Cartner

Over the years, I've met many couples who feel the pressure of what a wedding is "*supposed*" to be. But the truth is, some of the most meaningful ceremonies I've ever been part of have been the simplest ones—small, relaxed, and filled with genuine connection.

This poem is for those couples.



The ones who choose to do things their way. Who value presence over production, and meaning over tradition. "Just the Two of Us" captures that quiet confidence—the kind that says, this is us, and that's more than enough.

Our lives are uncomplicated, we live day to day,
Our wedding is not about grandeur; we want it our way.
We are happiest together, no bother or fuss,
Today we'll get married, with our besties and us.

No fancy cars, or champagne towers,
Just a beautiful garden and some bouquet flowers.
Forget the extravagant gown and over the top cake,
Casual and comfortable, pledges from the heart we make.

A small intimate ceremony may appear bizarre,
Beautiful, genuine, it reflects who we are.
An intimate dinner and a good bottle of wine,
With our best friends celebrating, will be more than fine.

Let's Connect

Celebrant | MC/DJ | Magician

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