

## MARRIAGE IN SCOTLAND

- By law both parties to a proposed civil, religious or belief marriage are required to submit marriage notice forms to the registrar of the district in which the marriage is to take place informing them of their intention to marry.
- Forms for giving notice can be obtained from any registrar of births etc. in Scotland or from the National Records of Scotland website at [www.nrscotland.gov.uk](http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk).
- Notice must be given in the three-month period prior to the date of the marriage and **NOT LATER** than 29 days before that date.

This leaflet gives general guidance only and should not be treated as a complete and authoritative statement of the law. If, after reading it, you are still in doubt you should seek advice from any registrar of births etc. in Scotland or from staff in

Marriage/Civil Partnership Section of the National Records of Scotland (NRS),  
New Register House,  
Edinburgh EH1 3YT

- email: [marriage@nrscotland.gov.uk](mailto:marriage@nrscotland.gov.uk)

### WHO CAN BE MARRIED IN SCOTLAND?

Any two persons, regardless of sex or where they live, may marry in Scotland provided that:

- Both persons are at least 16 years of age on the day of their marriage.
- They are not related to one another in a way which would prevent their marrying (see the list at Page 6 of this leaflet).
- They are unmarried and not in a civil partnership\*.
- They are capable of understanding the nature of a marriage ceremony and of consenting to marrying.
- In the case of an opposite sex marriage, the marriage would be regarded as valid in the party's country of domicile.

\* If you are in a qualifying civil partnership you can change it to a marriage – a qualifying civil partnership is a civil partnership which was registered in Scotland, England, Wales or Northern Ireland and has not been dissolved, annulled or ended by death or an overseas relationship registered outwith the United Kingdom which is treated as a civil partnership in Scotland and has not been dissolved, annulled or ended by death.