

THE CHAPEL

The Chapel is a simple, square 18th century building, well-lit by tall, plain-glass windows. There are no religious symbols, and there are chairs instead of pews. The Chapel can seat 50 people downstairs, with space for a further 15 on the gallery.

There is a small private room upstairs for use before the ceremony, if required.

We have a keyboard for piano and organ music, and a sound-system for recorded music.

We also have musicians who can play for you.



The hall and kitchen within the grounds can be rented for receptions until 7 pm.

THE LOCATION

The Chapel is located in Meadrow, about half a mile from Godalming town centre on the A3100 to Guildford. Set back from the road, at the end of a drive, it is just beyond the junction with Catteshall Road and opposite the petrol station.

Parking within the grounds is for the formal cars and for people with a disability. Other guests are asked to use the public car park opposite.

THE CEREMONY

Whether you are single or divorced, of mixed faiths or no particular faith, you can be married with the service of your choice.

We have no doctrine or dogma that binds us, so we encourage couples to bring their own spiritual dimension to the legal act of marriage.

You are free to create a wedding ceremony that reflects your own thoughts, emotions and aspirations.

There are only two statements that must be included for a marriage to be legal in this country. Aside from those, the content of the ceremony can be of your choosing.

The person conducting your marriage may be a minister or layperson, male or female, but must be a representative of the Unitarian community.

There are persons authorised by the Registrar General to handle the legal formalities at the Chapel.

BLESSINGS

The Chapel is available for blessings following a civil union or simply to celebrate a relationship, for couples of the same or different sex.

HOW WE CAN HELP

We can:

- Provide a selection of texts (prose readings, poems and prayers) for the ceremony or we can help you choose from your own sources
- Give guidance on music and hymns
- Suggest a seating arrangement for the ceremony
- Advise on flowers in the Chapel
- Show you the Chapel, Hall and grounds on any Sunday before or after a service.

MAKING THE ARRANGEMENTS

Your first step is to contact the Weddings Secretary (see overleaf). She will take a few basic details from you, including the date on which you would like to be married. If that date is free, she will make a provisional booking. After that, an authorised representative of the Chapel will contact you to make an appointment for an informal meeting. *This meeting must take place before a firm booking can be made.*

It is usual to have three meetings before the wedding. The first is introductory, to discuss your intentions and wishes for the service with the celebrant; the second, to review the proposed content; and the third is the wedding rehearsal.

You will also meet the musician and the Authorised Person before the wedding day.

VISITING THE CHAPEL

It is advisable to attend at least one worship service, to get a feel for the Unitarian ethos. On the 2nd and 4th Sundays in every month, the service is at 11 am, when there is a separate children's programme in the Hall. On other Sundays, services are at 3.30 pm.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

You must visit the Registrar in the district *where you live* to give Notice of Marriage. This can be done up to one year in advance, but not less than 16 consecutive days before the marriage. If you and your partner live in different areas, this may mean visiting separate Registrars – ideally within a few days of each other.

COSTS

Upon payment of £30 per person to the Registrar, you will each receive an Authority of Marriage, which must be delivered to the Authorised Person at the Unitarian Chapel before the marriage can take place.

The cost of a wedding or blessing at Meadrow Unitarian Chapel is £495. This includes all professional services and use of the Chapel.

A non-refundable deposit of £100 is required to confirm the booking.

CONTACTS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Weddings Secretary

Chris Hayhurst

01483 419577

chris.hayhurst@tiscali.co.uk

Lay Leader

Sheena Gabriel

01483 427204

sheenagabriel@btinternet.com



www.unitariangodalming.org.uk

The Unitarian Chapel

Meadrow

Godalming

GU7 3JB

Godalming Unitarians, meeting at Meadrow Chapel, provide opportunities for spiritual engagement in an open and non-judgemental community, where shared values are more important than shared beliefs.

A spiritual community for the 21st century

Considering a marriage or blessing?



If you would like to create your own ceremony, the Unitarian Chapel in Godalming could be just the place for you.