

John Roberts – The Mad Badger

www.mad-badger.com

Your perfect wedding entertainment!

“We can't thank you enough for making our day so extra special. Our family and friends were delighted with their personal caricatures. They were all brilliant and you so picked out the essence of each person. We were also amazed at how many you were able to do. We also would like to say that your professional and friendly manner made it feel that you were a family friend at our wedding and we would have no hesitation in recommending your wonderful artistic gift to others. Thank you again for helping to make our wedding day so extra special.” **Ruth and Nigel Fowler, Wedding, Greenwich**



John has been entertaining at wedding for nearly 20 years and during that time he has found there are some useful things you should consider before booking him. Below are some of the questions that have been asked over the years (along with John's answers).

1) How do you work at weddings?

John draws the caricatures using black ink with various grey washes (and sometimes a splash of colour) on good quality card which he presents to the guest in a plastic envelope which hopefully keeps the artwork clean! He simply mingles with your guests (using a simple clipboard to hold the card he draws on) and draws while he chats to them. Something that just happens during weddings is that couples ask to be drawn together on the same sheet which John can achieve.

2) When is the best time to have you at our wedding?

There are a number of options you need to consider. Probably the most frequently suggested time is when the ceremony is over and the guests are enjoying their pre-wedding breakfast drinks. This period works very well as there is a lot of hanging around for the guests (group photos etc.) and it's a great opportunity for John to introduce himself and entertain the guests by drawing them. Please note that he can then carry on during the beginning of the meal so long as there are no speeches at this stage.

John can also work during the evening reception – that time just after the meal has finished and the start of the evening party.

NB John offers a special deal whereby he can work for two hours before the meal and then two hours after (4 hours) thus enabling more guests to have their caricatures drawn!

3) When is the least effective time for you to work?

John finds the least effective time to work at weddings is during the (formal) meal. He suggests this is the poorest time for the following reasons:

a) He likes to work by putting the guests at their ease by talking to them (and feels he gets the best results this way) which is very difficult to do around a table.

b) He usually leaves guests alone during the main course (well, this IS the highlight of the meal) and so this usually means he can't draw for at least 20 minutes. John also cannot work during speeches as everyone will obviously be concentrating on the speakers.

John would suggest that you bear in mind that what he offers is entertainment and, although a caricature is a memento of any occasion, as much enjoyment comes from watching him draw. He very much likes interacting with the guests and by working this way he can greatly add to the magic of your very special day.

4) How many caricatures can you draw in any given period?

This is always a difficult one to answer as all these occasions are so different. John would like to point out that drawing guests when they are eating ALWAYS slows him down but on average he produces 12 – 15 caricatures an hour.

5) How do we book you?

All you need to do is drop John an email to confirm that you wish to book him and he will email you back with a personalised contract which he will ask you to sign and return to him. No deposit is required but he does ask that he is either paid by bank transfer ONE WEEK before the event or by cash on the day.



"We have been reflecting on the wedding today and we both agree that of all the special things we booked for the day, booking you was definitely something at the top of the list. You did such a fantastic job, entertained everyone, and gave us such unique pictures/memories that we will be able to keep forever – we cannot thank you enough and will be recommending you to everyone!"

Debbie & Colin Davies

"You were truly an absolute pleasure to meet! We have had so many guests complimenting you on your amazing drawings, the drawing you did of my husband and I was remarkable and now has pride of place in our wedding display cabinet. We will both be recommending you! All of our guests thoroughly enjoyed having you there, they are all still talking and giggling about their pictures! Well done and thank you so much, you truly did make so many people smile, thank you!"

Jo and Nigel Rooke