

## On-the-Spot CARICATURES by Chrissy Marshall

### WEDDING INFORMATION

**Q: When is the best time for the caricatures?**

A: Chrissy will usually work at a wedding for two or three hours. This can be at the start of the reception, during photographs and pre-dinner drinks, throughout the meal, between the meal and the party, or during the evening function. There are two 'sessions' I recommend as best for a caricaturist to work at a wedding: the reception session or the evening do session. Either session usually lasts for 3 hours or so.

For the reception, usually, Chrissy will be at the venue, ready for when the guests arrive, to draw during drinks and photographs until the wedding breakfast. Then, during the meal he'll draw around the tables and in between courses whenever appropriate, pausing for speeches, cakes, etc, making sure he's managed to capture the top table. Alternatively, the evening stint is simple. Chrissy will be there for the start of your evening do, and draw right through to a time when everybody is too drunk to sit or stand still for three minutes!

**Q: How long do you draw for?**

A: This varies from job to job. Typically, Chrissy will be there for two or three hours.

**Q: What happens to the Caricatures?**

A: The 'victim' will get to keep their caricature as a memento of the occasion. Some couples like to keep all the caricatures to create an alternative guest book, or even to send out the pictures as thank you gifts after the day.

**Q: How do the guests react?**

A: The guests will be fascinated by the drawings, whatever the situation and often compliment the bride and groom for their creative thinking in booking the artist. Also, many people don't get the chance to have their caricature drawn at other places and will really appreciate the opportunity to be drawn amongst friends in a relaxed environment; they will almost certainly want to show off their pictures to each other.



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[www.sensiblepencil.com](http://www.sensiblepencil.com)  
[chrissy@sensiblepencil.com](mailto:chrissy@sensiblepencil.com)  
Tel: 07974 910667



**Q: How long does each caricature take?**

A: Each caricature takes around three minutes, depending on how good looking the victim is, how many people are in the picture and how well behaved they are. Also, a large part of a caricaturist's job is entertaining the guests while the caricatures are being drawn, so Chrissy will spend around five minutes with each person, laughing, charming or chatting as necessary. This equates to between 12 and 20 caricatures per hour.

**Q: Do you ever offend people?**

A: Only intentionally! A good caricaturist will be able to gauge his victim's resilience; with some people he will tread very carefully, with others he may fire with both barrels. Each victim is different to the last, the skill is in picking out how far to go with their caricature. Some will expect to look like I-L-O, others will settle for nothing less than Quasimodo. The aim of the caricatures is to have fun with the guests, not to offend the victim.

**Q: Will you draw everyone at the event?**

A: Chrissy will draw as many guests as possible in the time given, but everyone will be entertained by the caricatures even if they don't get drawn themselves.

**Q: Who pays for the pictures?**

Chrissy is paid a fee to be at the wedding for an agreed amount of time and the caricatures are given free to the guests.

**Q: Do you stay in one spot or walk around the room?**

Usually, Chrissy starts by mingling with the guests, catching them as they stand or sit. Often there will be a good place to settle down and let the guests come to him later on. He is just as happy drawing on the hoof as set up in one spot.

**Q: Do I need to supply paper, tables, chairs etc?**

Chrissy is pretty self contained, so there's nothing for you to worry about beforehand as far as the caricaturing is concerned.

**Q: What materials do you use?**

A: Usually, either brush ink pens with a grey toner or charcoal pencils, depending on the function. Wherever possible, Chrissy uses high quality recycled paper and home-brewed elbow grease.

**Q: What experience do you have?**

Chrissy has been a professional caricaturist for twelve years and will work at up to one hundred weddings a year at home and abroad. Chrissy has appeared at such esteemed venues as Claridges, The Ritz, The Royal Festival Hall, Westminster Palace, The London Eye, Anfield and Le Manoir aux Quat Saisons, along with a host of other top venues and hotels throughout the country.

**Q: Do you work alone, or with other caricaturists?**

A: Generally, Chrissy will work alone, but he can organise several other quality caricaturists to attend the function and recommend some very good table magicians and silhouette artists as well.

**Q: How far do you travel?**

A: Chrissy travels 30,000 miles per year all over the U.K. Normally, this will be within England and Wales, but he does work further afield and internationally, if you ask him nicely (enquiries from the Caribbean are particularly welcome).

**Q: How does one pay?**

A: Please contact Chrissy for prices and availability. A small deposit is required upon booking, with the balance payable on the day. You can pay by cheque, BACS or Paypal, but debit or credit cards are not accepted.

