



# CAPABILITY EVENTS

Capability Events Ltd are top quality Event Organisers who specialise in Hunt Balls and Private Parties.

I am Ben Leeke a member of the Ledbury Hunt and an event organiser for over 20 years.

I will be sending you this newsletter every few months to bring you the latest and best in entertainments suitable for Hunt Balls.

As you can imagine we attend over 100 events a year, many of them Hunt Balls. We see plenty of different and varied items at parties around the country, some work very well, some don't! We aim to bring you the best. Here are just a selection of our favourites.

More can be found on our website.

[www.capabilityevents.co.uk/huntballs.html](http://www.capabilityevents.co.uk/huntballs.html)

## After Dinner Fund-raising: Horse Racing Space Hoppers. Absolutely hilarious results.



At their Summer Ball the Ledbury Hunt ran a race around the inside of the marquee after dinner for 20 Horse Space Hoppers. Setting out a indoor race track complete with jumps. Starting from the stage running across the dance floor past the bar and round the dining tables. The very competitive, slightly lubricated guests raced each other in a series of heats for the winning cup. How it worked: each table produced a rider and the entry fee, £10 per person so £100 per table. There were 3 heats and a final with the winning jockey receiving a cup and the winning table receiving a case of champagne. This was a tremendously effective and exciting fund-raiser. Over £4000 was raised for a modest outlay on the champagne and the Racing Space Hoppers which can be bought from eBay. Just search for Horse Space Hoppers.

## Marquee Advice



Spread the cost of your marquee for the ball over a few events. Some Hunt Committees are now running a Ladies Luncheon on the Friday, a Hunt Ball on the Saturday and a Farmers Lunch on the Sunday. All marquee companies hire the structure to you over the weekend for one price. So ask for it to be installed on the Wednesday and removed on the Monday. Obviously this is a hell of a weekend for the committee but the funds raised make it all worth while!

## The Fabulous Boogie Boys



We have seen and supplied this show band to Hunt Balls and Private Parties. This 7 piece highly stylised boogie woogie band are ideal for Hunt Balls. With their co ordinated costumes and highly skilled musicians they will bring the house down. Just google them for more details.

## Nightclub Package



Take your ball to the next level with our fantastic Mobile Nightclub. We provide everything needed to make the dancing as wild as possible at your Ball. In the package:- Stage for your band and our DJ, Glossy black and white dancefloor sized to your guest numbers, A four legged full lighting rig over the dancefloor complete with a brilliant lighting effects for both the dancefloor and the band, A high quality speaker system designed to provide excellent clarity with the ability to be very directional so that it can be loud on the dance floor but allow conversations at the bar. (and less noise complaints) We also provide all our own power for this nightclub. Don't hire old, tired dancefloor and a ropey stage from your marquee company when you can have our brand new, top quality package to really add polish to your event. See our website for more and pictures.

[www.capabilityevents.co.uk/mobilenightclub.html](http://www.capabilityevents.co.uk/mobilenightclub.html)

## Reception Cocktails



Instead of a Champagne reception drink why not try a Cocktail instead. We can prepare your chosen Cocktail for your guests arrival usually for less than the cost of a glass of decent champagne. Why not try a Moscow Mule, a fantastic old classic that is easy to prepare and very drinkable. If you haven't tried it for a while here are the ingredients for you to experiment with at home! Per glass:- 6 ice cubes, 2 shots of quality Vodka (Grey Goose or Absolut), Juice of 2 Limes, Top up with Ginger Beer. Top Mixologist Tip:- Make sure the Ginger Beer is a top quality brand like Schweppes and don't get Ginger Ale instead!

## Every little bit helps



Always have a small reception marquee or 3m wide tunnel complete with a side cloakroom before the main reception marquee. Get the marquee company to put a heater in this area. Heat it until it is stiflingly hot. On a cold night guests will arrive from the cold, feel the heat, the ladies will relax in the knowledge that the marquee is going to be warm, and everyone will remove their coats and pay for the cloakroom. The guests will then feel the heat and move on into the main marquee reception area. You will have raised more money on the cloakroom, convinced the ladies that the event will be warm enough and cleared the entrance so that people behind are not queuing in the cold for long.

## Tickets Tip



Always number your tickets but start the numbers from 251 then go upwards. Nobody likes to buy tickets with low numbers on them. Low numbers make guests think they are the only people attending. Start with higher numbers and early ticket buyers will think they are part of a larger ball. This will help create a buzz about the Ball.

Ben Leeke, Event Expert is available to come and speak to your committee about your Hunt Ball for free. Take advantage of Ben's 20 years experience to help transform your Hunt Ball into a slick, fundraising, exciting event. If you have trouble keeping your ball fresh and selling tickets then Ben will help you transform it into a great success. No obligation, no sales pressure, you just supply the wine!