

A-Z OF FUNDRAISING IDEAS

A

Afternoon tea party – sell homemade cakes and special teas

Antiques sale – donated items sold

Apprentice challenge – in the style of The Apprentice, give two teams £20 and ask them to make as much money for St Columba's Hospice in one day as possible

Arts and crafts stall – try making greeting cards to sell

Auction – collect items to be auctioned

Auction of Promises – people promise to do things for others they wouldn't normally do and the promises are auctioned off

B

Bake club – on a weekly basis get someone in the office to make a cake and everyone else gives a donation for a slice

Bag-pack – enquire with your local supermarket

Band night – get a local band to play and charge an entry fee

Barbeque – sell tickets in advance for a BBQ in a private garden, pub or community hall

Bingo – arrange a sponsored club night or organise your own, charging entry and supplying prizes for the winners

Board game tournament – scrabble, monopoly, snakes and ladders, cluedo etc. see who can win the most games

Book club – meet regularly with friends to discuss the latest books you have read, make a small donation each time you meet

Book sale – gather donated books and sell

C

Ceilidh – find a venue, sell tickets in advance and charge on the door

Cake sale – make your own cakes and sell them at work, school, college. Be sure to abide by health and safety guidelines when making them

Calendar – make a calendar of nice photos of you and your friends and sell them

Caption competition – get a photo of a colleague doing something unusual and then get everyone to submit a caption for £1

Car boot sale – sell your unwanted belongings

Car washing – charge for car washes

Club night – enlist good DJs, find a venue, sell tickets in advance and charge on the door

Cocktail making party – get your friends to make a donation to learn how to make cocktails

Come dine with me – hold dinner parties with your friends and rate them to find a winner, participants pay to take part and the winner gets 50% of the prize fund!

Comedy night – charge for tickets

D

Dessert evening – a sweeter alternative to a dinner party

Dinner – from a grand affair to a small gathering

Doughnut eating competition – either see who can eat a sugary doughnut without licking their lips, or hang them from above and eat one without using your hands

Dress Up or Dress Down Day – an easy one to do at work

E

Easter egg hunt – treasure hunt for special eggs

Ebay – sell any unwanted items on Ebay and give the money to St Columba's Hospice

Expert talk – ask a renowned speaker to present on their area of expertise, charge entry for this opportunity to hear them and ask questions

F

Fancy dress party

Fashion show – ask local designers, students and stores to show their latest collection, recruit local models, gain sponsorship and sell tickets

Festival at Home – host your own festival by setting up tents in your garden or living room and invite your friends around to your very own mini-festival

Fete – have stalls selling bric-a-brac, competitions, tombola, cakes and drinks, and bouncy castles

Film marathon – Watch films back-to-back and charge entry

Fines – put a pound in the pot if you swear, say something silly or dull etc.

Food Fight – charge people to come and make a mess in your garden by having a good old food fight

G

Gallery private view – a benefit night, invite high profile guests to view art

Garden Party – Pimms, string quartet and a marquee with nibbles and traditional garden games

Guess the number of sweets or pennies in a jar

Guess the weight of the sweets, baby etc.

H

Hair cut – sponsored hair cut

Holiday day – celebrate a country's national holiday, dress up, eat the cuisine and get into the traditional dancing

Holiday raffle – ask your employer to donate a day's holiday and raffle it off at work

Horse racing – ask a local course to host a benefit day where you take the gate or re-live the excitement of horse racing in your own venue with the DVD game

I

In lieu – in place of a gift for any special occasion ask friends and family to donate

International theme evening – food, drinks and music from around the world or just one country of your choice, guests dress up accordingly

J

Jail break – escape from a designated location in teams of two to four and be sponsored to travel as far as you can in 24 hours, spending no money and using a variety of transport

Jam making – use up fruit from your garden and sell to make money

Jazz evening – hire a band and sell tickets

Jigsaw marathon – how many jigsaws can you and your friends complete in a day?

Job swap – senior managers swap roles with front line staff for the day

Joke-a-thon

Jumble sale

K

Karaoke evening

L

Loud tie day – sponsored by your company or hold it at school with teachers, loudest tie wins a prize

Lucky dip – people pay to dip for a prize, include quality items people will want to win!

Lunch money – ask colleagues to bring in sandwiches for their lunch

M

Mad Hatter's tea party – a tea party where everyone wears a silly hat

Mascot race – race the mascots from local sports teams, collect donations from spectators

Murder mystery evening

Music sale – sell unwanted CDs and records

N

Name the bear

Night in – stay in for an evening at the weekend and donate the money saved

O

Obstacle course race

Odd job days – help people out with odd jobs around the house for donations

Office Olympics

One Hundred clubs – people choose a number (from 1-100, 1-200 etc) to be drawn once a month, the owner of the picked number wins a percentage of the pot from the entry fees.

P

Photograph competition or exhibition

Photo booth – create a funny photo booth and sell the pics

Pound for pound – ask your boss to match what you raise

Pub games tournament – pool, darts, skittles, dominoes, draughts, quiz, beer mat tower, beer mat flicking competition etc.

Pamper party

Q

Quilt making – people make a donation to sew a square then once it's constructed, raffle or sell the complete quilt

Quiz night

R

Race night – can't get to the course? Bring the course to you! Host a horse race night featuring races from around the world.

Raffle

Restaurant night – get a local restaurant to give you a set menu (hopefully at a reduced rate). Add £5 or more onto the set price and then get friends and family to come along for a night of food and drink

S

Salsa evening

Santa's grotto

Shop window display competition – persuade a local shop, bank or business to let you decorate their window, have collection boxes inside to ask for donations

Sports day – for adults and kids, recreate those favourite school events

Stocks – get your boss, teacher or team leader to go in the stocks for the day, while staff pay to throw wet sponges and custard pies

Swapshop – bring your old clothes you don't wear anymore, pay £5 to enter and swap your clothes for free

Sweepstakes – this can be on any kind of race or competition. Half the money from the entry to go to St Columba's Hospice and half for the winner

T

Talent competition

Theme party

Tombola

Treasure hunt

Tug of War competition

U

University Challenge – set up your own version

Upcycling – take your old clothes, accessories and furniture and decorate them to make them look unique then sell them

Utensil dinner – each person gets a different utensil to eat their dinner with, get sponsored to finish your dinner

V

Valentine's Day event – run a matchmaking service for those who want a partner or have an anti-valentine's night for singletons that just want to have fun!

Variety show – cabaret acts, singers, dancers, magicians, comedians, can-can girls, poets, theatre acts and mime - an eclectic mix of entertainment for everyone to enjoy

W

Waxing – sponsored wax

Wii sports challenge night

Weight watchers – get sponsored to lose weight

Who's that baby? – guess your colleagues from their baby pictures

Wine or whisky tasting

Wool sale – sell any spare wool that you no longer need

World cuisine – invite people to cook traditional dishes from their country or ask people to choose a dish from a faraway land

X

X Factor night – nominate a Simon, Sharon and Louie and then get others to pay to enter and perform

Y

Yearbook – most people never bother to do anything with their photos, so create photobooks for your friends and family in return for donations

Yes day – get sponsored to say yes to everything day

Z

Zany dress day – charge a fee for friends or work colleagues to wear crazy clothes or hats for the day

Zodiac party – check your astrological forecasts and what your sign really says about you!