



Need help to boost your fundraising? Here are some of our tried and tested ideas!

Home Made Cake Sale Everyone loves home-made cakes – this has to be the most popular (and tastiest!) way to raise money. Organise your friends and family to bake cakes, biscuits or other goodies then sell them at work, after church or in school. You can also raffle the best cake off (if your friends are skillful bakers). Homemade jams and chutneys are also popular.

Captive Audience Invite everyone you know to a 'marathon' picnic in the park, a party or a barbecue in your garden (if you have one). Provide the food (or ask people to bring and share), and while you've got a captive audience, ask them for a gift, sign them up for sponsorship or ask them to do something for you.

Cake Auction You can ask everyone to donate a cake that they have made and the cakes are then auctioned off (maybe at your picnic or party).

Spare Change Ask everyone you know to donate their spare change and see how quickly you can fill a large jar.

Mufti Day Organise a Mufti/ dress down day and collect a £2 donation from all those that take part, and £5 from those that don't! This will also work for silly ties, bad hats, bad hair and so on. Don't forget to ask permission.

Shave it! Get sponsored to shave your head, your moustache, your chest, or your armpits or whatever! Men could also go for a leg or chest wax.

S%#@! Create a swear box with a £1 fee for every naughty word uttered.

Bring a Pound Simply ask your colleagues to each bring a pound into work, or school or church in aid of St Matthew's Children's Fund.

Coffee Morning Get all friends together and have a coffee morning, it's a great way to catch up on all the news! Ask for a donation towards funds.

Lunch Money Ask all your colleagues to bring in sandwiches for their lunch and donate the money they saved to charity

Ask Your Employer Many employers have a charitable fund or will match your fundraising efforts so don't forget to ask them if they will donate.

Car Boot Sale Get all those unwanted items stashed in the back of cupboards or in your loft and sell them at a car boot sale. Ask friends if they will help or have a stall too.

Book Sale Dig out all those old books and have a book sale at home or at work.

Lending Library Alternatively take your old books into work or church and ask people to donate every time they borrow one – ideal where there are lots of commuters. Romance and detective fiction books are very popular.

Fancy Dress Car Wash Ask everyone in your area if you can wash their car - dressing up in a zany outfit makes it more fun. Don't forget to tell them it's all in a good cause.

Night in Stay in on a Saturday night and the money you save, donate. Ask your friends to do the same – they can always come round to yours and you can stay in together!

Film Show Alternatively set up a movie night and charge a small entrance fee instead of going to the pictures.

Sweepstake Run a sweepstake on how many times your boss gets a cup of tea or how many times your colleague leaves their desk during the day. £1 to have a go.

Guess How Many Get a large jar of gummy bears or other small sweets and sell chances to guess how many there are. The person with the closest guess takes home the whole jar!

Smarties tube Give your friends, family and colleagues a tube of Smarties and (once they've eaten them), ask them over a period of weeks to fill the empty tube with £1 coins and give it back to you.

Spend a penny Ask everyone in your workplace to donate 10p each time they go to the loo. You could provide good quality soap and hand cream for them to use. Explain that some of your money may well provide toilet blocks for a poor community

Sponsor your vest Ask your friends to sponsor your running or exercise kit by writing their name on, and charge them a suitable fee depending on size of name and position. You might like to offer exclusive sponsorship rights for a large donation.

You must have been a beautiful baby Ask all your friends or colleagues to bring in a baby photo and a current photo, and then charge people to match the two together. The most successful entrant can win a small prize.

Events Fundraising

If there is more than one of you organising the fundraising, you might like to think about doing something bigger. Some of the events you might like to consider organising include:

Ethiopian Evening If you have a local Ethiopian restaurant or community, ask if they will help you introduce Ethiopian culture and food – especially the coffee ceremony.

Golf Match Organise a charity golf day with each team paying a good sum to attend.

Dinner Dance Have a band, good food, organise a raffle and/or an auction. Try and get as much as possible donated so that you do make money from ticket sales.

Disco Organise a disco or 70's night - with fancy dress!

Karaoke Evening Ask a local pub to host a Karaoke night for you and charge people to get in or take part.

Wine Tasting event Invite an 'expert' or local wine dealer to bring along a few cases of wine and donate some of the proceeds to charity.

Easter Egg Hunt/Party You will need someone with a large garden who isn't too concerned about enthusiastic hunters. Don't forget good refreshments and a cake sale.

Jumble/Nearly New Sale People love a good rummage and it's always a good fundraiser. There are surprising strict regulations on what can be sold at a jumble sale, so please ask your local trading standards office for advice.

Sports Tournament This could be football, ultimate Frisbee or any sport you are involved in.

Halloween Ball Sell tickets to a fancy dress ball or party.

Quiz evening Charge an entry fee for each team, organise a fish and chip or donated supper, and make sure you have a good quizmaster.

Murder Mystery Evening check the web for kits or event planners

Open Day If you have a colourful garden, let all those garden lovers come and admire, for a charge.

Treasure Hunt A challenge event for people, and a fun way to raise big money.

As well as including fundraising ideas from the earlier section, here are some other things you could include to make your event a fundraising success.

Auction of Promises Try to get people to donate a gift, the promise of their time or use of their belongings. You can even ask people to donate themselves as 'slaves for the day'! Do ask your local auction house if they can supply a professional auctioneer for a large event.

Swap Shop You may not like filing or doing those chores around the house. Ask your friends to pool the things they hate doing and get everyone to bid for the ones they would like to do.

50/50 raffle The winner of the raffle gets 50% of however much is raised through the sale of the tickets at the event (other types of raffles are subject to legislation). Alternatively, ask a local business to donate prizes for a more traditional raffle.