



DO YOUR OWN THING

A-Z fundraising ideas

Yes to Life is a registered charity in England and Wales with Registered Charity No: 1112812
and Company No: 05495576

The Energy Centre, Bowling Green Walk, London N1 6AL, Telephone: 0845 257 6950 office@yestolife.org.uk www.yestolife.org.uk

a

Abseil

Scale the dizzy heights of a local landmark.

Aerobics

Organise a sponsored aerobathon with the help of gyms, leisure centres and sports shops

Afternoon Tea

Put the kettle on and get baking. Entertain guests with raffles, auctions, tombola's & live music.

Arts/Crafts Stall

Make Necklaces, dried flower arrangements, stained glass mirrors, etc, to sell on a stall

Art Exhibition

Stage an exhibition for local artists. Charge entrance fee and commission.

Auction

Auction off original items, taking a percentage of sales.

Auction of

Services

Auction services of people and businesses - anything from singing lessons to dinner for two.

b

Badge Making

Make badges to sell at work, to friends or at craft fairs.

Bad tie day

Charge your colleagues a pound to come in wearing their loudest tie. Award the winner.

Balloon Rides

Offer as a prize for raffle/auction or sell trips in a chartered balloon.

Barbecue

Add stereo, football and rounders bats and make it a whole day's event.

Beat the Goalie

Score a goal and win a prize. Footballers pay to enter.

Bed Push

The 'bed' can be anything from a hospital bed to a four-poster or even a 3-piece suite!

Bingo

Hold a one-off evening or regular morning sessions.

Board Games Evening

Invite friends over to play Scrabble, Monopoly, Cluedo and more. Charge entrance or game fee.

Boat Race Book Sale

Teams build model boats and race them.

Sell old books, collected from everyone you know. Book dealers may buy leftover stock.

Bungee Jump

Raise sponsorship by flying in the face of fear.

C

Cake Stall

Hold a traditional cake stand at fetes or fairs. Check health and safety regulations!

Calendars

Design & sell a pictorial calendar for your company.

Candle making

Make and sell candles at craft fairs or coffee mornings.

Car boot sale

Cash in your old belongings or sell pitches. Raise more with bouncy castles, raffles, etc.

Car treasure hunt

Drive from clue to clue in search of the 'treasure'. Teams pay to enter.

Car wash

Wash your friend's cars and ask them for a donation!

Carnival

Arrange a colourful carnival for your town, charging for each float entered.

Carol concert

Host a festive concert for your community. Earn extra by selling minced pies & mulled wine.

Carol singing

Get a group to go door-to-door singing. Bigger public displays may require a licence.

Charity ball

Raise sponsorship the sophisticated way. Organise a themed ball with DJ or live music at a hotel or nightclub. Charge for tickets but boost your earnings with games and raffles.

Charity push

Get sponsored to cover a set distance in a bed, shopping trolley, bathtub, wheelie bin...

Children's party	Organise children's parties or activities but be sure to check relevant childcare practices.
Christmas draw	Sell tickets and ask local firms to supply prizes. Check regulations about public draws & raffles.
Classic car show	Well-organised classic car and bike shows are great crowd pullers and fantastic fundraisers.
Coconut shy	Easily arranged game for traditional fairs. All you need are a few coconuts and wooden balls.
Coffee morning	It's open house for the morning. Make extra with raffles, bring and buy sales and cake stalls.
Concerts	Entertain the crowds with your own recital or hire bands of musicians.
Cookery demo	Invite well-known chefs to share the recipe of their success with a ticket-paying audience.
Copper collection	Ask people to donate their collections of one and two pence pieces.
Crossword contest	Compile huge crossword, so punters pay per clue. Each number hides a ticket for prize draw.

d

Dance	Barn dances, tea dances, disco dances, salsa dances - whatever rocks your boat.
Darts tournament	Challenge all the pub teams in the area to compete for cash prizes, or a barrel of beer.
Dinner and cabaret	Hire a popular and spacious restaurant. Entertain ticket holders with music, comedy & magic.
Disco	Spin the decks or hire a DJ to stage a themed disco night.
Dog show	Charge proud pet-owners to show off their pooches. Ask pet shops to sponsor the event.

Duck race

Sell numbered plastic ducks and launch them from a bridge. The duck to finish first wins.

e

Easter egg hunt Edible hide and seek. Charge entry fee and ask confectioners to provide the eggs.

Eating marathon Get sponsored to stuff your face with as many baked beans/grapes/pies etc. as possible.

Eyebrows Get sponsored to shave them off - they grow back eventually!

f

Face painting Get creative with face paints at fetes, fairs and children's parties.

Fancy dress Jazz up your event with a fancy-dress contest. Charge entrance fee.

Fashion show Ask businesses to sponsor venue, outfits or catwalk. Charge admission and sales commission.

Film evening Recreate an evening of vintage cinema by showing classic films and musicals.

Flower arranging Make your own fresh, dried or silk arrangements to sell at craft fairs or fetes. Always popular. Boost funds with competitions, advice corners & side stalls.

Foreign coins Ask people to donate their leftover holiday coins. Change into sterling once you have enough.

Fun day Arrange games, music, competitions and stalls at a nearby hall or sports club.

Furniture sale Hire a large hall to sell donated furniture and old office equipment. Take sales commission.

g

Game show

Host mock version of Who Wants To Be A Millionaire or The Weakest Link. Otherwise adapt board games for big audiences, and get prizes donated.

Garage sale

Sell off all your unwanted belongings.

Garden party

Sell tickets or invite guests to make a donation.

Gardening

Offer your gardening services to friends and family.

Greeting cards

Find out about selling Christmas cards for Yes to Life. Make and sell cards for every occasion.

Guided tours

Take tourists and visitors on locally guided walks or trips.

h

Halloween party Another excuse to dress up and party. Charge entrance fees and raise money trick or treating.

Head shave

Sick of bad hair days? Go bald for Yes to Life.

i

Indoor market

Rent out stalls to local traders or take cut of profits.

Ironing

Offer your ironing services - at a cost.

It's a knockout

Revive the 80s game show by inviting teams to compete in silly games in silly costumes.

j

Jailbreak

Dump teams in the middle of nowhere. With no money or transport, see who gets back to base first. Charge entrance fees and offer prizes.

Jazz festival

Play your own brand of jazz or stage a show for local musicians. Sell tickets and refreshments.

Jewellery making

Buy your own beads and get threading. Sell your products at markets and craft fairs.

k

Karaoke

Arrange your own Pop Idol contest. All you need is a machine, a room and a well-stocked bar.

l

Left-handed day Try doing everything with your left hand for the day.

Line dancing It's all the rage. Just make sure you have a caller and plenty of drink!

m

Marathons

Get sponsored to run a traditional 25-mile race.

Medieval

evening

Themed evening of medieval food, jousting and entertainment.

Mile of

pennies

Make a mile of pennies in your town centre. Ask shoppers to help by donating their coins.

Mini-Olympics

Invite everyone you know to compete in traditional & silly sports. Charge entry.

Mufti day

Introduce dress down day at work. Colleagues pay a fee to leave their suits at home.

Music concert

Entertain the crowds with your own recital or hire bands of musicians.

n

Nature trail

Offer guided walks to natural beauty spots.

New year

resolutions

Get sponsored to stick to your new year's resolutions.

O

Open garden

Open your garden to visitors. Sell tickets, refreshments, plants and vegetables.

Opera night Stage an opera evening in your area or arrange a trip to see a big London production.

Outward bound Go climbing, hiking, camping, etc, in preparation for your trip. Seek sponsorship.

p

Paintballing Organise paintballing challenges at locally run centres. Players pay to enter.

Pancake race Get flipping on Shrove Tuesday. Charge teams to enter, and spectators to eat.

Pantomime Your chance to play the ugly sister. Stage a production with friends, family and colleagues.

Parachute jump Daredevils only. Get sponsored to take the plunge

Personalised gifts Sell uniquely personalised gifts for special occasions

Pick a cork Fair game. Pick a numbered cork out of a board. If the number's a winner, claim a prize.

Picture framing Frame and sell prints of local scenes, or pictures relevant to your charity. Sell donated plants or rent out pitches to traders.

Plant a tree Seek sponsors for a "plant a tree" scheme.

Pledges Gather pledges of support, donations and services. These could be auctioned or raffled off.

Private tuition Whether it's French or Flamenco, sell your skills with private lessons as raffle tickets.

q

Quizzes If your local doesn't run a pub quiz, set one up. Test the regulars on pop, trivial or sport.

r

- Raffle** Ask local firms to donate prizes and sell tickets. Check raffle laws with your local authority.
- Raft race** Teams compete by building their rafts and racing over a set distance. Teams pay to compete.
- Ramble** Take to the countryside for a mass walkabout. Throw in a theme (fancy dress, singles, three legged, Easter), and charge for entry and refreshments.
- Recipe book** Publish favourite recipes from local restaurants and chefs.
- Refreshments** Sell teas, coffees, sandwiches, biscuits, cakes, etc, at any fundraising event
- Roll-a-coin** Fair game where player rolls a coin down a chute, aiming to land on a playing card.

S

- Sale of Xmas gifts** Sell Christmas cards, wrapping, gifts, food and drink.
- Santa's Grotto** Pull on your white beard and brush up your ho, ho, ho.
- Scavenger hunt** Variation on the treasure hunt where participants have a list of items to collect.
- Shoe shine** Get down on your knees at your nearest train station or shopping centre.
- Silver collections** Ask supporters to donate their loose change collections.
- Skydiving** Free fall your way back to earth - for sponsorship
- Slippery pole** Fair game where competitors pillow fight while sliding along a slippery pole.
- Sponsored silence** Mum's the word. Stay silent for as long as you can.

- Stationary cycle** Don't fancy the map reading? Forget cycling to Paris but cover the same distance at the gym.
- Swear box** Spend a £1 for every \$@*£\$! uttered. Put a box at home, at work and at the pub.
- Swimathon** Get sponsored per length, mile, minute, hour...

t

- Table top sale** Indoor variation on the car boot sale. Charge for table hire.
- Talent competition** Discover Britain's next big thing with your own talent show. Charge entry and offer prizes.
- Ten-pin bowling** Bowling alleys often have special rates for big groups & charity evenings.
- Tin can alley** Traditional fair game. Knock down the stack of tin cans and win a prize.
- Tombola** Pick a raffle ticket out of a barrel and match it with a ticketed prize. Fair & fete favourite!
- Toy sale** In the run up to Christmas, toy sales can be big fundraisers.
- Treasure hunt** Sniffing out the clues, teams compete against each other to discover the 'hidden treasure'.
- T-shirts & clothing** Market your charity by producing a range of promotional clothing.
- Tuck shop** Sell sweets, crisps, cake, drinks, etc, at a children's event.

u

- Unwanted presents** Arrange a post-Christmas sale of unwanted gifts. Ask traders to donate a cut of their takings.

V

Variety show

Comedians, magicians, singers, dancers & musicians all under one roof.

Vehicle rally

Well-organised car and bike shows are great crowd pullers and fantastic fundraisers.

Visits

Organising visits to local places or tourist destinations.

W

Walks

Lead organised walks to historical spots and places of interest. Ghost walks are also popular.

Water sports

Let others splash out as you splash in. Teach water sports or get sponsored to take part.

Waxing

A hair-raising experience for the boys. Get sponsored to wax your legs or chest.

Weight of the cake

Fair game. Pay to guess the weight - and win the cake if you're right.

Welly throwing

Fun for every fete and fair. Throwers compete to see whose welly goes furthest.

Windscreen wash

Charge to wash windscreens to your friends and family cars.

Woodcutting

Offer to prune trees or chop firewood for friends and family.

X

Xmas evening

Stock up on crackers, pudding and mince pies. Break with tradition by holding it in July!

Xmas hampers

Make up and sell your own Xmas hampers. Include food, drink, toys and gifts.

Z

Zodiac evening

Invite a guest astrologer for a star-studded fundraiser. Charge for entry and horoscopes.

If you want to organise your own fundraising event and need some help, please contact us fundraising@yestolife.org.uk