



Do your own thing

a-z fundraising ideas

Want to do your own thing – we're here to help
Call Miquel on 020 3290 8735
or email funding@yestolife.org.uk

[#fundraisingforlife](#)

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	Invite friends over to play Scrabble, Monopoly, Cluedo and more. Charge entrance or game fee.
Boat Race	Teams build model boats and race them.
Book Sale	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	Create 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 donate.
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
Line dancing

Try doing everything with your left hand for the day.
It's all the rage. Just make sure you have a caller and plenty of drink!

m

Marathons
Medieval
evening
Mile of
pennies

Get sponsored to run a traditional 25-mile race.

Themed evening of medieval food, jousting and entertainment.

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
New year
resolutions

Offer guided walks to natural beauty spots.

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.
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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 shute, 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 gifts 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.