

# Looking for Fundraising Inspiration?

## Here is our A-Z of fundraising ideas

**Abseil** – Abseils take place throughout the country. So, search for an abseil near you that suits your adrenaline needs – then simply ask your friends to sponsor you. Remember don't look down!

**Auction / Auction of promises** – you can auction off almost anything, from sporting memorabilia to money can't buy experiences or even auction off your talents like being a gardener for the day or a taxi driver for the evening. Maybe your company could donate a Lot? Could an evening of waiting on your friends help you raise funds?

**Afternoon tea** – Go upmarket and organise an afternoon tea – you could even have a theme like Wimbledon. Hold it at work, home or a local venue. Everyone loves a cup of tea and some homemade treats, so look out the cake stands and start baking!

**Bake sale** – Are you a budding Mary Berry? Then why not bake your way to a successful fundraiser. Whether you run the event at work, school or your home be sure to find out about any dietary requirements (or perhaps just favourites) first to maximise sales! Get your free bake sale poster today.

**Bingo** – Number 4 knock at the door or clickety click number 66! Let's play Bingo. This is an old favourite and you can adapt the game for your audience. Other options include having famous faces on the bingo cards instead of numbers.

**Beard shaving** – Growing beards can be a lot of fun, but shaving them off is even better, especially if it is to raise money for Sepsis Research.

**Coffee mornings** – Ideal in church halls, but don't limit it to just this. It could be held in the office, at school, in the park or on top of a mountain. Use your imagination to inspire your venue choice.

**Cinema screening** – Roll out the red carpet, grab your popcorn and select the perfect movie to watch. It can be held in the school hall, work canteen, your living room, the local cinema or even projected outside. Remember to sell choc-ices at half time to raise a few more pounds!

**Dinner Party** – This can be held at any time during the year and you could theme the night, the courses and even the drinks. Don't forget to come up with some dinner party games to make the event be a night to remember!

**Disco / Dances** – Your opportunity to show off your moves and shapes on the dancefloor. If that's not your thing become the judge and hold a Strictly event - You will be Fab-you-luss! Host your dance/disco at home or will you hire a local venue? Just make sure the neighbours are out!

**Darts match** – Nothing beats a bit of Bully. Organise knockout competitions or handicap the best players by making them throw left handed. Combine it with questions and reminisce about when you watched Bulls Eye on a Sunday afternoon.

**Eating competition** - How many marshmallow can you get in your mouth, can you eat a cracker without water? There are a host of food challenges and fans of 'I'm A Celebrity, Get Me Out Of Here!' will love the ideas you come up with. World Records are there to be broken, so why not give it a go?

**Easter Egg Hunt** – Look high, look low, you might even find one by your toe! Easter Egg hunts can be for all ages and everyone loves to hunt the eggs down.

**Easter party** - There are lots of low-cost ways to raise money at an Easter party, from the obvious Easter egg hunt to theming your party yellow.

**Face painting competition** – Brilliant add-on to a summer fete, kids and adults love to get their faces painted. You could even try painting on our smiley face Sepsis Research logo.

**Football match / 5-a-side football** – 90 minutes can make a massive difference to someone with a diagnosis of sepsis. Your 90 minutes of football fun could raise funds by charging a player fee/team fee and spectators donate to come and cheer on their team.

**Fancy-dress days** – Who doesn't like dressing up? Dress down or dress up days are a popular way to raise funds. Fancy dress isn't just for Halloween- how about a Patron Saints Theme day to celebrate St Patrick's Day, St George's Day or St Andrew's Day. Or simply wear tartan for the day to celebrate Burn's Night or push the Viking boat out to mark Up Helly Aa.

**Games Night** – Traditional games like Snakes & Ladders, Dominos and Cards nights are all ways you can raise money for a good cause. Or go high tech and play Fortune or Grand Theft Auto. Just make sure you charge people to play and watch.

**Girls Night In** - Get the girls round. It's simple, just invite your friends round and ask them to donate the amount they would usually spend on a night out towards Sepsis Research.

**Give it up!** – We all have some bad habits so how about trying to give them up? Chocolate for Lent, introduce a swear box at work or go drink dry in January. No matter what your habit is, give it up to help raise funds.

**Head shave** – Go Bald! You must be brave to do this one if you have flowing locks. Your biggest donator could get the chance to use the clippers on you. Make sure you get some video evidence.

**Halloween party** – Make your event spook-tacular! Invite your guests to dress up and you could event take them on a ghost tour around your village. Then come back and bob for apples and lots of other Halloween fun.

**Hogmanay** – Throw a party to bring in the New Year in style. Friends can donate what they would have spent on going into town to celebrate. Remember to listen out for the bells, but you will be having way too much fun for that.

**International evening** – Celebrate a different culture or many cultures. Include some games and bring people together to raise funds.

**It's a Knockout** – Ideal for a company day out – this is the ultimate school sports day for adults. Companies pay to enter a team and just remember soaking people is all part of the fun!

**Irish Night / Day** – What's the craic? Celebrate all things Irish and make sure the Guinness is on tap. You could organise a jig or Irish Dance competition or even try to imitate Riverdance. Whatever you decide to do just enjoy the craic!

**Jewellery making/selling** – Why not turn your hand to making jewellery and selling it to friends and colleagues. Or if you have old jewellery you don't want, hold a swap party. Any unwanted jewellery can be sold on ebay, gumtree or cash for gold!

**Jazz** – You either love it or hate it! Organise a night of Jazz and charge an entry fee. It's worth asking some of the local schools or music colleges if they can preform on the day for you.

**James Bond** – The name's Bond – James Bond. This always get people shaken, not stirred. Hold a bond night and get into character. If you know someone with an Aston, ask if they would do car tours with the money coming to the charity.

**Karaoke night** – Grab the mic – it's your time to sing. This fundraiser is always popular no matter how good or bad you are. Make sure your guests can see the screens as they will want to sing along.

**Knitting** – We all need a new scarf to keep out the cold weather. Start knitting and raise funds by selling your hand made garments. You can market them by setting up a Facebook page or taking a stall at a local craft fair.

**Ladies Day** - Get your female friends together and throw a ladies evening. You could go for a pamper night, sing along evening or cocktails & canapés. You know your guests best, so choose something that you'll all enjoy.

**Lunch** - If your office has a habit of ordering in food, why not cook it yourself? You'll save your colleagues time buying lunch, giving them longer to enjoy your delicious treats!

**Leap Year** - Whether your fundraising activity takes 1 hour or the full 24, use your leap day to make a difference. Don't forget, with an extra day in the working month, it's a great chance to squeeze in some fundraising activities.

**Marathon events** – Will you challenge yourself to the full 26.2 miles or is a ½ marathon challenge enough for you? Sign up for one of the many marathons all over the country and start your training. You will get fit and feel a great sense of achievement.

**Matched Giving** - Whether you're raising money in the office or outside of work, ask your employer about matched giving. Lots of our fundraisers have doubled the amount raised by their employer so make sure you ask.

**Music and mulled wine evening** – Pop Quiz or name that tune, all washed down with some nice warm mulled wine. Perform yourself or mime to your favourite artist.

**Name the ...** - Name the teddy, bunny or bear. Whatever it is you choose, tap into people's competitive nature with a simple guessing game. Charge per entry and provide a percentage of the money raised as a prize or try to get one donated.

**New Year's Eve dance/party** - Avoid a night of queuing and host your own New Year's Eve party. The best thing about it? You get to control both the music and the guestlist. Charge your guests cheaper than the local pub for entry and then donate the fee.

**Office Fundraising/Collections** – Fundraising in your office is easy with these simple ideas- raffle a day's annual leave or carparking spot at your office, or simply hold bake sales, have a dress down day, or make the coffees and teas for your team rather than going out.

**Open your Garden Day** – Are you proud of your garden and want to show it off? This is a blooming good idea! Simply open your doors for an entry fee and host an open garden/house party. Put your kitchen to good use and serve home-made refreshments to raise some extra funds.

**Obstacle course** - Set-up the ultimate obstacle course to raise money for Sepsis Research. Yours could include a tyre swing or even a mud pit. Maybe you could have a separate course for children and adults to make the day a family friendly affair. Make sure it is safe and seek our help with your risk assessment.

**Pamper Party** - Everyone loves a bit of pampering, so why not plan a pamper party. Do you know a hairdresser, beautician or nails technician who could put their skills to good use. You could even sell your own beauty products that will put a smile on everyone's faces.

**Pancake Day / Shrove Tuesday** – Flipping success. Shrove Tuesday or Pancake Day. We don't mind what you call it as long as you flip for us.

**Quiz night** – What's the highest mountain in the UK? Who was the Prime Minister after Churchill? If you know the answers you should join a team. Hold your event in the pub, village hall or in the office. Teams pay to enter, so go on and organise a quiz night for some friendly competition.

**Quintessentially British Day** – Bunting, tea and scones are just a few things that spring to mind. Host an afternoon tea, a Sunday roast or watch an old British classic movie. We are sure you can make it very British. You can charge entry and raise funds with tombolas and bake sales.

**Raffle** - A raffle is great to have at a fundraising event. Just charge a fee for tickets and the winner gets a prize. This could also work as a standalone fundraising activity.

**Running** – Keep on Running! Join our team of runners! No organised event, just you and your challenge.

**Sweepstakes** – A fundraising staple. It can be predicting the winner of the Grand National, the Golf Masters or Guessing the number of sweets in the jar. Just ask people to predict the answer and ask them for a donation for a chance of winning.

**Skydiving** – 1000, 2000, 3000, check canopy! Our supporters are brave. Despite the obvious fear factor, skydives are organised at many local airfields, so find one close to you.

**Sponsored Silence** – Sssshhh – Can you keep quiet for an hour or a day! The kids love this one and so do the teachers. Just remember, don't be quiet about the cause and your fundraising before or after the event!!

**Tea party** – Aaahh - A good cup of tea can make a difference and so can this event. Invite a group of friends over to enjoy a cuppa and a natter and ask for donations to Sepsis Research.

**Tug-of-War** – Heave! How strong are you? Organise a few teams to compete. It is great fun and works well when different company departments face off against each other.

**Tuck shop** – Got a sweet tooth? Everyone loves a treat especially if it reminds them of their childhood. You could make them yourself or buy in the jars and make bags up to sell to staff or friends.

**University Challenge** – Are you a brain box – have you got what it takes to take on your rival university to see who will come out on top. Or it could be a University race through your city. No matter what the Challenge is, open it up to your fellow students to come and watch.

**Uniform free day** - A uniform free day is a great way to get raise funds at school, or let your office relax a little with a dress-down dress code. Swapping your usual uniform for fancy dress could help you raise even more money.

**Valentine's Day** – Roses are red, violets don't smell of honey, so let's make lots of money!! Lots of ideas area available, from a singles night/speed dating to a Valentines Ball. No matter what you do it's sure to be a Valentine success.

**Vintage** - Why not organise your own vintage sale and donate the proceeds to Sepsis Research? If you don't have enough time to organise your own stall, why not organise a vintage clothes swap?

**Walk** – As the Proclaimers once said – “I would walk 500 miles”. It does not need to be that distance, just choose a distance to suit you and raise funds through sponsorship.

**Wax It** - It's a classic fundraising technique that provides an interesting insight into how much your friends are willing to pay to hear you shout 'ouch!'. A packet of wax strips (and maybe some aloe vera) is all you need to raise money with a wax off.

**Wear It** - People like to laugh, so give them an incentive to sponsor you by letting them nominate what you wear.

**X-Factor Competition** – Show off your talents by holding a X-Factor talent competition. Who knows you could be the next Sam Smith, Adele, or Wagner! The audience can vote on the winner and you will be hitting the high notes with your fundraising effort.

**Xbox / Playstation / Console Night** – One v One, Team v Team, however you play raising money from gaming is easy, just invite your friends around for a console night. Make this gaming session one to remember.

**Yoga marathon** - Know your tree pose from your downward dog? Lots of fundraisers use skills they already have to successfully raise money. So, if you're a self-confessed Yogi, why not run a not-for profit class? Your pupils will not only have invested in their own health, but also have the added satisfaction of knowing they've made a difference.

**Year to Remember** - What's the most memorable year of your life? Why not make it this year, for all the right reasons. What could you do for a year to make a difference? Doing something for 365 days shows ultimate dedication and is a sure fire way to encourage people to sponsor you. But what to do? How about walking dogs every day for a year and donating the money you make? Or how about giving something up for a whole year?

**Zumba** - Feel the rhythm? Zumba the afternoon away and raise funds for Sepsis.

**Zip Wire** – This one is for the adrenaline junkie. There are zip wires up and down the country and all offer a different experience. So, do your research and find the challenge that is right for you (and most likely to encourage friends to sponsor you).