



# An A to Z of Fundraising Ideas

Need a bit of inspiration, then why not take a look at the list below. There are over 100 ideas!

You can go about fundraising in a variety of ways: organise an event and charge people to attend, do something challenging and get people to sponsor you, make stuff to sell, or do something a little different. Whatever you do, tell everyone!!

## A

- **Aerobic-a-thon**  
Break out the leotard and the Jane Fonda video and get physical. Get sponsored for every five minutes of aerobics you can manage.  
**Auction of Promises**  
Visit local businesses and ask them to donate their services for you to auction off. Or rope in your friends, who could promise to wash cars, mow lawns or do housework for the highest bidder.
- **Arm Wrestling** -Charge your mates - or the local rugby/footie/any testosterone driven team - to arm wrestle one another. Probably best tried at your local pub. You could even fashion a snazzy badge/ medal type thing for the winner.
- **Abseil** -Get a group of people to abseil down a local building in aid of your cause. You are likely to get press coverage for this type of event too.
- **Arts or crafts stall**- Let your imagination go wild and reap the rewards. Try making greetings cards, pot pourri or jewellery to sell.
- **After work drinks** (hair of the dog) - have drinks after work where the company subsidises the alcohol and snacks. Charge an entry fee and small amount for each drink

## B

- **Bowling Nights (Dog Bowl)** - Plan a fun night of bowling at your local lanes. Ask the owner to waive the cost of bowling and collect that money for you. (or play Barefoot bowling, with the losing team making a donation)
- **Beard Shaving** - Grab a few hairy marys and shave them. Not just for fun - get people to sponsor them to go through with it. You can shave heads, beards, backs or legs... the possibilities are great.
- **Bingo**  
Make your own bingo cards and invite your friends around for a few games. Charge them a gold coin donation a ticket. Prizes should be something small like sweets or promises of eternal friendship.
- **Bring and Buy Sale** -We bet you've got loads of junk in your attics and under your bed. Why not raise some money by organising a Bring and Buy sale. You could even charge other people to set up their own stalls.
- **Back to Front Day** -Get sponsored to wear your clothes the wrong way round for a whole day.
- **Bone appetite** - Make a packed lunch for work and donate your lunch money or host a dinner party and charge you guests to sample your wonderful cuisine



- **Book sales** – get your friends, family and work colleagues to clear out the book shelves and organise a “book sale” where all proceeds are donated
- **Benefit performance** – contact your local arts centre, drama group, orchestra or choir and organise a charity performance at school or work where proceeds raised are donated.

## C

- **Cake Sale (Pup-Cake sale)**- Get baking and sell your cakes on to your mates, work colleagues or at school.
- **Car Boot Sale** - All you need is a car (preferably with a boot), some junk and some people to buy it from you.
- **Coffee Morning (Dogs Breakfast)**- Bake some pup-cakes, bring out the pup-a-chinos and they will come. Remember to charge them for the privilege.
- **Concert** - Get some talented friends to perform in front of those less talented. Or, vice versa for a laugh. Charge an admission fee and organise a collection during the matinee.
- **Cricket Match** - Organise enough people to make up two teams and get them to pay a small amount to take part. Organise a collection for the spectators.
- **Cycle-a-thon**- Get sponsored for every mile you cycle.
- **Car Washing** - Grab some willing friends and get knocking on your neighbour's doors. Tell them why you are offering to wash their car - and chances are, they'll gladly stump up a bit of cash.
- **Chocolate Ban**- Get sponsored for every three days you can go without chocolate - or for every day without, if you're a serious chocoholic!
- **Car Park Raffle/Auction** - if parking your car at work is near impossible, when those with company car parks are away, why not organise to raffle/auction off their car space?
- **Casual day** – hold a regular casual day at your school or workplace and charge each of those who join in.
- **Caption competition** – get a photo of your school principal, teacher or workplace manager doing something unusual and charge for participants to submit a caption.
- **Children's fun day** – arrange activities and entertainment for your work colleagues to bring their children along and charge a fee for each child who participates.
- **Colouring-In competition** - hold a competition that your school friends can participate in.



## D

### Doggie-themed Ideas!!!!

- Bring your **Dog to work day**- and ensure that everyone make a donation to take part
- **Dog-wash**
- Offer to **wash the neighbours dog**, and ask for a donation for your services
- **Dog walk** - Get some exercise and raise money at the same time. Offer your services as the neighbour dog walker and charge per dog per walk.
- Create a **dog-stackle course** for you and your doggie friends
- **Dog-Bowl**- barefoot bowling, but the twist is that the losing team has to make a donation
- Be a **Dogs-body**- do tasks and errands in return for donations
- Hold a **Dogs-breakfast**
- **Dog-Leg** (Golf day, charge an entry fee)
- **Dog-tale**- at work or school have a creative writing contest, then charge a coin donation for entry
- **Dog-run, dog-walk or dog-paddle** (swim- sponsored)
- **Doggie tricks**- teach your dog new tricks – get your friends to sponsor you to succeed
- **Dogscars**- Film show/premiere - There are two main ways to do this. Speak nicely to your local cinema manager and ask if you can rent out a screen - or even if they will donate one to your worthy cause. Charge your friends and family an admission to watch the newest blockbuster.



- **Dance marathon** Get people to sponsor you for every five minutes of boogying you manage - or for every song you shimmy to.
- **Dry Cornflakes/Cream Cracker eating** contest - Charge a small fee to enter and move back to avoid the spraying of crumbs.
- **Dinner dance** This one will take some organising, but could make you a packet. Charge \$50 for tickets, and make more money by running a bar.
- **Donate** - an hour's pay, or why not a day's pay?
- **Dress up day** - forget dressing down, it's your chance to glam up at school or work!

## E

- **Egg and Spoon Race** - Think back to your school sport's days. All you need is some spoons, some eggs, some willing volunteers and it a bit of space in which to race. Charge participants to enter, with the winner of the race being awarded a small prize.
- **Egg Painting** - Something to have at your craft fair or fete. Set up an egg painting stool, provide the eggs and the paint and charge people to get creative.
- **Easter Egg Hunt**-Charge parents to take their kids off their hands for a afternoon - plan an Easter egg/ sweet hunt in the garden to keep them amused.



## F

- **Flea-market-** bring and buy sale of old clothes
- **Fairs, fetes, bazaars,** etc- Get yourself a big space (a hall, a field or even a car park) and let your imagination go crazy. Set up a coconut shy, apple bobbing stand, races and white elephant stalls.
- **Fashion Show** - Either grab a couple of mates and stage a show in your house. They could model clothes that you no longer want or need, which could then be auctioned off at the end of the day. Alternatively, let local clothes shops know about your fundraiser and ask them to donate clothes for the show. This is also great publicity for them. Get hold of a hall and advertise the event well in advance - give out flyers in your town centre and post them through letter boxes.
- **Football Match** - Ask your local team to play a match. Organise a raffle at half time and get prizes donated by local businesses. Alternatively, organise a match pitting your mates against their dads and older relatives. Ask each player to pay a fee to play and buy a small cup for the winning team.
- **Fun Run (Dog run)-** Get sponsored to take part in an organised race - or organise your own where you live.
- **Fill Smartie tubes with coins** - Pass smartie tubes out to your friends and family and ask them to fill them with spare change - preferably \$2 coins! Then collect them back in - you'll be amazed at how much you will raise this way and there is very little effort involved.

## G

- **Game night** - Break out those board games and start playing. Charge people for playing.
- **Go-Karting** Organise a group of mates to head to the local Go Kart track. Inform the staff of your fundraising efforts and hope that they waive the admission fee - best to go off-peak times if you want to give this a try. Ask each person to pay a fee to enter a series of races. Award the winners a small prize each.

- **Guess the Weight...** Find something suitably heavy - anything from a jar full of sweets to your Grandma - and ask friends and family to guess it's weight. Charge folk 50c to enter and buy a small prize for the winner.
- **Give up a vice** -Whether it be biting your nails or your daily choccie bar - get sponsored to give it up for a set period - or ask people to sponsor you per day. Then you could rake in wads of cash!
- **Golf days** – hold a golf day for your work colleagues, clients and/or suppliers.

## H

- **Hair colour or shave** – gather a group of friends or work colleagues willing to change their hair to a crazy colour temporarily in return for sponsorship dollars. Or, if you're really brave, why not organise a head shave?
- **Heads or tails** – play a game of Heads or Tails. Everyone donates to enter. Whilst standing up, each person decides if they're heads or tails by putting a hand on their head or their bottom. Flip a coin and announce the results. Those who get it wrong sit down. Continue until only one person is left.

- **Hopscotch challenge** - get together for a fun challenge at your school? Charge an entry fee and give out prizes to the best costume or team on the day.



- **Hair beading/plaiting** - An idea for a stall at a fete.
- **Howl-O-ween party** - Probably best organised around the end of Dogtober. Encourage your friends to dress the part and run a fancy dress competition with a small prize for the winner. All guest should pay a small entrance fee to attend.

## I

- **Ice-cream Eating** - Buy huge tubs of ice cream and sell them by the scoop as cornets on a hot day.
- **Indulgence Day** - instead of casual day, create an indulgence day where everyone can wear their pyjamas, slippers and have a hot chocolate!
- **Inter-departmental sports matches** – organise for teams or departments to play against each other in a knock out competition. Anyone for netball, soccer etc?

## J

- **Jumble sale** - Dig around under the bed and at the back of wardrobes for anything you can sell and organise a jumble sale. Get your friends to get in on the act selling their own unwanted items -
- **Jellies in a Jar** - an ever popular competition of counting how many jelly beans in a jar.
- **Jazz Night**- A good idea if you're a jazz singer. Perhaps a better one if you're not. Raise money and have a giggle at the same time by belting out some classic jazz tunes. Pass around the donations bucket to your spellbound audience and watch the money roll in.
- **Jog-athon** -Get sponsored to every mile you complete. If its raining outside - and you're a bit of a wimp - you could even do it on a treadmill. Might be something to get sponsored for at your local gym.
- **Jewellery Making/Selling**  
Buy beads and wire in bulk and get creative. Should be particularly profitable around Christmas time.

## K

- **Karaoke competition/display** - Rent a karaoke machine and hold an event in your local pub, school, hall or club. Sell tickets, or make it a competition and charge people to enter. Get a local company to donate a prize.
- **Kite flying**- Hold a kite-flying day for kids. Charge for tickets, and provide refreshments (ice-creams or hot-dogs, depending on the season). If you're a creative type, run a kite-making workshop before the grand kite-flying session.
- **Knobbly knee contest** - Works especially well at in summer. Charge a gold coin donation for people to enter the competition, and get a local company to donate a 'quality' prize. You get the fun of being the judge.
- **Knockout pool tournament** -host a pool competition.

## L

- **Longest chain of paper clips, line of coins, etc**- Get sponsored per metre - you could even get a bunch of friends together and try to break the record. Alternatively, start a line of coins in your local park or college grounds. Publicise what you're raising money for and get passers-by to add their loose change to the line. Try to make it reach from one side of the park to the other.
- **Lawn Mowing** - Borrow a lawn-mower and drop leaflets through doors, charging \$5 for your services. Make sure the leaflet explains what the money is for, and people will be more inclined to pay.
- **Luncheon** (Bone-appetite) - Invite everyone in your workplace, school or street to a grand lunch (for a small fee, obviously). Make posh sarnies and nibbles. This could work especially well in an office, where people will appreciate an unusual break in the middle of the day.
- **Litter Picking** -People will be very willing to pay you if you're cleaning up a local park, beach or kids' playground. This is a way to help your local community while raising money for yourself, so everyone's a winner.
- **Late for meetings penalty** - do meetings constantly start late? Why not charge a \$5 penalty for anyone who arrives to a meeting five minutes after it's planned commencement?



- **Lawn bowls** - test your skills in the art of lawn bowls, it's good fun and you can even do it bare foot!
- **Longest sushi train** - do your friends and family like eating sushi? Why not have "the longest sushi train" fundraising lunch?
- **Lunch money** - instead of buying lunch, why not bring in your own lunch one day and donate what is normally spent?
- **Logies event** - do you and your friends follow the Logies? Perhaps hold your own Logies night with prizes for "work related categories" and hand out Logie statuettes to the winners.

## M

- **Marathon events**  
Hire a local hall, or see if you can get one free for a good cause. Hold a marathon table tennis, aerobics, line dancing or badminton session (in shift teams). Get relevant companies to sponsor you in exchange for publicity in the hall (local gyms, sports shops etc). Get sponsorship from friends and family too
- **Midsummer masked ball**- This will take a lot of organisation, but could be a very special - and lucrative - event. Go all-out to make it as posh as possible, and charge ten to 20 dollars for tickets.
- **Midnight film shows, midnight feasts etc**
- **Mini Marathon** - Get sponsored to run five or ten miles around your town, or the equivalent around your garden. The smaller the garden the better - just make sure you change direction occasionally to reduce dizziness!

- **Murder Mystery Night** - This could be great, especially if you're a member of an amateur dramatics group, or a drama group at school or college, who'll help you out.
- **Mobile phone ringing penalty** - start a penalty system for anyone whose phone rings during a meeting or presentation, perhaps a \$5 penalty should be established to discourage the polyphonic/musical disruptions?
- **Makeover evening** – hold a pamper session with your girlfriends or workmates and organise beauticians and massage therapists to provide complimentary treatments. Each person pays an admission fee.
- **Memory meal** – transport yourselves back to when you were kids. Have a day where you all dress in the style of your favourite childhood time and bring along some of those tasty dishes your parents would cook.
- **Melbourne Cup Sweep** – organise a fun BBQ or late-lunch to celebrate the race that stops the nation.



## N

- **Nintendo/Xbox/Playstation competition** - organise a play-off with friends to see who is the ultimate computer gamer amongst your group!
- **Nearly New Sale**- This is a posher version of a jumble sale. Be selective - only sell nice stuff that's in good nick
- **Netball Tournament**- Get local and school teams to pay to enter; get a sports shop to donate cool prizes for the winning team.
- **Non-Uniform Day**- People pay a couple of quid for the privilege of coming to school or work in their casual clothes.

## O

- **Obstacle Course (Dog-stackle course)**- Set up a hard-core obstacle course and charge people to race.
- **Office Collection Day**- Stick a pot on your desk with notices telling people what you're raising money for. Loudly remind your colleagues that it's for a good cause.
- **Odd Job Days**- Lawn-mowing, DIY, carrying shopping, walking dogs... offer your services in the neighbourhood - no job too small. Dress in a superhero costume to get noticed.
- **Outgrown Clothes Sale**- This is good if you know lots of families with kids. They bring clothes that their kids have grown out of, and buy clothes that others have brought.
- **Origami (dog-ogani)**- If you're good at this Japanese art-form, hold an origami workshop for kids.
- **Office space** - are you in an open plan office with unlimited distractions? Why not raffle/auction off the boss's office next time he/she is away?
- **One day break** – get sponsored by family and friends to go without speaking or a vice for a day—maybe it's coca cola or chips!

## P

- Have a guess the dog to their owner **photo competition** at work or school, \$2 entry
- **Pancake day party**- Everyone loves pancakes, right? Hold a Shrove Tuesday party for all your family and friends (charge them \$5-10 each). Serve unlimited pancakes and hold a pancake-tossing competition.
- **Pup-cake party**- Bake and sell pup cakes at work, school or your local club
- **Parties**- Know some busy parents? Organise their kids' birthday parties for them in exchange for cash. Jelly and ice cream here we come.



- **Penalty shoot-out competition**- People pay to enter; you get your hands on a signed football or some sports goodies for the winner. Get a football team or sports shop to donate the prize.
- **Pram push** - Dress up, push your mate in a pram through the streets of your town, shake a bucket and be prepared to tell a lot of curious bystanders why they should give you money.
- **Parachute jump**
- **Plant Sale** - Requires forward planning. Buy a packet of seeds for a quid, plant them, and when they're looking impressive, set up a stall and sell the plants for a quid each. From little acorns, mighty oaks shall grow, or something like that.
- **Poker Night**- Call your serious (and not-so-serious) card-playing friends and invite them over for a poker night where they will donate all the money they win (and lose!).
- **Picnics**- Sell tickets in advance; with a little imagination you can make great, fun picnic food from cheap ingredients.
- **Plastic duck race**- Use Google to find a company near you that hires out plastic ducks. People sponsor a duck, and they're released at a set point to float down a river. The sponsor of the winning duck gets a prize.
- **Pizza extravaganza** - why not gather a group together and hold a fundraiser around making and/or eating pizza
- **Party pies/sausage rolls** - how about holding a fundraiser at your school or workplace where you sell homemade party pies and sausage rolls to raise funds?



## Q

- **Quizzes**- Pubs are the usual venue, but you could also hold one at a local college, at a day centre for older people, or in a town or village hall.



- **Quiff competition**- Warning: only try this if you want to bring large numbers of Elvis fans out of the woodwork.
- **Quintessentially Australian** – organise a day where everyone bring along some Aussie tucker to celebrate being Australian. Charge a fee to join in.

## R

- **Races**- Be imaginative - think sack-races, baby races, electric wheelchair races, stillette races... charge people for entry and get a local company to donate a prize.
- **Raffles** - Get friends and local companies to donate prizes. Go for cool, unusual prizes like a day in a spa, a go-karting session or a takeaway pizza.
- **Read-a-thon** - Get sponsored to read books - this works best if you're someone who never normally reads.
- **Rugby Match** - Charge spectators for tickets. For extra crowd-pulling power, play in drag...
- **Rounders Tournaments**- Charge teams to enter, and award a sport-related prize - or a slap-up post-match picnic with booze - to the winning team.
- **Rowing**- Get sponsored to row on a rowing machine; aim to row the equivalent of crossing the Hawkesbury River.

## S

- **Sausage sizzle**- Charge neighbours, friends and family a small fee to attend your barbeque. If you get them all to bring a bottle or some nibbles, costs should be kept down.
- **Scoff-a-hotdog competition**- Who can eat two in the shortest time? Who can eat the most in two minutes? Charge people to enter, with a free meal (donated by a fast-food joint?) for the winner.

- **Silly games afternoon**- Egg and spoon, silly races, wet sponge throwing... use your imagination.
- **Sponsored events** - You can get sponsored to do pretty much anything, so think creatively.
- **Sports contests**- Again, think creatively. Any sport can bring in the money - either charge individuals or teams to enter with the hope of winning a prize, or charge spectators to watch.
- **Sponsored Silence**- Could you talk for Australia? Reckon your family and friends would pay good money to shut you up for a day? A sponsored silence is really easy to organise, and can make you a fair bit of cash
- **Sports Day**-Organise a sports day at your workplace, local pub, uni or college.
- **Swear Box**-Get your mates or colleagues to put 50c in the box if you or they swear.
  - **Swim-a-thon (doggie paddle)**- Get sponsored per length. If you're a fit swimmer, try to swim the equivalent of crossing the Channel (or half-way across).
  - **Scavenger Hunt**- People pay to enter. They each receive a list of items they need to scavenge - a prize to the person who brings all the items to you first.
- **Spray your hair** - feeling a bit crazy, why not obtain some sponsors to change your hair to purple or yellow?



## T

- **Tea party** - Charge your mates a gold coin donation to attend, and go all-out with the pup-cakes and cucumber sandwiches.
- **Theme days/evenings**- You could hold a '70s night or a Sex and the City evening. Charge people to take part
- **Treasure hunt**- People pay you for the first clue. You lay a trail of clues, with a top prize at the end.
- **Tuck shop** - Buy cheap multi-packs of chocolate bars and crisps and sell them at extortionately inflated prices. Sell home-made cakes and cookies too if you've got time to bake them.
- **Themed Dinner Party (Bone-appetite)**- A Mexican, Indian or Moroccan meal could go down really well. Charge people to attend
- **Tug-of-War** - Teams pay to enter, with the hope of winning prizes. Pitch teams against each other. Teachers vs students, boys vs girls, etc
- **Twister-a-thon** -Get sponsored to play an all-day game of Twister with your mates. People will donate more if you're doing it in a public place - your embarrassment is always worth a few quid.

## U

- **University Challenge**- Pit your uni, school or college against another one.
- **Unwanted Gift Sale**- Get your friends and family to donate their unwanted Christmas gifts in early January. Flog them shamelessly.
- **Unicycle Racing** = Helps if your friends can ride unicycles.
- **Used Stamps**- Get your family, friends and neighbours to donate their used stamps, and sell them to collectors.
- **Unsolicited donations** – everything is gratefully accepted!
- **Ugly ducking competition** – hold a dinner party and have your friends bring a photo of themselves from 5, 10, 15 or even 20 years ago and hold a competition for “best/worst hair cut”, “best dressed” etc.

## V

- **Variety show**- Does your Dad play the didge? Can your dog dance the tango? Put on a variety show with a difference!
- **Volleyball Tournament**- This could work well on the beach in summer-time. Promote it through a loud-speaker, and get teams to pay to enter. Get local businesses to donate prizes for the winners.
- **Vegetable eating**- Does your family despair of your unbalanced diet? Get them to sponsor you to eat your greens.
- **Video-a-thon**- Rent a bunch of classic movies and play them back-to-back for 24 hours. Print schedules and hand them out to your friends and acquaintances, who'll hopefully turn up and pay to watch their favourites. Offer a discount for those who last the whole 24 hours. Don't skimp on the popcorn.
- **Vegetarian Evening**- Cook all your favourite veggie recipes and pay people to come eat them. Don't just target veggies - meat-eaters will come too, out of interest.



## W

- **Wine tasting evening** – spend an evening tasting fine wines with friends, family or work colleagues. Charge participants an entry fee that covers wine, cheese and a donation
- **White Elephant stall**- Sell anything and everything you can get your hands on at a fete, jumble sale or car boot sale. You'll be amazed at what people will buy...
- **Who's that baby**- Get old baby-photos of your mates or - much better - your bosses or teachers. Stick them up around your school or office and get people to pay to guess who they are.
- **Window Cleaning**- Spend a weekend cleaning windows for your neighbours or local shops. Ask for donations rather than charging a set fee and you may get more money.

## X

- **X-Files day** - Use your imagination - the ideas are out there! Hold an X-Files quiz and show episodes of the show all day.

## Y

- **Yoga Marathon**- Get sponsored to do yoga for a day. You'll be so bendy by the end of it that you can charge people to watch you tie yourself in knots.
- **Yodelling Competition** - Will people pay money to listen to your tone-deaf mates yodelling? Only one way to find out...
- **Yo-Yo competition**- Get people to pay to enter; hand out small prizes for duration and tricks.
- **Yes day** – convince a group of your work colleagues to have people sponsor them in their quest to say yes to everyone's work demands on a particular day (within reason of course!)



## Z

- **Zany Dress Day** - People at your office or school pay \$5 for the chance to come dressed as celebs, as animals, in their team's strip, or all in pink...