

Here is a list of fundraising ideas to help you start thinking about the type of fundraising activity you would like to do.

Organised sporting challenges – Runs, marathons and tough ‘mudder’ challenges take place around the UK.

Individual sporting challenge – If you enjoy running, swimming, kayaking or whatever commit to doing a challenging distance for yourself several times over a specified period of time.

Organise a sporting event – Some people enjoy football, rugby, volleyball, netball, hockey and other team sports. Organise a match or tournament and invite family, friends and colleagues to it.

Bake sales - You can bake yourself, ask family or friends for help or have a bring and buy sale. It can be made into a bake-off style competition as well.

Face painting - Kids love to have their faces painted! Even just a few spots or stripes can be enough to keep children happy.

Costume parties - Get your guests to dress in your chosen theme. Guests pay an entry fee then give a prize.

Clothes swap - This is a great way of clearing out unwanted clothes! Bring along any clothes you no longer wear/fit into, have a mirror available and you can try on other people’s unwanted clothes and get yourself a new item or 2 for your wardrobe! Any leftover clothes can be given to a charity shop.

BBQ - Light up the barbie and invite your guests over for a burger!

Quiz or trivia night - Challenge your family and friends to get together in pairs or teams. You can charge a fee to enter, sell drinks and snacks.

Wine tasting - A fun way to get adults together. You can get guests to blind taste various types of wine, then after reading some tasting notes identify which are which.

Film night - Invite friends to come to your house to watch a movie together, then charge for refreshments or ask for a donation (you cannot “charge” to watch the film because of copyright).

Decorate a tea pot and use it for collecting loose change - You could get your friends to join in and offer a prize to the best design.

Open up as a shop for a night - Ask people to donate unwanted quality goods and play shop.

Bring and buy plant sale - A great way for gardeners to share their cuttings and get new ones.

Games/card night - Charge people to enter board game challenges or card games (bridge, etc.) and see who will be the ultimate winner.

Silent auctions - Ask local businesses to donate prizes and then have a silent auction. Golf clubs, football and rugby clubs, fitness clubs, hair and beauty salons, restaurants and shops are often good places to ask to donate prizes.

Book sales - Ask around for used books then sell them at your event.

Raffle/tombola - Ask around for donations of prizes among family, friends and local businesses. If doing a tombola for children, consider a chocolate or sweet themed tombola.

Guess how many... sweets in the jar, pennies in the jar, guess the weight of....the cake, the book, the pumpkin.

Name the Teddy – Decide who's going to judge and charge people to submit an entry.

Duck racing - Get some rubber ducks (or anything else that floats), number them and ask guests to buy a number. You can then race the ducks along a nearby stream or river. Be sure to fish them all out.

Who's who? - Have a collection of baby photos and get people to identify who is who... you can use your family and friends or famous people but you need to make it known who is included.

The fundraising activity you choose will be influenced by your interests and if it is an event to which you will invite others, the type of people you are expecting to attend. Those with young children might choose to include guess the name of the teddy, have face painting or a chocolate tombola. Adults may like the idea of a wine tasting or a plant sale. This will ultimately be your event and so you can choose to organise it as you wish.