

Supporters Guide

A-Z of ways to fundraise

A

- **Abbey Dash** - Calling fitness enthusiasts, Get your trainers ready and get involved! This is a 10k race in Leeds. A fabulous event to help us continue supporting older people across Bradford District.
- **Arts and Crafts stall** - Put your creative talents into action. Sell your baked goods or crafty items at a fair or car boot sale.
- **Abseil** - Set the bar high with an abseil. Calling you adrenaline junkies who are sure to be noticed.
- **Auction / Auction of promises** - If you have a well-stocked record collection you are willing to let go of for a good cause or you have the contacts to get your hands on sought after sports memorabilia an auction could be the fundraising activity for you. Or auction off your skills for something a bit different.

B

- **BBQ** - Get the grill ready with your burgers and buns and why not host a barbecue in your community. People can bring a donation to attend.
- **Battle of the Bands** - Calling musicians. Why not hold a charity battle of the bands for people to showcase their musical talents and have fun. Make some noise and get people dancing.
- **Bake Sale** - Make like Mary Berry and Paul Hollywood and bake your way to fundraising success. Whether you run the event at work, school or your home be sure to find out about any specialist diets and peoples favorite delicious baked treats.
- **Beard Shaving** - Whilst you may love your furry face, what about your friends and family? Would the idea of shaving your beard off have them reaching into their pockets in the name of Age UK Bradford District? Why not let them dye it too before the big shave as a way to raise extra funds.
- **Bingo** - Keep it fun and adapt the game for your audience. If they are celebrity obsessed why not use photographs of famous people instead of numbers or perhaps your friends are food... food bingo anyone?

C

- **Concert** - Similar to Battle of the Bands but maybe for people with different musical styles such as classical.
- **Coffee mornings** - Calling coffee lovers. Most people rely on a coffee to get them through the day so hosting a coffee morning is a great way to fundraise on your lunch break and gathering donations is made easier when you're offering something people wanted anyway. If you're looking to host outside of the workplace, why not

make a longer session, perhaps tie in with your local book club? If you know a friend is running a bake sale why not partner up, they can focus on the cake while you make sure you've got the right beans and brew.

- **Carol singing** - Get people in the mood for Christmas with some Carol singing, could take place within the community.
- **Carnival** - Have a community carnival and try and involve local businesses. Why not have stalls, a raffle and food outlets.
- **Cinema screening** - Film enthusiasts do you have a vast collection of DVDs or know people who really enjoy films? Why not hold a cinema screening as a flexible fundraising idea, whether it's hosted in the school hall, work canteen, your living room, the local cinema or projected outside only one thing will stand between you and success. Popcorn. So buy your own kernels and get inventive, it's a great way to raise extra cash on the night.
- **Curry Night** - Celebrate National Curry Week and share with friends and family one of Bradford's favourite cuisines and fundraise along the way. Ask for donations for cooking a meal or ask your local restaurant to host an evening to fundraise.

D

- **Dinner Party** - An event which can be hosted all year round, on its own or in support of other events, a dinner party can be adapted to suit many people. Remember the top tip is to pick a theme and remember the time of year that you hold the event.
- **Dry January** or non-alcohol month - Why not do good for charity whilst being good to your health.
- **Dances / Disco** - You don't need access to a ballroom or to have moves fit for Strictly to host a dance (but if you do that's great) you just need space and music to move to. Will you host your dance at home or will you hire a local venue?
- **Darts match** - Set your sights on the bull's eye. Keep the game serious charging an entry fee to raise funds or keep it fun and set challenges like throwing whilst on one leg and charge per throw. If you are or know a local darts champion why not charge a fee to play against them?

E

- **Eating competition** - How many doughnuts can you eat without licking your lips? How about crackers without water? When it comes to food there are lots of challenges to be set. You can raise money with entry fees or tie in an eating competition into a larger event. Top tip: breaking records could help you gain press coverage and increase your fundraising (FYI the record for eating a raw onion is 89 seconds)
- **Easter Egg Hunt** - The only constraint here is time - we find eggs are hard to find in December so make sure you leave enough time to get this organised.
- **Easter party** - With school holidays and a long bank holiday weekend Easter is a great time to fundraise. You'll have more time to plan the activity and people are more likely to have the time to support you. There are lots of low cost ways to raise money at an Easter party... from the Easter Egg Hunt to an Easter bunny hop race (ears at the ready).

- **Eighties day/night**- stick on the old school tunes, dress like one of your favourite 80s idols and raise some money.
- **Expert talk** - Get someone with knowledge and passion to give a talk about their expert areas.

F

- **Fashion show** - why not put a fashion show on and show off your style. Put your best foot forward and get on the catwalk.
- **Face painting competition** - Not got the time or resource to organize your own Fete or street party but got artistic skills? Then why not get involved in one which is already taking place and offer your services as a face painter, most events will be happy to have you. No fêtes near you, no fear. Face-painting isn't just for the kids so why not ask your local nightspot if they are hosting any themed nights that face painting would be appropriate for.
- **Football match / Five a side football** - Even if you don't score, this is one match that guarantees you'll make a difference in 90 minutes. If you've got smaller numbers why not opt for a game of five-a-side? Raise funds by charging a player fee and why not let spectators donate take part in a penalty shoot-out at the end of the match?
- **Fancy dress days** - Fancy dress isn't just for Halloween, it's a great way to raise money. If you're the boss why not have every one come into work in fancy-dress and pay a small donation for the day or if you are a dab hand on a sewing machine why not make up your own costumes to raise money? Top Tip: Why not let your colleagues cast votes on the costume you have to wear for the day, they pay a fee to vote which goes towards fundraising (and of course embarrassing you!).
- **Fun Night In** - Get your mates around. It's simple, just invite your friends round and ask them to donate the amount they would usually spend on a night out towards our work.

G

- **Games Night** - You don't have to be a Monopoly board master or play Scrabble like Carol Vorderman to host a games night. You just need games, a place and people. It can be as simple as charades or if you have a screen and console to hand why not go down the gaming route, charging friends to play. Tight on time? Put on a lunchtime session at your office, for the price of a coffee your colleagues pay to play.
- **Go Green challenges** - challenges to be more environmentally friendly - get sponsorship to cycle to work, go veggie, go plastic free. All in the name of helping our beautiful planet.
- **Guess** the name of the Teddy or how many sweets are in a jar.
- **Give it up!** - We all have bad habits, some worse than others (we are looking at you toenail biters) but if you have a habit you want to kick why not do it whilst fundraising? If your habit is costly why not donate the money you save or if your habit causes more frustration to others than yourself why not have people sponsor you? Over the years supporters have raised money by giving up crisps, television, alcohol, chocolate, meat, smoking, etc, etc

H

- **Head shave** – A really popular fundraising activity is the head shave, and we commend you head shavers. Make sure your bold move gets the recognition it deserves. Why not offer people the chance to bid to shave your head, or stretch out the activity by giving people the chance to dye your hair a crazy colour for a week before the shave?
- **Halloween party** - For us the only thing better suited to fancy dress than fundraising is Halloween so get your invites out and charge guests an entry fee to spend the night apple bobbing to Thriller.
- **Hire me** – Tout your skills or knowledge to friends, family or the wider public and ask for a donation in exchange. Maybe you are an expert gardener, tarot card reader or can research family trees?
- **Hogmanay** - If you can't make it to Scotland this year why not bring Scotland to you and throw your very own Hogmanay party. Friends can donate the cost they would usually spend on venue entry (and no long queues for the toilet). Can't tempt your friends from the streets of Edinburgh? Why not focus your fundraising on the pre-event of Hogmanay and prepare a traditional Hogmanay meal for friends before the celebrations.
- **International evening / International Day** - Whether you've travelled the world or just love a particular culture an international theme is a great way to get people excited about raising money. Choose your country (or go 'around the world') and charge people an entry fee. Have a think about dress codes, food and music. Entertainment such as quizzes can be a great way to raise extra funds at the event.
- **In-store collection** - Have a chat with your local shop or supermarket and ask them to host a collection to raise money.
- **It's a Knockout** - The ultimate school sports day for adults. Fun is a big incentive for people to get involved here but we'd also recommend reaching out to local businesses to donate a prize to help the cause (and if your event gains press interest they will also get exposure). You may need materials so if you, or somebody you know works in a school or local sports centre reach out to them, and if you don't have one perhaps ask a neighbour if they have a hosepipe you could use!
- **Irish Night / Day** - It doesn't have to be St Patrick's Day to celebrate the Irish culture. Whether you've got Irish blood or just love the music you're sure to have fun and an Irish focus opens up an array of activities. You can hire a space and throw a party or if you have the skills why not charge people for Irish dance lessons and donate the fee?

J

- **Jewellery collection, Jewellery making/selling** - If you have high value pieces you're looking to donate an auction could be the best route for you. If your skill set lies in making why not put on a 'make-your-own' craft session.
- **Jazz** - Use Jazz music as the centre of your fundraising. You could put on an evening of entertainment and charge for entry or if you're a jazz musician yourself you could share your talent and provide music lessons for donations.
- **James Bond** - The Bond films are iconic and so finding fans shouldn't be hard, but a James Bond night can offer a lot more than movie watching; get ready to make a lot of Martinis

K

- **Karaoke night** - Time to stretch the vocal cords and get ready for a night of karaoke. Love it or hate it fundraisers have proven it's a great way to raise money. If you're on the lookout for a karaoke machine reach out to friends on social media to save money on renting one.
- **Knitting** - British weather means that knitwear is often in demand so use your needle skills to raise money. Decide how you want to sell your unique items, you could use online auction sites, set-up a stall or speak to us here at Age UK Bradford District. Want to raise more awareness of your fundraising? Set-up a Facebook page, or for more publicity try knitting somewhere that will generate interest!

L

- **Ladies Night / Day** - Throw a ladies day (or evening) and get your female friends together. The first challenge will be getting a date in the diary so if this is the event for you start to ask people now about their availability so you can pick a date that works for the majority. Once you've got the date, start to think about entertainment. You could have cocktails and canapés or a Mad Hatters tea party. You know your guests so choose what makes them tick.
- **Luncheon / Lunch** - You don't have to be a lady to lunch. If your office has a habit of ordering food on a Friday why not cook up your own treats? You'll save your colleagues time from buying lunch which will give them even longer to enjoy their food and make a donation to the cause.
- **Learn to...** - Do you know anyone who is crafty or knows basic language skills such as sign language? Could you arrange a basic introduction to watercolour, baking or learning sign language. People could donate to attend.

M

- **Marathon events** - Before you go straight to the next idea, a marathon doesn't have to mean running. In the past supporters have raised money with marathon DJ sets, roller skating, and nail art sessions. Decide if you want an activity that will take you 26.2 miles or hours.
- **Matched Giving** - Whether you are raising money in the office or outside of work, ask your employer about matched giving. Lots of fundraisers have the amount they raise matched by their employer so don't be afraid to ask.
- **Music and wine evening** - Pop, rock, or Jazz? Regardless of genre if fundraising through music appeals to you it's time to start thinking about your event. Will you be performing or looking for local acts to support you? You could keep it simple with a Saturday busking session, but if you're thinking bigger start to look at venues (or start being extra nice to friends with big gardens).

N

- **Name the ...** - Name the doll, 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. You get to control the music and the guest list and can charge cheaper than local pubs for entry and donate the fee.
- **Neighbourhood clean-up** - why not work in the local community and organise a tidy up of a street in the neighbourhood with your local community, or a car park that needs a litter pick up. Alternatively get your neighbours and community involved in

working on tidying a community garden. People could get sponsorship for being a community hero and it's a great way to get to know people around you.

O

- **Office Collection Day / Office Fundraising** - Short of time but eager to make a difference? Then fundraising in the office could be the right activity for you. Fundraising activities for the office could include; Bake Sales, Office Olympics, dress down day or perhaps take breakfast orders and set-up your own tea trolley. A morning coffee could make workers happy to sponsor you!
- **Open gardens event** - Do you have a beautiful garden or know someone who does? Why not open your garden up to, colleagues or the community at large. You could charge a donation fee and perhaps serve Pimms and tea on the lawn.

P

- **Pamper Day** - It's likely your friends are already spending money on pampering (the UK beauty industry is worth £17 billion) so why not plan a day that offers the break people need and leaves them feeling good in more ways than one. Are you a trained beautician, masseuse, hairdresser? We need your skills. If pampering is more of a hobby, whilst we'd suggest staying away from offering haircuts, why not have your friends over for a night-in? You could even make your own beauty products which will help keep guests entertained and expenditure low.
- **Pub games night** - take part in a quiz and test your knowledge
- **Pancake Race / Pancake Day / Shrove Tuesday** - Shrove Tuesday or Pancake Day? We don't mind what you call it as long as you flip for us!

Q

- **Quiz night** - The pub, village hall, local sports centre and your best mate's garden are all venues suitable for hosting a quiz. Decide what is right (and available) to you and get working on those questions. Will the focus change by rounds or will your quiz be more niche, with all questions specific to a particular band, film or book? You host the night and guests pay to play. Simple... but the questions might not be.
- **Quintessentially British Day** – Bunting, tea and corgis are just a few things that spring to mind. Perhaps for you it is afternoon tea, marmite or maybe a Sunday Roast and Stephen Fry? Put on a celebration of all things Quintessentially British. You can charge entry and raise funds with tombolas and bake sales.

R

- **Raffle** - A raffle is great to have at a fundraising event like a fun day or as part of your fundraising for a wider event. You just charge a fee for tickets and the winner gets a prize. This could also work as a stand alone fundraising activity. Just be aware of offering unwanted gifts as prizes, your friends may recognise them!
- **Running** - Fundraise by running at an organised event or just you and your challenge. Where will your run take you?

S

- **Sweepstakes** - Want a way to fundraise fast? A sweepstake could be the perfect way for you to raise money. You have one question, for example, 'How many sweets in the jar?' and people pay to give an answer. Whoever has the winning answer gets a prize and you donate the money raised.
- **Skydiving** – Brave? Despite the obvious fear factor, skydives are a really popular fundraising activity so start organising your skydive today.

- **Sponsored Silence** - If you're a chatter box who finds being quiet a challenge then perhaps raise funds with a sponsored silence. Just remember don't be quiet about the cause and your fundraising before or after the event!

T

- **Tea party** - A good cup of tea can change your mood, we drink it when we are sad, we drink it when we are happy and today why not drink it to support the cause.
- **Tug-of-War** - we know that together we are stronger, but will you be stronger than your friends?
- **Tuck shop** - If you are the type to cause lunchbox envy in your colleagues then it's time to set up shop. Find simple budget recipes and you'll be making muffins for a tenth of the cost of the local coffee chain. This means you can charge your colleagues a budget friendly price whilst giving them a chance to support a good cause.

U

- **University Challenge** - Pit yourself against your local university competition, and open it up for your fellow students to view. Ticket costs will help you raise funds and remember to speak to your Student Union who will might well be happy to help you organise (particularly in RAG week).
- **Uniform free day** - Uniform free day. Whilst best avoided if you are a fireman this is a great way to raise funds at school or let everyone relax a little with a dress down day. Swapping your usual uniform for fancy dress could help you raise even more money.
- **Unplugging day** - Are you or do you know someone who is always glued to their phone or computer. Could they or you get sponsorship to unplug from electronic devices for a bit. One day or longer if you are brave enough.
- **Upcycle and recycle** - Turn something with little or no value into something that can fetch a higher price once its been upcycled or recycled. We've lots of donated items and starter kits you can use to start you off, as part of our Studio BD project.

V

- **Valentine's Day** - Lots of single friends and a penchant for matchmaking? Then organise a singles event from speed-dating to a full blown Valentine's Ball. The best part of this is that even if you don't get a love match you know that people can go home happy knowing they have supported such an important cause. Don't have the resource (or friends willing) for a singles event, why not bake some love themed goodies for the office. Or why not throw the alternative Valentine's Day event, whether its fitness or food make the theme 'what you love' and ask for donations from friends who attend.
- **Vintage** - Got enough vintage shirts to set up your own stall? Got an eye for finding furniture online or at car boots? Then why not organise your own vintage sale and donate proceeds to Age UK Bradford District? If you don't have enough to organise your own stall why not organise a vintage clothes swap, people pay a small fee for entry and you raise funds on the day with activities and bake sales. Perhaps sell homemade lemonade to keep people refreshed while they swap!

W

- **Walk** - Where and how far will you walk? You could walk long distances or 5k or walk blindfolded (very carefully and guided!). Whether you head to your shopping

centre in your onesie or make your way from John O'Groats to Lands' End, walk with purpose and become a fundraiser today.

- **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

- **X-Factor Competition** - Fundraising is all about doing what you can to make a difference, so if you can hit the high notes like Mariah then an X-Factor style competition could be right for you. If you're not the singer in the group stick to hosting and if you can't find the talent to compete why not host a night to watch the show. You can put a sweepstake on the show, from who'll be the first to go to how many times the phrase "I didn't like it, I loved it" gets used. The prize can be a percentage of the money raised or a non-monetary prize of your choosing.
- **X Box** - We hope you're sat comfortably because an X-Box fundraiser could leave you up all night, but make this gaming session one that matters by inviting people to play for a donation.

Y

- **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 are 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 that they have made a difference to other people's lives too.
- **Year to Remember** - What's the most memorable year of your life? Why not make it this year, and for all the right reasons. What could you do for a year to make a difference? Doing something every day for 365 days is the ultimate dedication and a sure 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?

Z

- **Zumba** - Do it with the girls, or go boys only. Do it in water or do it wearing fancy dress. But why not Zumba your way to fundraising.?
- **Zip Slide** - Adrenaline junkie or willing to face a fear? Join in with a Zip Wire event and have a blast!