

## A to Z of Fundraising Ideas



Auctions. Sell off the company's old stock or display items, your own attic stuff, or that of your colleagues and friends, through an auction or on eBay. Charge a percentage of the profit. Have an auction of wedding presents or Christmas presents that have never seen the light of day. What about the glass gondola that you bought in San Marco Polo square in a rash moment?

Promises auctions can be great fun. Could you promise to be a garden gnome for an hour? How about: play a violin for one hour at a party, cook for a dinner party of 6 people, provide a 2 hour lesson in computer skills, take a group of 5 punting on the Isis for two hours (with a bottle of champagne), a holiday cottage in France for a week, bake a birthday cake, join a tour around a neutron accelerator...The possibilities are endless, and your company can ask its contacts for donations of promises too!

Art show, abseiling

**Buy a Brick.** See the buy a brick house. Give a sheet to your close friends and ask them to raise sponsorship for you.

**Ball**. Why not get your company to host a Ball or Gala Evening in aid of Habitat for Humanity? It's a great excuse to get your glad rags on, get the media involved and get some serious funds raised!

**Busking**. If you have talented musicians in the office why not consider busking for donations in the company dining room or on a street corner at the weekend? (You may need to get permission from the council!)

Banquet, basketball shootout, BBQ, book sale, bingo, Burns night, birthday donations in lieu of gifts

**Company links**. Advertise to your sub-contractors, suppliers and customers. Using your company newsletter to publicise your participation in this campaign is one way to get the word out.

Car wash, cake stall, calendar, card evening, campaign evening, craft stall, concert, cards

**Dancing**. Tea dancing, line dancing, barn dancing, Scottish dancing, disco dancing, salsa dancing, ballroom dancing.... The joy of dancing is in movement, responding to another person, especially if done in the name of Habitat for Humanity!

Ask a local venue to donate the space, hire a local band or DJ. Sell tickets to cover the cost of food, the DJ, other hire costs. Add value through a tombola.

Dinner party, drawing competition, dress down day at work, dog walking, darts

**Eating out**. Take over a restaurant on a quiet night. Negotiate a limited menu with the restaurant and charge twice the amount, the difference being the donation to Habitat for Humanity. (An additional sheet is available on organising a restaurant evening – please ring the Habitat office)

Easter egg hunt, exhibition

Flowers, weeds and rushes. Collect and dry flowers, cow parsley, rushes... Spray paint them gold, red and green and sell them at Christmas, along with hyacinth bulbs in attractive containers. A line of homemade marzipan fruits in decorative containers will also go down a treat.

Face painting, family fun day, fashion parade, fete, fun run, firework display

Whilst we cannot count **Gift Aid** towards your total (Gift Aid funds are a vital source of general funding for us), we would be very grateful if those of your sponsors who pay income or capital gains tax would tick the Gift Aid box on your online Fundraising Page or sponsor form. This enables us to claim up to 25% back off the government at no cost to your sponsors. (NB: We cannot claim back Gift Aid from 'connected people' - spouse, sibling, parent, child, spouse of the aforementioned, or donating from a company under control of such a person, so they should NOT tick the box!). Give as You Earn is another form of gift aid for people who make donations to charities through their payroll.

Games night, garage sale, garden party, goal shoot out, golf match

Heritage walks. Many places are associated with famous or infamous people of the past. It may be Clive of India, Charles Darwin or CS Lewis. Research your history, lead a tour and charge £5.

Hat party, horse show

Involve your Company, Organisation or Hobby Group. There are endless possibilities for working through your business or any organisations you belong to. Perhaps your company would be willing to sponsor you to participate in this Project. They could sponsor fund-raising events – a dinner, a party/dance/disco, a donation campaign. You could place one of our "house" collecting-boxes in a prominent location with a poster reflecting the amount people have contributed towards your goal.

Indian curry night, international evening

**Jam and cake stall**. Add variety to your table. Marzipan fruits always go a treat.

Just a minute, jazz evening

- Karaoke night. Guaranteed laughter and fun! Ask your local if they will give you a free room (they will get money from drinks). If they don't have a karaoke machine try and get a good deal from a local supplier. Advertise the event at the pub and in the community. Charge singers to sing, and charge the rest of the crowd twice as much to get them to stop singing.
- Local Trust Funds. Investigate any local trust funds in your area. They often have strict criteria about what they will fund, but you might find one that matches up. Information on local trusts can be found in libraries, town halls, and volunteer bureaus. If the trust has more than a local remit, please check with the Banbury office to make sure that no applications are already in hand.

Lottery (make sure it is legal – check with the Banbury office), lunchtime quiz

Men's evening. Meet up with your mates to watch your favourite team. Ask your mates to bring their own cans. Collect £5 as they cross your front door.

Marathon, market stall, murder mystery night, musical evening

**Nearly new sale**. Sale of nearly new clothes, books, children's toys.... Presentation is important otherwise the sale can easily become a rummage sale.

New Year's Eve party

Open Day. Could you become the charitable beneficiary of an open day at a garden, a factory, a research facility, a stately home ....?

Odd job day, open garden

Parties. Use your imagination and have a ball!

The Christmas Bash – ask for an additional donation for charity. Run a raffle...

Fancy Dress – perhaps Gangsters and Molls – serve Italian food.

What about celebrating Burns night, bonfire night or Saint Augustine's day?

Poetry recital, progressive dinner, photography competition, plant sale

- Quiz nights. Charge an entrance fee and award prizes you may be able to get businesses to sponsor these. Quizzes need to be fun so try and have something for everyone. An entrance fee could include light refreshments and drinks.
  - Trivial Pursuits invite teams to play on a knockout basis.
  - Local knowledge who is buried under the porch at Moreton Say?
  - Soaps does anybody remember who shot JR? Who shot Dirty Den?
  - Sport the Hand of God: is it a left hand or right hand?
  - Music very popular with music fans of all ages.
  - Summer holidays What country is Kato Pafos in?

Run for Habitat for Humanity. If you are a runner, enter a marathon or half-marathon and ask your friends and colleagues to sponsor you. We can provide you with a sponsorship form and details of appropriate marathons and half marathons.

Raffle, recital, ramble

Sponsorship. Get your families and friends to sponsor you if you are going on a Global Village trip.

**Schools and colleges**. Work with a school in your area to come up with creative ways to enlist the help of students in your fund-raising efforts. Possibly a class or a club at the school could "adopt" you and together you could think of a variety of activities to raise support. You could make presentations to the group focusing on the country in which you want to build a house, raising their awareness and understanding about another part of the world. They could have contests, challenging each other to a competition to see who can raise the most money. Perhaps a non-uniform day, end of term competition, disco, sponsored silence.

Sweepstake, sports day, supper party

Tea in the afternoon. Make the most of our fine traditions – scones, jam, clotted cream, cakes.... Each member of your group bakes their favourite cake. If you have a garden near a tourist attraction, a series of afternoon teas could work. You could have one charge for tea & two scones or each item could be charged for individually.

Alternatively each table could have a cake-stand – with people helping themselves and then adding up the cost of their eating and drinking on slates with chalk. You may be surprised how many people will add in a little extra.

If you were to run a series of afternoon teas, say each Sunday afternoon for six weeks in the summer, your afternoon teas could soon draw people from afar.

Ten pin bowling, theatre evening. Tombola, treasure hunt, tennis

- **Use everyone**. Spread the load. Let as many as possible in on the joy of fundraising. *University challenge, unwanted gift sale*
- Vin et Fromage. (Cheese and Wine were already used up.) Going to France? Bring back some French delicacies and get your friends and workmates around to taste the delights of France. (This suggestion does not imply that there is anything inferior about British wine and cheeses). Either way, 20 people at £5 to £10 each can be a tidy sum even after you have paid for the wine, cheese, bread sticks, fruit or celery...

  Valentine's day event, variety show, video night
- Workplace. Some companies will sponsor an employee on a pound for pound basis. Other companies have their own fund for community activities and may sponsor part of your activity.

Walks (sponsored), washing cars, waxing legs, wrapping Christmas presents in the shopping centre, women's evening

- Xtra, xtra, news xtra. Publicise Habitat for Humanity by using whatever forms of media are available to you: local newspapers, television and radio stations, community notice boards. Very often the media will jump at the chance to cover a story where someone is trying to reach out and make a positive difference. Don't be afraid to let people know what you are doing. They will be encouraged by it and your initiative might spur them on to get involved. We have a separate toolbox leaflet on publicity ring the Habitat office for your copy.
- Yard sales, garden sales, boot sales... This could be the time to get rid of all your stuff that has been clogging up the under-stairs cupboard for far too long. Or you could invite your friends and neighbours to bring along their stuff as well. Spring plant sale. Start to take cuttings in the autumn. Insert coloured straws into plant pots each colour represents a price. Approach garden centres for some special plants to be auctioned.... Add value to your sale by selling cream teas.

Yacht race, yoga marathon

**Zambia**. Are you raising funds for a house in Zambia, or Zimbabwe or Zanzibar? Why not have a themed evening relating to the country to include music, food, culture...

Zany ideas such as a zebu modelling competition or a zoo themed fancy dress party