



Fundraising Ideas A-Z



Celebrate. Remember. Fight back! Whakanui. Maumaharatia. Tu Atu!

Fundraising Ideas A-Z

A

- **Auction**– Auctions come in many forms silent auctions to a part of a larger event as a live auction.
- **Afternoon tea** - Ready to debate how to pronounce scones? Then why not host an afternoon tea, whether you do it at work home or a local venue.

B

- **Bake Sale** - Make like Alison Holts and bake your way to fundraising success. Whether you run the event at work, school or your home!
- **Bingo** - If the phrase two little ducks brings a smile to your face then bingo could be the activity for you! Our advice: 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 foodies... food bingo anyone?

C

- **Coffee mornings** - 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 your offering something people wanted anyway.
- **Cinema screening** – You can do this locally at the State Cinema or Suter, just ask for what films they have on offer. Or maybe you can do a private screening at your local school, club, just remember to contact Roadshow for permission. Ask the Cancer Society for the contact.
- **Colour Run** – How about doing a colour run, participants get hosed down and then do a lap or two of a course while getting colour cornflour thrown at them. You sell tickets for people to take part! You can purchase on <https://www.qualitycolouredpowder.co.nz/5-kg-bags/>.

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 appeal to most people. Our top tip: pick a theme. You could focus around the origins of the food you serve or go theme first, food second and serve dishes from your favourite film.
- **Dances / Disco** - You don't need access to a ballroom and moves 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? We've helped lots of supporters raise funds this way so if a disco is how you want to raise money get in touch and let us help you fundraise too.
- **Darts match** - Set your sights on bulls eye and 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 weetbix without water!
- **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.

F

- **Face painting competition** - Not got the time or resource to organise your own gala or street party 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. Face-painting isn't just for the kids so why not ask your local nightclub 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 to 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?

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.
- **Girls Night In** - Get the girls round and gang up on cancer. It's simple, just invite your friends round and ask them to donate the amount they would usually spend on a night out towards your fundraising to a great cause
- **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 for vital research into cancer? 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 our supporters have raised money by giving up crisps, television, alcohol, chocolate, meat, smoking.

H

- **Head shave** - One of our most popular fundraising activities is the head shave, and we commend you head shavers. It's a brave way to not only raise money for research but raise awareness of cancer. 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.
We will have a hairdresser on stage at RFL to do your head shave!

I

- **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.
- **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 looking businesses to donate a prize to help a good cause (and if your event gains press interest they will also get exposure). You'll 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 Patricks day to celebrate the Irish culture, whether you've got Irish blood or just love the music your 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

- **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 our fundraisers have proven it's a great way to raise money. If your on the lookout for a karaoke machine reach out to friends on social media to save money on renting one.
- **Knitting & Arts and Crafts**- Decide how you want to sell your unique items, you could use online auction sites, set-up a stall at the weekend market. Set-up a Facebook page, or for more publicity tie knit somewhere that will generate interest... we have had supporters knit at the top of mountains before (but fundraising from your own home is equally as appreciated)!

L

- **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.

M

- **Marathon events** - Before you go to the next idea, a marathon doesn't have to mean running. In the past our supporters have raised money with marathon DJ sets, roller skating, and nail art sessions
- **Matched Giving** - Whether you are raising money in the office (link to office fundraising content?) or outside of work, ask your employer about matched giving. Lots of our fundraisers have the amount they raise matched by their employer so don't be afraid to ask.
- **Music evening** - - Pop, rock, or Jazz regardless of genre if fundraising through music appeals to you its 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 your thinking bigger start to look at venues (or start being extra nice to friends with big gardens).

N

- **No Make-Up Selfie / Natural Week** - 2014 was the year your support blew us away with #NoMakeupSelfie and it's not too late to support us with your make-up free snap. Want to take it one step further, why not go natural for a full day, week or month?
- **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 Years eve party. You get to control the music and the guest list and can charge cheaper than local pub for entry and donate the fee.

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 for workers happy to sponsor you.
- **Open Garden / Day** - If your garden is in full bloom or you have a house with a colourful history, why not open your doors for an entry fee and host an open house. With the kitchen close by it will be easy to offer refreshments to raise extra funds and it will also be a great way to meet the neighbours!

P

- **Pamper Day** – Organise a pamper session if you are you a trained beautician, masseuse, hairdresser, or maybe you have friends or family that are? You could even make-your own beauty products which will help keep guests entertained and expenditure low.

Q

- **Quiz night** - The pub, village hall, local sports centre and your best mates garden are all venues suitable for hosting a quiz. Decide what is right (and available) to you and get working on those question. 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. You can get quiz packs online : <https://www.kiwi-pub-quiz.co.nz/> for only \$37.

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!

The Cancer Society have a wooden bench seat & giant Teddy that a team can use to raffle!

- **Running** - No organised event, just you and your challenge. Combined our supporters have run thousands of miles to beat cancer sooner, 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 be given an answer. Whoever has the winning answer gets a prize and you donate the money raised.
- **Skydiving** - Our supporters are brave. Despite the obvious fear factor, skydives are one of our most popular fundraising activities so join our dedicated fundraisers, get in touch and 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 beat cancer.

- **Tug-of-War** - we know that together we are stronger than cancer, 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 likely be happy to help you organise.
- **Uniform free day** - Uniform free day, whilst best avoided if you are a fireman this is a great way to get raise funds at school or let everyone relax a little with a dress down dress code. Swapping your usual uniform for fancy dress could help you raise even more money.

V

- **Valentines Day** - Lots of single friends and a penchant for matchmaking? Then get organised a singles event from speed-dating to organising a full blown valentines 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 valentines day event, whether it's 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? 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 to fight cancer?.
- **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 your not the singer in the group stick to hosting and if you can't get 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.

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 wellbeing too.

Z

- **Zumba** - They did it with the girls, whilst others went boys only. Others did it in water and some did it wearing only pink, but one thing stayed the same... they all Zumba'd their way to fundraising life saving research. Ready to feel the rhythm?