

# A-Z

## OF FUNDRAISING IDEAS



## A

**Abseil** Scale a local building – check out our website for local events or contact your local office and we'll find one for you!

**Afternoon tea** Invite friends, family or colleagues around for some tea and cake, in exchange for donations to support the fight to end poverty.

**Antiques roadshow** Find experts to donate their time. Charge for entrance and valuations. Maybe you could link up with an antiques fair and charge stallholders for their pitches.

**Art exhibition** Ask friends who are artists or photographers to donate their work, or approach local artists. Stage an exhibition or auction, and charge an entrance fee and commission.

**Auction of talents** Set up a table for things that people make – for example, cakes, knitting and glasswork – and also auction off services, such as a cookery class, gardening or music tutoring.

## A B

**Bad tie/shirt day** Choose the day and ask your colleagues, or members of your group, to come in wearing their loudest tie or shirt. Charge £1-£2 to take part, and reward the winner.

**Bake-off** Run a traditional bake sale but add some competition. Get people to submit their chocolate brownies and Victoria sponges for judging! Charge for submissions and for selling the cakes afterwards. This can work well when held alongside a traditional bake sale and could get some local media coverage.

**Bake sale** Call on the baking skills of everyone you know and sell buns, scones and cupcakes (order Christian Aid cupcake cases from your local office). Have a bake sale alongside another event, such as a coffee morning.

**Barn dance** Hold it in a real barn, if you can, and hire a good band. Recruit a caller who knows all the dances and can instruct those with two left feet. Charge for admission and refreshments. Make sure you sell enough tickets in advance, not just on the door.

**Battle of the bands/choirs** A contest for local bands or singing groups. Charge entry and invite friends, family and the local community.

**Benefit performance** Put on a show, concert or performance in aid of Christian Aid. You could ask local musical groups to perform. Raise money by charging an entry fee.

**Bike rides** You name the distance and the route. Don't forget safety precautions, and wear a helmet. Invite some friends along or ask us about our pre-organised events.

**Big Christmas Sing** Ask us for the Christian Aid pack – with guidance on how to organise your own carol concert.

**Bingo** Hold a one-off evening game or regular morning sessions.

**Book/DVD club** Collect unwanted books and DVDs, and charge people to hire them. Send the money you collect to Christian Aid at the end of the year.

**Book sale** Sell old books, collected from everyone you know. Secondhand bookshops may buy leftover stock.

**Bridge evening** Play cards and charge an entrance fee per pair of players. You could include a glass of wine and a light supper or nibbles.

**Bring and buy sale** Sell anything and everything. People donate their items to sell and spend a few pounds on something else while they are there.

**Bungee jump** See Abseil.

**Burns Night** Celebrate the famous Scottish bard Robert Burns. Hold a traditional Burns supper or try your own modern twist. Contact your local office for our Burns Supper fundraising pack.



**Caption competition** Take a photo of people in your church (perhaps the minister/vicar) doing something unusual, and then get everyone to submit a caption for £1. The winner gets a token prize.

**Car boot sale** Cash in your old belongings. Or organise a sale yourself, at your local village/community hall, and charge for tables.

**Carol singing** Entice people along with the promise of mince pies and sherry. See Big Christmas Sing.

**Car wash** Wash cars at shopping centres or office car parks and ask for donations.

**Ceilidh** See Barn dance.

**Children's fun day** Parents pay for children to take part. Arrange entertainment, face painting, races, etc.

**Christmas cards** Instead of sending printed cards this year, why not send your friends, family and colleagues Christmas card emails – and ask them to do the same. Donate the money you would have spent on cards to Christian Aid.

**Cinema screening** Could your local cinema be persuaded to do a preview for Christian Aid? Increase the price of the ticket by £1-£2. Have a Christian Aid display in the foyer.

**Coffee mornings** Organise a coffee morning and catch up with friends, family or colleagues. Invite your guests, drink coffee and eat cake, all while raising money to support the fight to end poverty.

**Community Partnership** Apply to undertake a Christian Aid Community Partnership and support a specific Christian Aid project. If you commit to raising £5,000, this will be match-funded by the government. Get in touch with your local office to find out more.

**Concerts** Getting publicity and selling tickets is vital! Bands, orchestras and choirs are often on the lookout for opportunities to perform for good causes and in good venues, on an expenses-only basis. You just need to ask!

**Copper coins** Collect 1p and 2p pieces from all of your friends. Take these to your local Christian Aid office or straight to the bank.

**Curry club** Make a big curry and bring it into work once a week. Charge people £5 for a portion. Get orders on a Monday and bring the curry in on a Friday.

## ABCD

**Dance-off** Organise a dancing competition – create your own theme (for example, countries in which Christian Aid offers support).

**Darts match** Charge an entry fee, have a raffle and refreshments. Make it fun – ladies versus men, left-handed throws only, etc.

**Diet** Get sponsored to lose weight, £1 for a pound!

**Disco** Book a local venue and DJ, and invite people to enjoy some dancing. You could do a themed night, such as '80s music or Abba.

**Dog walking** Charge your neighbours and friends for the service. Or organise a sponsored dog walk.

**Donations** Get companies to donate prizes and/or provide venues.

**Down Under day** Celebrate all things Australian. Hold a barbecue and ask people to dress up like surfers or beach babes. Ask everyone to pay an entry fee.

**Drawing competition** Get local artists involved, or a local school. Pick a Christian Aid theme.

**Dress down day/Dress up day** A fundraising idea for work, school, church, or youth group. Have a themed day (for example black tie, wellie Wednesday or T'ai Chi Tuesday).

**Drink** If you normally like a drink, get sponsored to give up alcohol – perhaps over New Year, or a longer period.

## ABCDE

**Email** Contact your friends and get them all involved in whatever fundraising you are doing.

**Exhibition** Get local arts and crafts groups (painters, wood turners, jewellery or knick-knack makers, etc) to hold an exhibition of their work. Request an admission fee and ask exhibitors to pay for their pitch or give a commission to Christian Aid.

**Expeditions** Find out about our treks/walks at [christianaid.org.uk/events](http://christianaid.org.uk/events).

**Expert talk** Use an expert, or well-known personality, prepared to donate their time. Charge admission. Build in an opportunity to sell refreshments and auction their latest book, invention or autograph.

## BCDEF

**Face painting** Great to do alongside another event, such as a gala or fête.

**Fashion show** Organise your own, or invite a local dress shop to loan/donate clothes. You could make it an ethical fashion show, with only ethically made clothes on show.

**Festivals** Choose a theme: craft, drama or flowers. You'll need a team of volunteers to design and create displays, sell programmes, serve refreshments and organise stall sales.

**Fêtes** Local celebrities will help draw in crowds. There is a lot of work, planning and costing involved – but the rewards are great.

**Football** Run a sweepstake for tournaments, among your friends or at work. Give a token prize to the winner.

**Football match** Hold a collection at half time.

**Fun day** Hold a family fun day at work. Include an *It's a Knock Out*-style competition.

**Fun runs** Organise your own. You decide the venue and the distance. Try to get a local personality to start the event off or even to compete. If you don't have time for this, book a place in an officially organised event and ask friends for sponsorship.

## BCDEFG

**Games** Twister, Jenga, team Trivial Pursuit. Pay to enter, and win donated prizes.

**Garden party** Hold a party or an open garden event. Choose your own or other local gardens that people would like to visit. Have stalls, games, refreshments and raffles.

**Gardening** Offer your gardening services to friends and family.

**Gift Aid it!** Add an additional 25p to every £1 raised, by using Gift Aid envelopes or forms. Contact your local office for these.

**Go-karting** Get people to sponsor the laps. Entry fees for those taking part and those coming to watch. Give the winner (and maybe the loser) a prize.

**Golf** Run an open day or tournament. Get a golf club to sponsor the event for you, invite club members and local businessmen/women for the tournament. Organise a raffle and auction in the evening.

**Greek night** Lay on Greek food, wine and dancing in your church hall.

**Greeting cards** Make cards for every occasion and sell them.

**Guess the number** For example: guess how many sweets in the jar or how many pies you can eat!

**A B C D E F G H**

**Hair** Shave a head or shave a beard and get sponsorship for giving up your treasured locks.

**Hat sale** Get everyone to donate their old hats and then come and buy a new one.

**Horse racing** Hold a sweepstake. Collect the money for Christian Aid and give donated prizes to the winners.

**A B C D E F G H I**

**Instant fundraiser game** Use this to boost your fundraiser. Order your instant fundraiser game from [events@christian-aid.org](mailto:events@christian-aid.org), or your local office.

**Involve everyone** Make sure you ask everyone you know to help out or take part.

**International evening** A buffet dinner, with each friend bringing a different dish. Perhaps focus on a single country in which Christian Aid works. You could get in touch with your local office to see if a Christian Aid speaker could come and speak about that country.

**Ironing** Offer your ironing services at 25p an item.

**A B C D E F G H I J**

**Jam sale** Make and sell homemade jam. Christian Aid jam jar labels are available from your local Christian Aid office.

**Jelly eating competition** Great fun for the kids. Ask for donations to take part and to watch.

**Jewellery recycling** Collect old jewellery from friends, family and church congregations and recycle it, with proceeds going to Christian Aid. Visit [recyclingforgoodcauses.org](http://recyclingforgoodcauses.org) for more information.

**Jewellery making** Buy your own beads and sell what you create.

**Join in** Piggyback on an existing event in your community (for example, a fun fair or school fête), and run a stall or activity.

**JustGiving** Set up your own online sponsorship page at [justgiving.com/christianaid\\_](http://justgiving.com/christianaid_)

**A B C D E F G H I J K**

**Karaoke night** Get budding singers to thrash out their favourite number. Offer a prize for the best and worst performances.

**Knitting** Put your needles together and knit items to sell.

**A B C D E F G H I J K L**

**LAN party** Raise funds by getting together with your friends for a local area network gaming night with your Xbox or PS3. Pay to take part in the tournament and get sponsorship for each game you win.

**Left-handed day** Get sponsorship for doing everything with your left hand for a day (or your right hand if you are left-handed to start with)!

**Lent** Ask for Christian Aid's Count Your Blessings booklet or app, and encourage your friends to take part too.

**Live Below the Line** Get sponsorship to live below the poverty line for five days. You have a budget of just £5 to spend on all of your food and drink. Get in touch with Christian Aid for more information.

**Local running races** Take advantage of any races established in your area. Book a place and then register to join Christian Aid's Team Poverty and ask friends for sponsorship. Alternatively, you can visit [christianaid.org.uk/running](http://christianaid.org.uk/running) to sign up for one of the big races at which Christian Aid already has places.

**Look-a-like** Ask people to take part in a look-a-like contest and give a prize to the winner. Take an entry fee from participants and charge for people to attend. This works well alongside a fête or other event.

## ABCDEFGHIJKLM

**Marathon** Get sponsored to run 26.2 miles! Dress up in something silly to raise a little bit more. Visit [christianaid.org.uk/running](http://christianaid.org.uk/running) to join a Christian Aid running team, or join your own run but sign up to be part of Christian Aid's Team Poverty.

**Market stall** Book a pitch at your local market. Sell fruit and vegetables from your garden or unwanted items from your home.

**Massage** Charge friends and family for a relaxing massage.

**Masterclasses** Is there something you're good at? Dressmaking? Scone baking? Changing a tyre? Why not organise a small class to show other people how to do it? Charge them a fee.

**Matched giving** Ask your workplace to match what you fundraise.

**Memory meal** Transport yourself back to the '60s, '50s or '40s. Dress in the style of the day, put on the right music and cook some dishes of the decade.

**Mile of coins competition** How many coins will it take? The person with the closest guess gets a prize.

**Mobile phone recycling** If you have an old mobile phone lying around, why not recycle it and raise some cash? Ask for envelopes or more information.

**Murder-mystery night** Dress the part to make it more fun! Charge for taking part.

**Music and mulled wine evening** Organise a recital at your local stately home or in someone's summer garden.

## ABCDEFGHIJKLMN

**No-smoking week** Get sponsored to give up and get healthy! You could also donate the money you'd save on cigarettes.

**Non-uniform day** Liaise with the headteacher about a Christian Aid dress-down day for kids at school. Each child donates £1 to take part.

## ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

**Offer a ride** If you have a vintage car, motor trike, pony, tractor, or other interesting transport, you might want to offer rides for a donation and give the proceeds to Christian Aid.

**Outgrown exchange** A sale of children's clothes, books or toys.

**Outward bound** Organise an outward bound trip.

## ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO P

**Press** Tell your local paper what you are doing. Check the Christian Aid fundraising DVD for tips and advice as well as a template press release. Contact your local office to order one or visit [christianaid.org.uk/yourway](http://christianaid.org.uk/yourway)

**Party!** '60s, '70s, '80s. Time to dress up and raise money too!

**Plant sale** Next time you're planting seedlings or taking cuttings, why not double the quantity and have a plant sale later in the year?

**Plant a tree** Collaborate with your local authority's Big Tree Plant programme. Invite people to have a tree planted in memory of someone, in exchange for a donation. Organise to coincide with National Tree Week, usually in November. Visit [treecouncil.org.uk](http://treecouncil.org.uk) for details (England only).

**Poetry recital** Submit poetry on poverty issues and do readings of the top 10. Charge £5 to enter. Contact your local office for our More Poetry, Less Poverty resources.

**Present Aid** Give the gift of a goat or a chicken or a bike... Contact Christian Aid to get a Present Aid catalogue or visit [presentaid.org](http://presentaid.org) and give the gift that keeps on giving.

**Private tuition** Sell your skills! Teach French or flamenco.

**Pub games evening** Teams pay to enter for dominoes, skittles, darts, pool, quizzes, etc. Have plenty of fun prizes and charge for refreshments.

## ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO P Q

**Quiz** Use the Christian Aid Week quiz to raise extra money this Christian Aid Week. Charge £1 for people to take part. Ask your local office for a copy.

**Quizaid** Ask for a Quizaid pack and hold your quiz at work, school or in the local community.

**Quintessentially British day** Get out the tea and scones and celebrate some aspects of Britishness for the day. Ask for an entry fee. Give prizes for the best fancy dress.

## ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO P Q R

**Radio campaign** Your local radio station may help by broadcasting appeals or adopting your fundraising idea for a Christmas appeal.

**Read-a-thon** Over the course of a week, get together with members of your church and do a sponsored read of the Bible.

**Raffles** To get some extra money, add a raffle to any event. To find out about legal requirements, ask your local office or order the Christian Aid fundraising DVD.

**Santa Dash** Ask for more information from your local office about this Christmas-time fundraiser or visit [christianaid.org.uk/running](http://christianaid.org.uk/running)

**Scrabble competition** Dust off your old board game and charge people to enter.

**Sherry evening** Sell tickets for an evening in your own home. Include one glass of sherry in the price; additional glasses for a donation.

**Skydiving** Jump out of a plane for Christian Aid and get friends and family to sponsor you.

**Smarties** Give out tubes of Smarties and ask kids to collect £1 coins for Christian Aid in them, when they've finished all the sweets. Could hold up to £20!

**Super Soup Lunch** Hold a Super Soup Lunch at work, home, church or school. Get in touch with Christian Aid for a Super Soup Lunch fundraising pack, or visit [christianaid.org.uk/super-soup-lunch](http://christianaid.org.uk/super-soup-lunch)

**Sponsored events** Always popular. Try something a little unusual, such as a sponsored technology ban or a wheelchair race for those unable to do a sponsored walk.

**Sports events** Do you belong to a sports club? Why not persuade them to hold a charity day? People could pay to enter a competition.

**Stars in their eyes** Get your friends to dress up like someone famous and then sing. Charge people for singing and for attending.

**Stand up bingo** Sell bingo cards around the room, each with one number on it. Ask all the participants to stand up. Spin the balls, and when a number is called that person has to sit down. The last one standing scoops the prize. Good for dinner dances.

**Stay-awake-a-thon** How long will you last? Run a sponsored competition in which people pay £1 to guess how long you'll last. Give a sleep-themed prize!

**Supermarket collection** Arrange a date to fundraise at your local supermarket. Ask your local office for more information on how to organise this.

**Swimathon** Kids and adults can swim sponsored distances.

**Sweepstakes** Who will win a tournament, or on which day of the week or date in the month will a baby be born? Give a donated prize to the winner.

## ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

**Taxi** Drive your friends around for a fee!

**Talent contest** Charge admission. Organise a *Britain's Got Talent* style event and get everyone involved.

**Tea mornings** Put the kettle on and get baking. Entertain guests with raffles and auctions and charge for having some tea and cake.

**Teddy bears' picnic** Charge for entry and organise a clown, face painting, etc.

**Ten pin bowling** Bowling alleys sometimes have special rates. Charge entry per person or team, with profits going to Christian Aid.

**Theatre preview** Could your local theatre or amateur dramatics society be persuaded to do a preview to support Christian Aid?

**Treasure hunt** Ask for prizes from local businesses and organise a set of clues leading people from one location to the next. All participants pay a fee to enter.

**Triathlon** Organise a place in a local triathlon, or book a place in the London Triathlon. Ask friends to sponsor you.

## ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

**Underwear out** Wear your underwear on the outside for a day, ask your friends for sponsorship. Make sure it's clean!

**Uniform day** Get all your colleagues to wear a uniform to work for the day. Everyone donates a pound for the privilege!

**Unwanted gifts** Ask friends to donate items and have a sale.

## ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

**Variety show** Organise a show night with comedians, magicians, singers, dancers and musicians all under one roof.

**Valet service** Run a valet service for cars. Clean inside and out, for a donation.

**Visits** Organise a visit to local places and tourist destinations, and charge people for the day.

## ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZW

**Walk** Organise your own sponsored walk or join one of ours. Visit [christianaid.org.uk/walks](http://christianaid.org.uk/walks) or ask your local office for more information.

**Win a day off!** Ask your boss to raffle or auction a day off work.

**Wine and cheese party** Host a fundraising party. You could also make some jars of homemade chutney for people to buy. Do use a Christian Aid label on each jar – order yours now from your local Christian Aid office.

**Wine-tasting evening** Spend an evening tasting fine wines. Ask attendees to pay an entry fee. Provide wine and nibbles. Try and get the wine donated by local retailers.

**A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X**

**X Factor** Run a talent show and have a panel of judges, as on the famous TV show. Charge people to enter and for tickets to watch.

**A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y**

**Yoga marathon** For the very supple! Be sponsored for doing yoga over a long session, or hold a massive class and charge entry.

**Yes day** Say yes to everyone's demands (within reason!) and ask people to sponsor you to do so.

**A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z**

**Zip wire** Find a local, organised zip-line event and get your adrenaline pumping.

**Zumba** Ask a local Zumba instructor if they will donate their time to teach a Zumba class. You could charge people to take part or make the class extra long and ask participants to find sponsorship.

**To contact your local Christian Aid office, visit [christianaid.org.uk/getinvolved/inyourarea](http://christianaid.org.uk/getinvolved/inyourarea)**



UK registered charity no. 1105851 Company no. 5171525 Scot charity no. SC039150  
NI charity no. XR94639 Company no. NI059154  
ROI charity no. CHY 6998 Company no. 426928  
The Christian Aid name and logo are trademarks of Christian Aid.  
© Christian Aid July 2013 14-141-J1602  
Cover photos: Christian Aid/Elaine Duigenan/Charles Martin/Claudia Janke