

YOUR LOCAL FUNDRAISING IDEAS

YOUR MOST SUCCESSFUL WAY OF RAISING FUNDS LOCALLY

Making a model of the church by sponsoring individual bricks - Each sponsor received a certificate - £19,000 raised in a year (Northchurch, St Mary)

Three day flower festival with preview evening (Eversholt, St John the Baptist)

Greater regular giving by church members through 'The Responsibility is Ours' (TRIO) - Increased donations by 17.5% which revolutionised our financial position (Berkhamsted, St Michael and All Angels)

Art exhibition in church (Ayot, St Peter)

May Fair (Aldbury, St John the Baptist)

Concerts, murder mystery evenings, church/village summer fete, weekly afternoon teas and monthly lunches (Marston Moretaine, St Mary)

Harvest Supper with auction of donated produce - the auctioneers play it for laughs! (Steppingley, St Lawrence)

Auction of promises with people offering their skills and talents, making themselves available, all sorts of possibilities - can raise £2,500 in an evening even with a fairly small number of people (Harpenden, All Saints)

Sponsor a Slate - people could sponsor a slate for our new roof for £10 and write their own message underneath - over £7,000 raised (Blunham, St James and St Edmund)

Open garden and tea (Apsley, St Mary)

Pew Top Sales - posh jumble sales in church have become popular - raising hundreds of pounds each year (Milton Bryan, St Peter)

YOUR MOST FUN OR INVENTIVE FORM OF FUNDRAISING

'Slimathon' - people sponsored to lose weight (Linslade, St Barnabas)

Concerts and talks by local people (Marston Morteyne, St Mary)

Wine tasting evening (Ayot, St Peter)

Flower festival with themed arrangements - last year 'Eversholt goes to the Movies' (Eversholt, St John the Baptist)

Burns Night with a comedy piper wearing a mini kilt (Northchurch, St Mary)

Bedford Gallery Guide Concert - an early Nineteenth Century experience (Roxton Congregational Chapel)

'Blunham's Got Talent' - A variety show featuring local talent (Blunham, St James and St Edmund)

Vicar's quiz night and Barn Dance (Parish/Church?)

Fire Walking including by the Vicar - entrants pay £25 and are sponsored and viewing public £5 each - plus bar, dancing and other attractions (Arlesey, St Peter)

Teddy Bears' Picnic including zip wire ride for teddies (Parish/Church?)

Instrumental and church choir concerts - Murder mystery plays, church members - 'More tea Vicar' Wednesdays and lunches (Parish/Church?)

Wedding Exhibition - 37 wedding dresses covering every decade from the 1920s lent by local ladies - Wedding cake refreshment - donations requested to claim Small Donation Gift Aid (Blunham, St James and St Edmund)

Old Time Music Hall - in the style of 'The Good Old Days' with MC Leonard Sachs (Ampthill, St Andrew)

Make your money grow - £5 given with commitment to at least double it (Apsley, St Mary)

Your fundraising that has best involved the community and brought it closer to the church

Living Advent Calendar - One door per day opened in the community - Includes any coffee mornings already organised and Sunday in the church - Averaged 20 people per morning - Donations given so Gift Aid claimed - Raised around £1,000 (Blunham, St James and St Edmund)

May Fair with links with our school (Aldbury, St John the Baptist)

Summer Fete is probably the best of our ideas for this (Marston Moretaine, St Mary)

'Money raised in a jar' - each house give a label for a jam jar to collect 10p pieces - lots of money raised (Eversholt, St John the Baptist)

Christingle market - involved the whole community, lunches, gingerbread house, competitions and handicraft stalls (Northchurch, St Mary)

Art exhibitions and providing refreshments on Bank Holiday weekends (Ayot, St Peter)

Quiz evening (Parish/Church?)

Silent Auction (Parish/Church?)

Bike and Hike for Historic Churches Trust - raises over £1,000 each year and is a great day out (Northchurch, St Mary)