



# DOING IT YOURSELVES

a funding information leaflet from *funderfinder*

Whatever sort of group you are, it's likely that you will have to do some fundraising yourselves. There may be no other way of raising the money, for one thing. For another, most grant makers like to see evidence that you're trying to help yourselves. So DIY fundraising gives you credibility with funders.

It may also:

- give you credibility within your community
- give you additional publicity
- help members of the group to feel part of something, to feel that they're doing something about a problem, to gain skills and confidence in themselves.

There are all sorts of things you can do : dances, discos, fetes, fairs, jumble sales, fashion shows, coffee mornings, pie and peas suppers, auctions, treasure hunts, *car boot sales*, charity shops, *flag days*, *raffles*, *bingo*, *house to house collections*, waste collection..... (see overleaf)

## **The Law**

Most of the things above can be done without special permission: the exceptions are those in *italic* above. For some it may be necessary to be a registered charity.

## **Things to consider**

- who are you trying to get money out of? Is it always the same people? Is it the people who can least afford it? Can you alter this?
- what else is happening in the area?
- how many people can you count on for help?
- what do you need to do in advance? Will it cost?
- how will you publicise it?
- what will you do if it rains/snows/there's a power cut?
- do you need to take out insurance?
- how much will it cost to run?
- how much can you expect to make?
- is it the kind of activity that will go with the image of the group?
- is it worth the time and effort?
- will it be fun?

## Ideas



- Barn dance
- Puppet show
- Fun run
- Dutch auction
- Bed race
- Shoe shine
- Buy a brick
- Secondhand book sale
- Badge selling
- Fashion show
- Stalls (at other people's events)
- Coffee morning
- Film show
- Fancy Dress ball
- Food auction
- Treasure hunt
- Tombola
- Local history tours
- Carol singing
- Print T shirts
- Quiz games
- Carnival
- Disco
- Fete
- Bingo
- Bring & Buy
- Halloween Party
- Lunch with speaker
- Plant sale
- Balloon race
- Antiques road show
- Window cleaning
- Raffle
- Waste collection
- Barbeque
- Mile of pennies
- Concert
- Babysitting
- Trivial Pursuits night
- Garden party
- Lawn mowing
- Hairdressing demonstration
- Pram race
- Diaries/calendars/Christmas cards
- Video show
- Hunger lunch
- Market stall
- Jumble sale
- Craft fair
- Whist drive

### **Useful books**

All of the following are published by, or available from, the Directory of Social Change, 24 Stephenson Way, London NW1 2DP, tel: 08450 77 77 07, website: [www.dsc.org.uk](http://www.dsc.org.uk)

*Organising Special Events for Fundraising and Campaigning*, by John F Gray & Stephen Elsdon, 2000, £14.95, ISBN 1 900360 56 X.

*Overseas Challenges - raising money through adventure and personal challenge*, by Caroline Hukins, pub. Quick Guides, £8, ISBN 1 905053 03 7. How to raise sponsorship for overseas challenges.

*Special Events*, by Jill Ritchie, pub. Quick Guides, £8, ISBN 1 905053 07 X. Everything you need to know about how to put on special events.

*Tried and Tested Ideas for local fundraising events*, by Sarah Passingham, 3rd ed., 2003, £16.95, ISBN 1 903991 37 4.

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