



Christmas Fundraising Opportunities

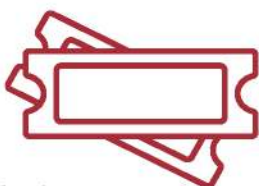
Your Mission to Seafarers Fundraising Guide

Christmas Fundraising Opportunities

Running an event is a great way to create a little festive cheer while supporting seafarers this Christmas. There are many types of events you could host. Below are a few ideas and key things to consider, but the only limit is your imagination!

Your support helps seafarers find moments of joy during the holidays when they are far from home, and allows us to expand our vital frontline work and help more seafarers in need. Whether you're planning a challenge activity, social event, or community celebration, here are some fun and festive ways to raise money for The Mission to Seafarers this Christmas.

RAFFLES & AUCTIONS



Including a festive raffle at your Christmas event is a great way to fundraising opportunity. Alternatively, could a Silent Auction work for you? Ask local businesses if they can donate items, experiences or promises, with all proceeds supporting seafarers.

CHRISTMAS QUIZ



A Christmas themed quiz is a fantastic way to engage small groups or lots of supporters, and a great chance to get creative with your questions! Whether held in-person or virtually, charge an entry fee or encourage donations for participation.

CHRISTMAS KARAOKE



Host a Christmas Karaoke Night where participants donate to sing their favourite festive songs. This is especially meaningful, as karaoke is a much-loved pastime among many of the seafarers we visit.



CHRISTMAS FUN & GAMES

Light-hearted and easy to organise, these activities bring festive spirit to group meetings or social get-togethers in December:

Festive Fancy Dress – prizes for the most creative costumes.

Christmas Bake Sale – classic treats with a seasonal twist.

Mince Pie Eating Contest – who can manage the most?

Wreath Making or Seasonal Flower Arranging – a creative way to spread a little joy!



FESTIVE FITNESS FUNDRAISER



Turn your run, swim, or cycle into a festive event! Dress up in Christmas costumes or create themed team names to raise both miles and funds.



MATCH FUNDING

Can any of your event organisers or group members claim match funding through their employer? If so, this is a fantastic way to double donations and the impact for seafarers this Christmas.



CHRISTMAS CARD DESIGN COMPETITION



Invite the children of your group members to design a Christmas card. Print and sell the winning design, donating proceeds to The Mission to Seafarers. It's a creative, family-friendly way to spread Christmas cheer while fundraising at the same time.

WHY SUPPORT THE MISSION TO SEAFARERS?

Every day, The Mission to Seafarers provides vital support to the 1.89 million men and women working at sea — offering care, comfort, and community to those who spend months away from home. Your Christmas fundraising helps us to expand and evolve this essential work, and be present every time a seafarer needs someone by their side.

Planning your Event

Whilst not an exhaustive list, some key things to consider include:



Choosing a Date: When you set the date and time for your event, think about who you want to come and when they'll be free. Check for other events that may clash or prevent people from attending.



Choosing a Venue: Consider the most suitable venue—indoors or outdoors—capacity and accessibility. What facilities are there? Will there be any additional costs for hiring equipment?



Who will attend and donate: Consider your target audience – individuals or businesses; local or international. How will you engage with your audience and encourage attendance?



Check the rules: Charity fundraising is regulated by law, so you need to know any rules and regulations that apply to your event before you start. This is particularly relevant if you are running any kind of raffle, lottery or prize draw – regulations cover both online and in-person events. Check the licenses or permissions you may need before running an event. Licenses may also be needed for collecting in public, public entertainment or if you plan to sell food or alcohol. Please check with your local authority or venue to make sure you have everything in place.



Asking Permission: You'll need permission to raise money in public places and from the owner if you're fundraising on private property. Permission is also required from individuals or parents of children who appear in any event photos that you plan to use online or in any printed materials.



Raise money: The key is to maximise your event's fundraising potential. Can you charge people to take part, or will you focus on donations? Can people or companies sponsor your event? Will you have the opportunity to sell or run additional activities alongside your main event to raise extra money—food, drink, family activities, raffles, or a silent auction? Would any local businesses make donations that would reduce your overheads?



Insurance: Depending on the nature and size of your event, and the venue you chose, check that you have appropriate insurance in place.



Risk Assessment: You'll need to complete a risk assessment for your event. A risk assessment will help ensure that you've thought of any potential hazards and have put measures in place to minimise any risk.



The legal bit: The Mission to Seafarers cannot accept responsibility for accidents, injuries, loss, or damages which occur because of your fundraising activity or event. When promoting your fundraising or using fundraising materials, you must say that you are fundraising "In aid of The Mission to Seafarers, Registered Charity No 1123613"

However you decide to reach your Christmas fundraising goal, we're thrilled to have your support.

