



Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust



Fundraising Tips

1. Decide approximately how many churches you are likely to visit before asking people to sponsor you.
2. Start your fundraising well before the event.
3. Set up a InvestMyCommunity fundraising page, details are on our website - simply click on the link. Some further notes are provided to help!
4. If you do not want to collect sponsors yourself, ask someone else to do it on your behalf or encourage a young person to take part and offer help them to collect sponsors.
5. Ask close family and friends first to get them at the top of your sponsor form, as subsequent people tend to put similar amounts, ask neighbours and work colleagues. Collect your sponsorship money as soon as possible after the event and get it to your church co-ordinator, if you have taken part before use the Paying In form posted to you or contact us – rideandstrideoxon@ohct.org.uk
6. Ask your sponsors to GiftAid their donation. You must get the sponsor's full name (per person, not for example Smith family), full address including postcode. Remember to check this has been done!
7. Have more than one sponsor form so more than one person can be writing on forms at the same time.
8. Ask your employer to support you, as some can match the amount that you have raised. You may need to get a supporting letter from us for this – please email rideandstride@ohct.org.uk with the details.
9. Put your sponsor form on the church noticeboard (more copies can be downloaded from our website).
10. Advertise in your church and any local magazines that you are taking part.
11. Stand up in church, or elsewhere, and make an announcement that you are seeking sponsorship.

InvestMyCommunity Tips

1. Remember to put the name and place of the church you wish to receive 50% of your sponsor money or say 100% OHCT in the "My Story" section. Use this section to promote a particular project if your church has one.
2. Upload photos on your InvestMyCommunity page, it is great to see a happy participant and keep updating
3. Make a video explaining what you are doing and why and upload it onto your page.
4. Put your InvestMyCommunity page address in your e-mail signature and send out a reminder just before the event.
5. E-mail out your page to different groups of people at different times starting with family and close friends. A good time to e-mail out your page is just after payday.
6. Update the basic "Thank you" to make it more personal for people making a donation.
7. Tweet your page to your followers with your link and ask them to re-tweet it to their followers. Make use of social media to spread the word.
8. People can donate via text message so set up a InvestMyCommunity code when you set up your page and include it in your e-mails. You may be able to copy the picture of the mobile phone and your InvestMyCommunity code when you set up your page and this would look great in an e-mail.
9. Print your InvestMyCommunity page to display at church, in your workplace, community hall etc. Slips are available on our website which you can personalise to put in the pews or give out.
10. Look at InvestMyCommunity's top fundraising tips.

And finally send out an email after the event thanking sponsors – and saying there is still the opportunity to give!