

Approaching local clubs and societies

There are a wide range of local groups, societies and associations which can be extremely useful for your fundraising. They can give a donation, influence others to support you and provide people for events.

Membership bodies

The Round Table, Rotary, WI, MU etc can be very helpful. They won't always be able to make a large donation, but they can offer assistance for a particular appeal and you might meet a potential individual supporter.

Local groups

Scouts and guides, army/ sea cadets, sports clubs etc may be approached to help man an event.

Church and other religious bodies

Groups like these will sometimes donate a collection to a local cause.

It is worth considering all of the above for the appropriate circumstance; for instance, you can:

- Ask a club to provide members to support a collection or man a stand at an event
- Ask for stewards or marshals
- Ask for a cash donation
- Approach a club and offer to do a talk at a meeting, doing this can lead to offers of support or become their charity of the year etc
- Ask the club to promote an event to its membership
- Suggest that a club might provide a member to support new media or website development.

Suggestions for contact

- Consider what support you are seeking. Is it: a cash donation, people's time, their membership's support for an event, their facilities, or their access to people of influence?
- Have a look back at your records and see if they have supported you before, also see if other similar organisations have supported you in the past
- Check with your committee for hidden society and club members
- Make a short-list of suitable target organisations
- Research on-line for who the correct contact is for what you want to achieve
- Make contact and see if what you are proposing is acceptable
- Follow up with a specific proposal

Below is a table of clubs and societies for England, Wales and Northern Ireland. They will operate in similar ways, with committees led by a chair or president, these being appointed democratically on an annual basis. It is worth finding out when your target club has its AGM or when the chair changes as this is the best time to approach about becoming their charity of the year. The clubs will also set their calendars at a specific meeting and it will be useful to ascertain when this takes place.

Round Table (includes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ladies Circle • 41 Club (men over 40) • Tangent Club (ladies over 45) 	http://www.roundtable.co.uk	Primarily a social club for young men under 40 with certain affiliated clubs as listed left.
Rotary Club (includes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inner Wheel (ladies only) • Rotract (under 18) 	http://www.rotary.org	Social club for men and women
RAOB	http://www.raobgle.org.uk	This link will find your nearest Lodge. Similar to Round Table and Rotary with a heavy emphasis on supporting their local community.
Freemasons	Search google with your town and the word 'freemasons' to find your local lodge. E.g. http://www.herefordshiremasons.org.uk	Worth checking with the Trust department at Francis Crick House – the Freemason's Grand Charity supports national charities – but your local Lodge may provide grants for individuals in need and support for local charitable groups.
Oddfellows	http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/branches to find your local branch	Traditional 'Friendly' Society open to men and women and offering care and support to people in need. They also make grants to charitable organisations.
Lions Club International	http://www.lionsmd105.org	As Rotary and Table
Women's Institute	http://www.thewi.org.uk	Always looking for speakers for their meetings from which donations and offers of help can follow
Mothers' Union	http://www.mothersunion.org	Not as active locally as they once were – their website does not help locate groups – local knowledge will be best.
Townswomen's Guild	http://www.the-tg.com	Rarer than WI and MU, but still like speakers for meetings
Young Farmer's Clubs	http://www.nfyfc.org.uk/county_federations	This link will take you to a list of county contacts. They do much good work with enthusiasm and humour!
Student Unions and Rag- week committees	E.g. http://www.warwicksu.com	Googling your local university name and student's union will find local contacts * Undervalued – they can offer a lot, fundraising and capable young people who could help with Twitter/ Facebook and websites.
Church Groups Quakers	https://www.quaker.org.uk/	Local knowledge of parish matters.
Local Scouts, Cadets etc	E.g. http://www.chesterscouts.org.uk http://www.sea-cadets.org/miltonkeynes/	Google your area town and organisation you want to find* Handy for car-parking duty and the like.