

# Comhaltas in Britain Fundraising Pack



# Thank you

Thank you for choosing to support Comhaltas in Britain with your fundraising. You are amazing. Our vision is a world where Irish culture and music are open to all, and celebrated as a valued part of Britain's cultural heritage. By fundraising for us you're helping to make our vision a reality.



## A message from our Cahthaoirleach (Chair)

**Theresa C. Gallagher**



COMHALTAS  
in Britain



Registered with  
FUNDRAISING  
REGULATOR

Comhaltas in Britain is a registered Charity 1185729

# Our roots

Since 1957, Comhaltas in Britain has been strengthening communities through traditional Irish music. Growing from our first branch in Glasgow, our huge network of incredibly talented and passionate volunteers teach Irish Traditional Music to c. 1,200 members, across all generations, in 23 branches across England, Scotland and Wales.

**“We believe that the ability to engage with music and culture is the glue that holds our community together.”**

Volunteers and teachers across our branches deliver weekly music classes in community settings, encouraging people aged 1-100 to access their creativity in an informal and fun environment, supported by their community. Through these music sessions and development with their instrument, our musicians and members are able to express themselves, bond across generations, raise their confidence, and most importantly come together through music each week; an activity which has been proven to contribute towards good mental health.



# Ways to fundraise

780 hours

Traditional Irish  
music taught  
annually



- **Coffee morning**



Gather your friends and family for a coffee morning and a good old catch up. Buy or bake some delicious cakes and ask people to donate per drink and cake or you could set a price to attend.

- **Gameathon**



There's nothing like some healthy game competition. Whether it's a fun game of charades or a strategic game of Risk! Board games are a great way to have fun whilst raising money. Invite your friends over for some yummy snacks and ask for donations for entry.

- **Bake sale**



Whip up some tasty cakes and bakes and hold a bake sale at your home, school, college or work place. Ask your friends & family to help you prepare by joining you to bake or to donate cakes.

- **Dress down day**



Ask your school, college or work place if you can hold a dress down day. Dress down days are a fun way to get everyone involved in your fundraising. Encourage everyone to wear something green for the day and set a donation fee for people to take part.

## Evin's fundraising story



### Evin took part in our Cycle the Wild Atlantic Way Cycle Challenge

"I wanted to help raise some money for Comhaltas in Britain because in the years that I have been involved as a volunteer I have seen the brilliant work being done all over Britain by all the branches of the organisation to help promote a love of Irish traditional music and culture. More than that I have seen how enriching Comhaltas has been to the lives of so many people, in providing a real sense of community and belonging through the connections made within Comhaltas."



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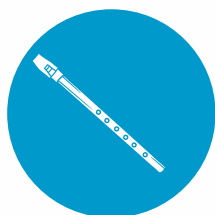
# How your fundraising makes an impact

"I started learning when I was 5 years of age, and now I've decided to be a teacher, and pass on the skills I've learned to the next generation coming behind me."

Comhaltas in Britain Member



£50 will pay for a teacher to teach a class for 1 hour.



£100 would provide 20 tin whistles for 20 young people to start their Irish musical journey.



£200 will help pay for a workshop where new members can come and learn Sean-nos.



£900 will help send one teacher from Britain to Dublin to train on Comhaltas' TTCT Teacher Training Course.



“ Without being involved in Comhaltas, I wouldn't be nearly the person I am today. ”  
Calum McGregor Youth Officer



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# Setting up your fundraising page

Our groups help build stronger communities, reducing social isolation & loneliness.

Just giving is the platform that Comhaltas in Britain use. To set up a fundraising page for your fundraising challenge, you will need to create a page on Just Giving. Follow the link to our Just Giving page here: [www.justgiving.com/comhaltasinbritain](http://www.justgiving.com/comhaltasinbritain).

Follow our top tips below to when setting up your page to maximise your fundraising.

## Set yourself a target

By setting yourself a target you'll raise 17% more. Reach for the stars!

## Share your story

Telling your story about why you have chosen to support us will help people to connect with your fundraising. Sharing your story can help you raise 65% more!

## Thank your supporters

Personalise your thank you message on your page. Always thank your supporters after your event as well as when people donate. 20% of donations can come in once you have completed your event.

## Add photos and videos

Adding photos and videos will enhance your page and can increase giving by up to 23%. Choose a great photo for your cover image.

## Connect your fitness apps

If you are taking on a physical fitness challenge don't forget to connect your fitness app to your fundraising page. This will help your supporters track your progress. You can raise up to 111% more by connecting your apps.

## Sponsorship forms

Print out our sponsorship forms at the end of this pack to secure donations offline. Follow the guidance on our page Cashing in and Collecting donations.



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# Spreading the word

Now you've chosen your event and set up your fundraising page you're all ready to go and start spreading the word about your event. Follow our top tips below to help you maximise your fundraising.

- **Shout loud about your event!** 

Share your fundraising page on all your social media channels. Share your story about what Comhaltas in Britain means to you and why you have chosen to support us. Don't forget to tag us.



@comhaltasinbritain



comhaltas\_in\_britain



@CCEBritain

- **Contact your local media** 

One of the best ways to share your fundraising event is to contact your local newspaper and radio station. Remember, there is power in your story. Share what Comhaltas in Britain means to you and why you are supporting us.

- **Update everyone** 

Share updates on your social media channels about how your preparation or training is going for your event. Add some photos or a video with a message about how your fundraising will help us. The more details people know, the more likely they are to give. Add in your fundraising page link and don't forget to tag us!

- **Send an email** 

There are many people who are not on social media but would love to hear about your fundraising journey and support you.



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# Collecting & paying in cash donations

**Congratulations, and a huge big thank you - you completed your event! It's now time to start telling people about your big day, and collecting those pledges and donations.**

## **Gift Aid it!**

**Please encourage your sponsors or donors to tick the Gift Aid box on your sponsorship forms. Gift Aid means that for every £1 given, Comhaltas in Britain will receive an extra 25p from the HM Revenue & Customs. In order for us to claim Gift Aid, sponsors need to write down their full address including postcode. Please send us your sponsorship forms to the address below:-**

## **Cash donations**

**It is not safe to send cash in the post. If you receive cash, please deposit it in your bank and pay in your donations online using the guidance below.**

## **Pay in your donations online**

**You can pay in your donations online. If you have set up a Just Giving page, bank your donations and make an online donation of the total via your page online. Don't forget to add your cash donations to your Just Giving page as an offline donation so people can see how much money you have raised overall. If you haven't set up a Just Giving page you can bank your donations and make an online payment through our Pay Pal at [www.paypal.com/GB/fundraiser/charity/3859110](http://www.paypal.com/GB/fundraiser/charity/3859110).**



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