



January's Fundraiser of the Month is... Annette Gudgeon

We are pleased to announce the first ever winner of MACS' Fundraiser of The Month competition. Team MACS London Marathon runner, Annette Gudgeon from Northamptonshire, came up with some really creative ways to raise money for MACS.



Congratulations Annette, well done on winning this month's Fundraiser of the Month competition! Tell us what you got up to this month?

I have been really successful this January and my online fundraising for the month now stands at £665.00. I have been hounding family and friends and write a training blog every week on Facebook to let people know how I'm getting on and to remind them of my 'giving' link.

I did a car boot sale on a very cold and frosty morning - but it was well worth the 6am start as I raised £92.00 and my husband made it up to £100.

I also arranged a donation of £250.00 from a local community group Finedon and Dolben Buffs. My daughter has also raised £60.00 by offering dog grooming sessions for a £10.00 donation to MACS. This offer is open until the end of March so am confident she will help me raise even more by then.

How did you come up with your fundraising ideas?

I thought I'd try to do at least one car boot sale a month between January and April. I just thought I had loads of stuff around the home that may sell - and it did! As I put up details about MACS on my stall and that I was selling for charity, the organisers only charged me £5.00 instead of £9.00. I have also asked family, friends and work

colleagues to donate any unwanted items that may sell at a car boot and already have more than enough stuff for at least another two sales.

Lastly, my daughter came up with the idea of the sponsored dog grooming as a way of fundraising she is newly qualified, and needs the practice!

How did you manage to secure that £250 donation?

A very good friend of mine is a member of Finedon and Dolben Buffs and suggested I write a letter to the committee explaining why I was running the London Marathon for MACS. I wrote such a letter, not forgetting to thank the committee for taking time to read it. I was overjoyed when I found out the committee were happy to give £250.00 towards my fundraising!

What advice would you give to other fundraisers?

I would advise other fundraisers to keep people aware of what you are doing and why. Use Facebook or do a running blog each week to remind people. Try car boot sales too – you'll be amazed at what people buy and it is worth the early start. Try approaching clubs that do good work in the community i.e. Roundtable, Women's Institutes etc., they can only say no if they aren't interested, but it's worth a try.

Thanks Annette. Good luck with the London Marathon this year!

As January's Fundraiser of the Month, Annette wins a MACS hoody.