

Virtual Book Club Guide



Why not set up a virtual book club with your friends in order to keep yourself busy by reading regularly, whilst helping you stay in regular contact with your loved ones and raise money for MRF!

Getting ready for the event

- Pick a date - Find a regular slot for your virtual book club and decide how frequently you want to host them. It could be weekly, fortnightly, or monthly, depending on how speedy a reader you are!
- Invite your friends - Ask friends and family to join your book club for some self-isolation entertainment in aid of a good cause. Decide how you're going to host your book club meetings, video calling platforms such as Skype, Zoom, and Google Hangouts all work great!
- Pick your books - Keep everyone happy by taking it in turns to choose a book, and pull names out of a hat to decide who goes first. If you're on a tight budget then why don't you make the club exclusively for the 99p or free books available on the Kindle Store? Even if they're not the best-written in the world, they're guaranteed to provide some laughs!



What you'll need

- Either a Kindle or physical books that you can order online
- A computer with webcam and microphone

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"It's never too late to see how you can adapt your fundraising plans to be online"

- Mike Cox, Kilimanjaro Trek

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On the day

- Ask your book group to make a donation to your online fundraising page ahead of each group meeting. You could ask them to simply donate the amount that they would usually spend on drinks if the meeting was being held at a pub, or the amount that they would spend on getting the bus to your house if you were hosting the meeting in your home.
- Set up the video call, share the link, and start discussing your book!



Post event

- Thank your friends for taking part and share an update on your Just Giving page to let your supporters know how you are continuing to fundraise whilst self-isolating.
- Choose your next book and start planning the next virtual book club meeting!

Top tips

- Why not start a blog or vlog with reviews of all of the books that you and your group read?
- Make things more interesting by having set topics to discuss about each book. These could be 'favourite character', 'best quote', or 'worst plot flaw'!
- If you and your friends have slightly contrasting tastes in literature, you can always read different books and discuss what you have each been reading your meetings instead.

**For more information contact
fundraising@meningitis.org**

"If you make it fun for yourself then it is fairly easy to hit that final target!"

- Sarah Blanchard, Kilimanjaro Trek