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The Fire Fighters Charity Sponsored Parachute Jump

Dear Supporter,

Thank you for your enquiry! Do you want to enjoy the exhilarating and unforgettable feeling of a skydive, flying through the clouds from over 10,000 ft at up to 120 mph?! We are looking for thrill seeking fundraisers from all over the country to take on a sponsored freefall parachute jump on our behalf whilst raising invaluable funds for our cause.

The Fire Fighters Charity is a registered Charity and we are the UK's leading provider of services that enhance the quality of life for serving and retired firefighters, fire personnel and their families. Our vision is to make a positive difference by supporting people in the fire and rescue community when they are in need. Over the years, we have helped hundreds of thousands of individuals by providing world-class treatment and support services. It costs over £9 million per year to keep the Charity running, and we are completely reliant upon donations and fundraising, so your support is very much needed.

As you will see from the enclosed literature we ask you to raise a minimum of £395.00 for the Tandem Skydive and £295 for the solo static line jump in order for you to jump for free and in turn we will receive an average donation of £140. In addition to this, every extra pound that you raise over the minimum comes straight to the charity, so please try to raise as much as you possibly can!

Skydive Strathallan, founded in 1960, is the oldest skydiving centre in Scotland, and with three aircraft, is also the largest. They can provide beginners courses with Tandem Skydiving as well as first time Solo parachute jumps. They receive a flat rate per jumper for organising the jumps on our behalf. If you have any questions please ring them directly on **07774 686161 (midweek) or 01764 662572 (weekends)** as they are in the best position to answer any queries you may have.

We do hope that after you have read through this information pack you decide to do a skydive for the Charity. We are in desperate need of funds in order to continue our work and don't forget, all you have to do is raise the minimum amount of sponsorship and you will get to jump for free!

Good luck with raising your sponsorship and we look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours sincerely

Central Events
centralevents@firefighterscharity.org.uk
The Fire Fighters Charity

Royal Patron: Her Majesty The Queen

The Fire Fighters Charity is a company limited by guarantee. Registered in England No. 4480058. Charity Registered in England and Wales (1093387) and Scotland (SC040096). Registered Office: Level 6, Belvedere, Basing View, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG21 4HG.



What is it like?

Imagine standing at the edge of an open doorway in an aircraft flying at 10,000 ft - the noise of the engines and the wind ringing in your ears with only the outline of distant fields below. Now imagine leaning forward out of that doorway and letting go - falling forward into the clouds, diving down through the air as you start freefalling at over 120mph! Then imagine the peace and quiet as the canopy opens, the steering toggles come down either side of you and you begin a tranquil parachute descent from a mile up in the air, steering yourself back down to the centre of the drop zone below. Imagine being able to do this for FREE whilst harnessed to a professional freefall parachute instructor and at the same time being able to help a national charity! Stop imagining, it's real and it's happening all the time and you can be part of it...

What does the jump involve?

There are **two jump options for you to choose from** the first is called a '**Tandem Skydive**'. It is a Skydive because you will be freefalling through the air (without the parachute deployed) for several thousand feet for about 30 seconds; it is in Tandem because you will be harnessed to a professional parachute instructor at all times throughout the descent, who controls the freefall, parachute opening and landing (see photo above). This is the only way you can jump from such an altitude without spending thousands of pounds becoming a freefall parachutist. This is literally the chance of a lifetime!

The second option is the '**Solo Static Line**' jump, the jump and training are completed in one day and your instructor will be in control of your landing. Hopefully you will be ready to make your first parachute drop between 6 & 7 in the evening (summer months). If you cannot jump due to adverse weather conditions on the day of your course you can return at a later date to make your jump. The training consists of both classroom and physical practice sessions. The course covers everything you need to know to make your first jump at Skydive Strathallan – from how to exit the aircraft, how your parachute works, how to fly your parachute and land, and how to deal with emergencies. The club offers static line training on the more modern 'Square' or 'Ram Air' system.

Points to remember:

- Jump and training completed in one day
- Harnessed to an experienced parachute instructor at all times
- Jump from at least 10,000 ft - just like the professionals
- Freefall down to 5,000 ft - falling through the air at 120 mph!
- Ride the parachute down to the ground - we teach you how to steer onto the drop zone
- Landing controlled by your instructor
- Certificate to prove that you have completed a 'two-mile high' Tandem Skydive or Solo static line jump!

What must I do to qualify for a free jump?

All you have to do is raise £395.00 for the Tandem Skydive and £295 for the Solo static line jump for The Fire Fighters Charity by asking your friends and colleagues to sponsor you, using our specially designed sponsorship forms which you will find at the back of this information pack. Please do not be put off by this amount - if you ask everybody you know to sponsor you, you will find you can quite easily raise the minimum sponsorship amount and remember, every penny you raise over the minimum will be further contributing to The Fire Fighters Charity and giving you the chance to make an exhilarating freefall parachute jump for FREE!

What do I do next?

Read the pages entitled 'Important Information' and 'Paying Your Sponsorship Money' and then simply choose 3 dates for your jump and complete the attached booking form and return this direct to Skydive Strathallan.

After that all you have to do is make an exhilarating Tandem or Solo Skydive from 10,000 feet for FREE!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

When can I jump?

Skydive Strathallan operate on Saturdays & Sundays throughout the year and some Friday evenings during the summer months. We would recommend that you book a couple of months ahead to ensure you get the date you prefer, if you call Skydive Strathallan direct to check availability they will be waiting for your call - **07774 686161(midweek)** or **01764 662572 (weekends)**.

Where is the airfield?

Skydive Strathallan is located about 5 miles from the town of Auchterarder. This is about midway between the major towns of Perth and Stirling in Central Scotland. Approximately 1 hour from Edinburgh or Glasgow.

There is no public transport to the airfield, but there are local taxi services in Auchterarder. The nearest railway station is Gleneagles, about 2 miles from Auchterarder / 7 miles from the airfield. This has mainline services from Glasgow and Edinburgh, the station is unmanned.

Further details regarding getting to the airfield can be found on Skydive Strathallan's Website - <http://skydivestrathallan.co.uk/location/>

Age and Weight Limitations for Solo & Tandem

The minimum age for all parachute jumps is 16 years. Persons under 18 years require the consent of their parent or guardian on a form which can be provided by Skydive Strathallan. For static line the maximum age is 49 and maximum weight is 14 stones (89kg). For tandem the maximum age is 60 and maximum weight is 15 stones (95kg).

What about insurance?

You will automatically be covered for up to £5,000,000 third party insurance through the British Parachute Association, however this will not cover you for personal injury. Should you wish to take out cover for personal injury you should arrange this yourself.

How do I book my place for a FREE jump?

Simply complete the booking form in this document and send it to Skydive Strathallan as soon as possible. **Please note you must also provide a £50 non-refundable deposit made payable to Skydive Strathallan.**

Paying your sponsorship money

You have four weeks from the date of your jump before your money to charity is due. Full details of our sponsorship payment system are included on the following page entitled 'Paying Your Sponsorship Money'.

Finally

We sincerely hope that you decide to give it a go - it has often been described as a thrilling 'once in a lifetime' experience and is an excellent way in which to raise funds for such a worthwhile cause.

There will be lots of other people trying parachuting for the very first time on the day, so you are welcome to bring along your friends and family so they can watch you on a day you will simply never forget: The day you perform an exhilarating skydive or parachute jump in aid of The Fire Fighters Charity.

Fill in your Booking Form now!

PAYING YOUR SPONSORSHIP MONEY

Skydive

The following sponsorship system makes it easy for you to take part and ensures that you do not have to pay all of your sponsorship money in advance. Your jump and training costs must be covered on the day; this can be with cash or card unless you have an online donation page which you have informed us of. Your money to charity is not due until four weeks after you have completed your jump but if you have raised funds offline you will be asked to provide a post-dated cheque at the airfield. Remember, as long as you raise the minimum sponsorship level for your jump (£395 for a tandem jump & £295 for a solo jump), you can recover both the cost of the booking deposit and the jump from your sponsorship money - which means you get to jump for FREE!

Booking Deposit

You must provide the standard £50 booking deposit which must be sent in advance but can be taken out of the minimum sponsorship that you raise (with offline funds, once you have reached your target.)

Remaining Payment

The remaining payment for your jump will be required on your jump day and please ensure you have the suitable funds with you or in your bank account. You must also provide the remaining sponsorship money due to the charity but this can be post-dated by up to four weeks. This post-dated method of payment makes it as easy as possible for you, allowing you plenty of time to collect your sponsorship money after the jump before it is due to the charity.

NOTE: Skydive Strathallan cannot start organising your jump until you send your form and appropriate booking deposit - please do this as soon as possible so that we can give you the date of your choice and so that you can start preparing yourself for what has often been described as 'the experience of a lifetime'!

Reserve your place today!

Please return completed forms to:
Finance Dept, The Fire Fighters Charity,
Level 6, Belvedere, Basing View, Basingstoke,
Hampshire, RG21 4HG

SPONSORSHIP FORM

about you

Page 1 of _____

Full name: _____ (Please use block caps) _____

Name of event: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Tel No: _____ Mobile No: _____

Email: _____

Fundraising online is quick and easy for you and your sponsors, as your donation is automatically sent to us.

Create a secure online sponsorship page at www.justgiving.com/firefighterscharity or www.virginmoneygiving.com/thefirefighterscharity to make it easier for friends, family and colleagues to sponsor you.

My online giving page is called: _____

about your payment

(Please tick one box and complete the details)

You can pay in your funds raised at any local branch of Barclays Bank using one of our paying in slips or through our website at www.firefighterscharity.org.uk/donate

I enclose £ _____ I have paid £ _____ online

I have banked £ _____ using paying in slip no _____ on (Date) _____

at (Where) _____ Call me, I'd like to make a payment over the telephone

Contact our Supporter Care Team for any help or advice on fundraising@firefighterscharity.org.uk or call **01256 366 581**.

Gift Aiding Your Donation

Turn every £1 raised into £1.25 through Gift Aid

giftaid it

If your donors or sponsors are UK taxpayers, **don't forget to ask them to Gift Aid their donations!** By adding Gift Aid, we can make donations worth 25p more for every £1 given which means even more money goes towards providing support for injured firefighters and their families - and it doesn't cost a penny. Just ask your supporters to complete ALL details overleaf and make sure they tick the Gift Aid box.

The information you have provided will be used by the Charity to fulfil your request. We would also like to use your information to enable us to contact you with news and information about The Fire Fighters Charity and ways to support us.

I would like to hear from The Fire Fighters Charity about: News and Information Ways to Support us

Please let us know which methods of communication you are happy to receive information from The Fire Fighters Charity by (tick all that apply)

Email Phone SMS Post If you don't want to be contacted by third parties please tick here.

To save the Charity funds we will only send you an acknowledgement if you tick this box

Thank you for your support!

