

Cathy Clark

I live in East Kent with my two teenage sons Tom and Harry, two dogs and I have a lovely partner called Ross. I am absolutely delighted to be Operation Florian's first ever fundraiser and am looking forward to the challenges that lay ahead.

My working life began in the Women's Royal Navy Service, where I served 4 years as a 'writer'. This is where I learnt how to work and play hard – a trait that I have since continued. I have worked within the charity sector for the last ten years holding various posts from Operations Manager at an African Museum, Business Manager for a Reading Charity and Fundraising Officer with both the British Red Cross and finally at The Fire Fighters Charity. I worked at The Fire Fighters Charity for the last 4 ½ years, successfully developing fundraising within East Anglia, London and the South East. During my time within the charity sector I have covered all aspects of fundraising - trusts, corporate, events, statutory and community.

Whilst at The Fire Fighters Charity my colleague and I took 53 firefighters over to New York to run the Marathon and we successfully raised in excess of £40K. This is an event that I plan to run (excuse the pun!) again this year. Whilst out in New York, I have arranged to meet up with the FDNY who will allow us places on their buses to the start line of the marathon – this is an experience not to be missed as the buses are taken through the streets that have already been closed, under a police escort, straight to the start line. The runners will also get the opportunity to visit the FDNY Training Academy which is run like a military camp. The cost for this event is £1900 which includes £200 non refundable deposit. The price will include flights, transfers, race entry, 4 nights accommodation and a 'free' party on the last night!

I also plan to take a party to the NY Tunnel to Towers race in September. This event is extremely popular within the Fire Sector. I would also like to introduce a UK wide car wash in June – just before the World Cup begins, however I will need help with making calls to stations with this event so if anybody is interested please do not hesitate to contact me on 07508 933 294 or 01304 617859

I will need your help publicising all events. This could mean sending emails to all your contacts or picking up the phone to colleagues, friends and family – if you are interested please give me a call or email me at fundraising.opflorian@hotmail.com.