

# FUNDRAISING DINNER

Hosted by Stuart & Jackie Fraser, at the home of Anette Poulsen

Friday 2 March, 7 for 7.30pm

I think Stuart and I may be having mid-life crises. We decided a couple of years ago that we should do something together, which resulted in me taking up cycling as some of you may know. Somehow or other this has now snowballed into us signing up for the first 3 stages of the actual Tour De France in June this year!

Obviously this is not the actual event, but through the organisers 'Le Loop', we will be riding exactly the same route a week in advance of the official race. This year the Tour starts in the Vendee region of Western France, which holds many happy memories for us, as we holidayed with the boys in that region for a number of years. It therefore felt very serendipitous, and if I was ever going to be persuaded to do something this mad, this was the year. Plus it's flat, and I really don't like hills!

To participate in Le Loop, we have committed to raising money for the organisers' designated charity. The event is held each year to raise money for the **William Wates Memorial Trust**: a grants giving charity which aims to support disadvantaged young people through the mediums of art, sport and education to keep them away from a life of crime and violence. These are young people whose lives can be changed – but funding for the sorts of projects which can do this is desperately lacking. Some of their stories can be read [here](#). The Trust was set up in 1998 in memory of Will by his family after he was tragically killed while on his gap year, and is run by his parents and brothers.

We would love it if you would sponsor us and I hope you agree that the challenge (and pain) is worthy of your donations to this extremely worthwhile cause. The charity has no paid staff and we have paid all the costs for participating ourselves. Although most of its projects are in Southern England we, as participating riders, will be able to nominate a local charity for a potential funding award, and would welcome any suggestions.

## **Now to the fundraising part**

As Stuart and I love food (and drink) we have decided to hold a fundraising dinner on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Anette has graciously agreed to let us loose in her home to hold the event, in the hope that we will have too many people wanting to attend, for our kitchen to cope. We will be cooking everything ourselves so will have limited numbers to prevent a nervous breakdown. I have a supply of beta-blockers and Stuart will be regularly medicating us both with wine, so it will be a fabulous evening!

For £37.50 per person we will be offering a welcome glass of fizz or a cocktail made from 'new make' spirit that Stuart has obtained from the first complete distillery that his companies built last year. This will be followed by a 3 course meal, with the option of an extra course. Please see the attached menu, as there is a choice available for each course.

Bottles of wine and beer will be available on the evening, as well as digestifs and liqueurs by the glass, so please remember to bring some cash.

To secure your place at this fabulous food fest please contact us on 01464 851625 or email [jackiefraser69@gmail.com](mailto:jackiefraser69@gmail.com). Guests will be required to make their selections in advance and let me know by phone or email. Once you have paid £37.50 per person to Virgin Money Giving, your place will be confirmed. You can even choose your favourite person to give your cash to!

Here are the links to our Virgin Money Giving fundraising pages:

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/JackieFraser2> <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/StuartFraser88>

Donating is simple, quick and secure. Please remember to tick the gift aid box if you are a UK tax payer.

\* For anyone who is keen to support us but are unable to attend, we would greatly appreciate donations of bottles or other goodies, as we plan to hold a raffle on the night.

\*\* And/or you could sponsor us on the above Virgin Money Giving links.