

YPG ANNUAL REPORT – Matt Newman

Cor, another year over hey.....and time for another report about the goings on of a little known church group called the YPG! We have had an amazing year of laughter and some memorable occasions. We had an addition of new members join as well as the departure of some uni bods.

Apart from the usual antics in the youth club, we have had outings to a variety of places as well as famous celebrities visit us like Ian Botham!

To summarise this years events too, I will cleverly write each letter of the alphabet and next to it a sentence about something that happened. I have a feeling I may struggle to fill sentences with certain letters like; K, J, X, Y, Z and Q.....but I'll give it a go.

A is for Auction of promises! YPG members pledged to share their abilities and highly developed skills like a spot of car washing, babysitting, shopping.....the list is endless, in exchange for a kind donation to Matt Young's holiday fund...oops I mean to a well deserved charity.

B is for BBQ's, in which the males find themselves in their element rustling up fresh chunks of meat into slender well grilled food. They did make a meal of it though....

C is for Camping weekend, we had a brilliant time, and I can still picture Matt Spencer's face after being thrown into the pool fully clothed.

D is for Dead poets society, perhaps our favourite film shown in the video and pizza nights, our best bit is at the end when they all stand up on the tables at the end....inspiring... we once suggested re-enacting that scene but couldn't due to health and safety reasons

E is for Energy, the amount of calories burnt during a YPG meeting with all the running around, could probably amount to the weekly calorie intake for a large family. (well almost!)

F is for Friendships; strengthened and built when we all meet together

G is for Girlies, they provide much of the laughter

H is for Haggis, which we had, well I say 'we'... its more like 'some' of us had, due to some unnamed people like Rachel wimping out on Burns night. There's nothing more mouth watering, than a dish made of the heart, lungs and liver of a sheep, calf etc., chopped up with suet, onions and oatmeal, etc., seasoned and boiled in a sheep's stomach-bag.....lovely jubley!!

I is for Incomprehensible

J is for Joking about

K is for Karaoke...the emotion...it still brings a tear to my eye to think of Matt Young singing power ballads at the top of his voice at the Christmas party

L is for Leaders, who literally put their lives on the line to supervise YPG members. They dodge flying footballs, cushions and the odd member to avoid injury. Please note the YPG is currently looking to recruit another leader at the moment, anybody with the build of a rugby fullback will be greatly welcomed.

M is for Matt – there are 4 Matt's in the YPG!

N is for Nandos.....mmmmmmmmmm...a firm favourite with the YPG and a chance to prove who is the most daring to try EXTRA HOT!!!

O is for Out of ideas.

P is for Pranks, many have been played with amusing outcomes

Q is for Quiet, unfortunately/fortunately not much of this features at the average YPG gathering

R is for Risk Assessment, it's all 'safety first' at the YPG to make sure we don't have any accidents. A recent addition to the Risk Assessment and possibly the funniest is: "Risk Number 164: Due care should be taken when playing table tennis to not injure eyes. Please use the appropriate eye goggle wear in case a stray ball from one of Tim's less accurate shots happening to hit the face area."

S is for St. Mary's who we have been in close collaboration with us to go bowling, throw valentines parties and join in a spot of karaoke.

T is for Table tennis/ Table Football, in both Olympic sports there is clearly only one winner who can out play and out skill any member. Well done to you Sarah Sammons

U is for Youth

V is for Vague.....

W is for 'why cant we.....?'

X is for eXtra portions at the Congregation Breakfasts in which the members get up at 4.30am to slave away producing a top notch breakfast while the leaders drink tea and make comments at Barney's inability to make toast

Y is for Youth services run by the YPG, based around a topical topic

Z is for Zugzwang; in chess, a blockade position in which any move is disadvantageous to the blockaded player, Sophie Jarvis' trademark move used in many of her games at the YPG