

## ISSUE OF THE MONTH, from Chelsea Wade

Sup guys! Hope you all had terrific Christmas and New Years!

Seeing as it's New Year, what better to write about than "New Year's resolutions"? I can't remember how many resolutions I've made in the past that have fizzled out in a month or so, ranging from losing a little bit of weight to being a better person. So, from then on, I've refused to make a New Year's resolution. Here's why...

... even though many people stick to what they've vowed to do or not to do, I think: "what's the point?" my way of thinking is: if you can't stick to something in the middle of the year, then what makes January 1<sup>st</sup> so special?

So here's a challenge to you guys, if you are also unsure about setting resolutions for the whole of the New Year: make a different resolution for each month – possibly being a variety of spiritual and non-spiritual things, such as:

- Eat more fruit & veg
- Pray more
- Do something good and different every day; or maybe even, if you don't already:
- Read a small part of the Bible each day.

Til next time – Wadio xx

### Recipe of the month: the multi-storey chip butty - as

experienced at a recent meeting of Fuel (Whitefriars Church): all you need is an odd number of slices of bread, some chips and ketchup or similar if wanted. Simply butter one side of a slice of bread (if you want to) and place a layer of chips on it, and put ketchup or similar on top.

Then keep placing alternating layers of bread (buttered on both sides if wished) and chips (with ketchup or similar), piling it up as high as you dare, and finishing it off with bread (buttered on the lower side if wished).

**Warning 1:** the gift of opening one's mouth very widely is needed if there are many storeys.

**Warning 2:** this is very filling. The YN editor found that even just three layers of bread in all, with chips somehow seemed much more filling than eating some bread and then some chips separately.



*A mere single-storey effort*

RACY presents...

## YOUTH NEWS

(This is also on the Youth News page at [www.racy.org.uk](http://www.racy.org.uk), where it's in colour)

### Issue 139: January 2009

A band NOT performing at the DEN: the Broughton Tin Can Band – this footage shows the Youth News Editor as a band member very early on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December, having just broken his wooden spoon. Details at [www.broughton-village.co.uk](http://www.broughton-village.co.uk).



Stunt Man

Dan



in action

### STUNT MAN DAN

Those of you who were at the Passion & Glory Christmas Special will remember the antics, as captured on video, of one Stunt Man Dan (alternatively known as Mr Dan Fall, currently youth worker at Park Road Baptist Church). This showed his disguised figure in action in various places in Rushden, visiting the young (such as baby Holly Shaw) and the not-quite-so-young, such as a couple of church ministers.

If you weren't at Passion & Glory – or were, but want to relive the experience - fear not! The video of Stunt Man Dan is available

<http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=64YnMC41X3w> and is actually growing in

popularity among a wide range of people (not just those in church groups). If you want to help promote the Stunt Man Dan

approach as a way of making a positive contact with lots of young people, please let Dan Fall know (at [froggi\\_fall@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:froggi_fall@hotmail.co.uk))

For example, you might want to write more Stuntman Dan stories, or help film/produce videos, or perhaps just come up with an idea for others to then work on.

## Auntie Agnes's Advice

**Question:** I can understand why cigarettes have to be kept under shop counters, because that might lead to at least a few less than normal being sold. But why did the Royal Mail decide that the series of Christmas stamps that had religious designs on them should also be kept under the counter and only sold when people ask? Are they as dangerous as cigarettes?



**Answer:** that's a good question, as it shows how mixed up we've become as a country, even when it comes to simply working out whether something is good or bad, without even trying to work out what to do about the things that are bad.

Whilst some people have commented that the theme of the 'official' (non-Christian) Christmas stamps is more appropriate for the way in which the Royal Mail sometimes performs (they are about pantomimes...), a slightly more serious answer needs to add that many people in positions of responsibility in this country seem unnecessarily afraid that people will be offended by anything to do with Christianity. This is despite the fact that surveys show that over 70% of the country regard themselves as Christian (even if they don't go to church), and many of the rest are members of other religions, such as Muslims, who regard the downgrading of Christmas as an attack on religion in general. Such people are more likely to be offended by a *lack of* Christmas. A couple of positive points – more sense is often shown in parts of the country where there actually are lots of members of non-Christian religions – e.g. Leicester isn't afraid to call its lights "Christmas lights"; and the fact that Christianity gets ignored and downgraded at least shows the Bible is right when it talks about Christians needing to persevere when things get difficult – such as in James chapter 5, verses 10 and 11 in the New Testament.

## HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM YOUTH NEWS!

The first Passion & Glory of 2009 will be at 7pm on **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January**, at Rushden Mission Church.

The next **DEN** music event at Park Road Baptist Church Hall will be on **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January**. Great local solo artists from Northants. Website coming soon.



*Stunt Man Dan – trying to get into nearly the right place for the DEN*

**February's** Passion & Glory will be from 7 to 9pm on **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup>**, at Rushden Mission Church as usual

## WHAT A WEIRD & WONDERFUL WORLD!

**Non-stop dancing of the month** (from the *Metro*): in 1518, hundreds of people spent more than a month dancing non-stop in Strasbourg, France. Many of them danced themselves to death. To this day, nobody knows why they did it – *can the people of Rushden beat those of Strasbourg at this? How about dancing continuously from one Passion & Glory to the next, and then some more?*



**Misunderstanding of the month:** the daughter of a work colleague of the Youth News Editor has only realised this Christmas that we don't celebrate 'cheese' at Christmas, but 'Jesus', and that they are different things, despite being similar sounding words (or perhaps the fact that many Christians do in fact have cheesy grins)



## The God bit: from Heather Smith in the Passion & Glory Team

As God's children, we are expected to follow Jesus' example and try to live like him. One of Jesus' most important characteristics is **love**: he made the ultimate sacrifice because of his love for us. John 13:34-35; [Jesus said,] "A new command I give you: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." This means we have to love others no matter what they've done to us. Why don't you try showing love to at least one person who treats you badly? It will be difficult, but it might just change how everybody looks at you.

