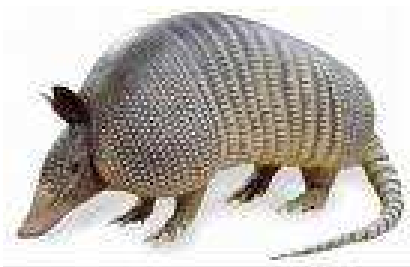


## CHELSEA'S ISSUE OF THE MONTH....

Hey guys! I've had a crazy couple of weeks and haven't had the time to write a decent article for this month's Youth News. I had an idea though: more often than not I rack my brains for something to write about and I never know if it's something you want to hear or not. So, it would be awesome if you e-mailed the youth news editor about issues you want advice on and what not. :) There is a contact e-mail below – or don't hesitate to contact myself or Andy P in person if you prefer.

Hope you are all funky dory if not give prayer a go :)



Armadillos – apparently the only species other than humans who can get leprosy

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

To submit items to Youth News, or ask for it to be e-mailed to you each month, e-mail

[youthnews@whitefriarschurch.org.uk](mailto:youthnews@whitefriarschurch.org.uk) or ring 01933 316927.

## RECORD-BREAKING RAUNDS



1. This was once **the shortest zebra crossing** in the whole of England
2. Raunds once held the record for the **highest temperature in Britain** at 36.7 °C (98.1 °F) (set in 1911). This record stood until 1990.

**A limerick about the gravelly car park that was in the middle of the place:**

*The gravel in't centre of  
Raundz  
Can hardly have got there  
by chance.*

*It resembles a beach  
Or somewhere to preach.  
Or somewhere to liturgically  
dance*



Some liturgical dancing. But not in Raunds (as far as the Editor knows).

**RACY** presents...  
Raunds Area Christian Youth

**YOUTH NEWS**

Issue 147: October 2009

**THE GALLERY ...**



This is a bit like the skip that several Whitefriars Fuel members and others filled with people's junk recently. More pics next time, when the Editor has had the film from his antiquated non-digital camera processed

Tim Butler (a leader at Whitefriars Monday Club) made the press and even national breakfast TV a few weeks ago, after an over-keen policeman in Wellingborough saw the fern (pictured) in his artificial flower hire shop – and thought that Tim was illegally growing cannabis.

Malcolm Darby of Oakham was recently rushed to Kettering General Hospital after a stroke – only to find that it had made him able to see much better than before. He'd been wearing really thick glasses since being a small boy, but now doesn't need any. But he has lost the ability to speak French...



## Auntie Agnes's Advice

**Question:** I'm really concerned to hear that they want to knock the Rushden Splash Pool down, and the Pemberton Centre, and replace them with a big new leisure centre near the Rugby Club. Won't this involve spending lots of money only to end up with things being worse than they are now? And what can I do to stop this?



**Answer:** First, this is something where it's *not* obvious what Jesus would do. Not surprisingly, none of the books in the Bible make any reference to the Splash Pool, or the Pemberton Centre, for example. But we do know what Jesus would want us to do on some of the wider issues. It's clear from the Bible that community life is a good thing, and so facilities that bring the community together are also a good thing. And as our bodies are 'temples of the Holy Spirit', Jesus wants us to keep healthy, whether by swimming, playing rugby or in other ways. And He does expect people to be good stewards of the environment, and of money. But there's more than one way of deciding how all this is best done for Rushden. It may be better to use available money to build a new leisure centre, so that people can get more healthy, out of town – even with the extra cost and pollution involved in getting people there – as long as there are enough community facilities in the town too. Or it may be better to make good use of the existing facilities within the town and avoid some of the disadvantages of a new building. But the important thing is for people to have their say – and Jesus' followers in the town could play a part in this by encouraging more discussion on things such as: what (beyond posh buildings) is really needed to make Rushden a good town in which to live? There's a lot of talk about 'regenerating' Rushden's town centre – but there seems to be a lack of ideas about what that means beyond playing around with a few buildings. Shouldn't it also include doing things to give people more hope in life, and meet their spiritual needs as well as financial ones? Perhaps local Christians can speak up about that too.

## LOOKING AHEAD...

There *won't* be a Passion & Glory for the next couple of months – as those planning it work out the best way forward. Youth News will keep you posted.

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October,  
7.30pm: **United Prayer Meeting** at Highfield Community Baptist Church: all welcome – including youths  
Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October:  
**Community tidy up day** in Hayden Road area. Meet at the Football Club at 10am

## STILL WANTED!

A new RACY web master

After doing a lot to develop the RACY website and uploading this journal each month, Jonathan Waller is off to uni. If you want to take over, or know more about what's involved, please speak to Andy P on 01933 316927.

## WHAT A WEIRD & WONDERFUL WORLD!

**Silly question of the month:** "*Are you blind?*" was the question asked on a page of the Evening Telegraph recently, in an attempt to find readers of the paper who were blind because of treatment received at Kettering General Hospital.

**One liners of the month** (from the Groves Books monthly e-mail):

- This lorry full of tortoises collided with a van full of terrapins. It was a turtle disaster.
- I told my girl friend I had a job in a bowling alley. She said 'Tenpin'? I said, 'no, permanent'.
- I phoned the local ramblers' club today, but the bloke who answered just went on and on.

## Statistic of the month...



*"The police here say they're doing fine  
With the number of crimes in decline.  
What's the percentage pacified?  
Just 37.9".*

This limerick was the slightly unusual means used by a Government statistician (and Youth News Editor) recently to tell members of the Fuel youth group that a survey had shown that people in East Northamptonshire are less satisfied with their local police than people anywhere else in the country.

But how can we react to this positively?

- Might it be that the police (working with Street Pastors from local churches etc) really have reduced the number of crimes, but we still feel unnecessarily afraid?
- Whatever the answer to that, how can we do our bit to encourage the boys (and girls) in blue? Is it good to smile when you next see one, for example, or would that just be too cheesy?