

Youth Club in Scarborough in the 1960s - Mrs J of Scarborough

Mrs J grew up in Scarborough and was still living in the town. She was at a reunion of pupils who attended Scarborough's High School for Girls in the 1960s. Mrs C shared a particular memory of growing up in Scarborough. She preferred not to give her full name.

Mrs J had been a member of the St Marks Youth club in her teens. It was run by a cleric at St Marks who she also did not want to name for reasons which will be obvious. He was a really lovely man but known to be partial to a little whisky. In fact he knew Mrs J's grandmother and would visit her from time to time for a chat and they would both have a few drams of whisky.

Mrs J's aunt (not a blood relative) helped in running the youth club. She wouldn't drink whisky but perhaps the odd glass of wine and she was great fun. They would organise trips out for the young people of Scarborough and also lots of activities at the club including young people's discos. They were really wonderful people and all young people wanted to be part of it.

At Christmas Eve there was always a midnight mass. On this particular occasion, the cleric in question entered from the front of the church and walked down the aisle as he always did and there was a fairly full congregation. However, on this occasion he did not return wearing his gown and as time drifted by there came the realisation that he wasn't going to conduct the service and that he had left the church via the rear and headed home. Members of the congregation eventually realised that they would have to conduct the carol concert and mass themselves and Mrs J overheard speculation that he might have had one or two glasses too many.

Mrs J believed it was the best youth club you could wish for.