

OUR 100 YEARS



Ideas for Celebrating our Centennial
at the Club Level

Y'S MEN INTERNATIONAL



Dear Club President and Club Members,

In 2022, Y's Men International will have been in existence for 100 years.

Let it be a year of celebration, of sharing stories of our work, of introducing the world to our movement of global fellowship and service.

Celebratory events and activities will take place at the Regional, Area and International levels throughout the 2021/2022 year.

But we want the festivity to reach everyone. We want to create a global feeling of goodwill, shared pride and belonging. This is why we are encouraging your club to find ways to honour the historical milestone of our centennial in your community - ways that are not just fun, exciting and culturally relevant but which also pay tribute to our founding principles and the vision of Paul William Alexander.

We invite your club and all others around the world to conduct one or more celebration activities in

THE WEEK OF CELEBRATION

1 - 8 May 2022



This brochure is meant to be a source of inspiration for clubs to motivate them to celebrate 100 years of friendship and charity.

It is our wish that every club in YMI be proud of what we have accomplished as an organisation thus far and be encouraged to continue our work into the future.

It is our hope that affiliated clubs everywhere will use this opportunity to show their local community and the world the character of our members and what we mean by the *Spirit of Y's Men*.

Wherever we are in the world, we cannot have a celebration without a gathering of people – be it large or small. Where there is a gathering, we have food that is appropriate to our cultural norm. Clubs will have the opportunity to share their celebrations in words and pictures on the special Facebook page, already established and ready to receive your content.



[Y's Men International 100 Years Celebration on Club Level](#)

Click to visit
the Facebook page

As it is our 100th year, we tried to find 100 suggestions on how your club might celebrate the occasion. We did not find 100, but maybe you and your club can find one we missed. If you do, please be sure to let us know your idea on the Facebook page!

We are always looking for ways to raise funds for our international movement, and we might see this celebration time as an opportunity to do that. Even though it is our birthday, it is nicer to give than receive and celebration activities that involve service to others are highly encouraged as reflection of our organisation! Our suggestions are written accordingly. The choice is yours.

USE THE NUMBER 100

- **Set a goal of serving 100 people during the week.**
- **Donate 100 books or clothes to a worthy cause.**
- **Spend a total of 100 minutes listening to people's life stories (people from within your club or outside it.)**
- **Collect 100 recipes, for a dessert or a whole meal, from 100 clubs and vote to select a favourite.**
- **Organise club members, friends, and family for a 100 km relay.**
- **Plant 100 trees.**
- **Establish a 100-person choir.**
- **Engage in 100-minutes of lecturing or storytelling, perhaps at a church or an elder care facility.**
- **Light 100 candles at a church service.**
- **Bake 100 cakes and give them to YMCA staff.**
- **Make 100 meals to give to the 100 needy people in the community.**
- **Make 100 decorations or craft items to give as tokens of appreciation to 100 people doing good in the community.**
- **Visit 100 patients in a hospital or other care facility.**
- **Find or write a text of encouragement with 100 words and share it.**

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

There are many ways to celebrate a birthday depending on where in the world we live. Will you try celebrating our 100 years in a completely new way or are you a traditionalist?

Why not make a birthday cake and share photos of it and your birthday party on the centenary Facebook page?

Cake ideas:

- Serve it a special club function.
- Serve it at a neighbourhood event or gathering.
- Ask local shops to offer it to customers.
- Put 100 candles on the cake.
- Decorate the cake with a YMI theme.

VIRTUAL ACTIVITIES

Create fellowship with Brother Clubs and other partners across the world through:

- Online bingo
- Online prayers
- Fun quizzes
- Community project support
- Talent shows
- Storytelling
- Reading or singing together

SUPPORT EXISTING PROJECTS

TIME OF FAST (TOF)

- Host a charity dinner for people in your location.

PAUL WILLIAM ALEXANDER LEGACY

- Contribute to the fund to become part of history.
- Recognise long-standing members and clubs.
- Make a 100 km PWA Legacy (sponsored) fundraising walk.
- Honour the oldest members in your club by creating visual presentations of the projects and YMI activities they have been involved in over the years.
- Share stories of past club projects, choose the best one to share with local media.

LIAISON WITH THE YMCA

We hope for more than 100 projects in the week of celebration. Invite your local YMCAs, YWCAs, Scouts, and other like-minded organisations to join in your celebration activities. Find additional reasons to celebrate locally.

- YMCA Europe will celebrate its 80th anniversary.
- YMCA Denmark will mark its 75th anniversary.

Perhaps there are anniversaries or other special occasions where you are.



- Ask the local YMCA, Junior Ministry, Scouts, etc. to share pictures and stories of past collaboration.
- Arrange a day for local kids and have lots of fun.
- Ask the Scouts or another youth organisation where you are to organise something special for the younger generation and provide support in the way of food, volunteer hours, funds, as you can.

CHRISTIAN EMPHASIS

- Light 100 candles at a church service with at least 100 participants.
- Have a 100-person choir sing for 100 minutes.
- Send out morning prayers from different people over 100 days.
- Select and distribute bible readings.

YOUR CLUB

- Induct a new club member, sponsor a new club or initiate the process.
- Encourage spouses and life partners not already members to join your club.
- Form a Y's Menettes Club to support you where women prefer this structure to joining as full members of your affiliated YMI club.
- Form a Youth Club.
- Invite guests to a club meeting and make sure that you are such good company that they want to come back.



INTERNATIONAL BROTHER CLUBS

- Sign a new Brother Club partnership or two and help us reach our goal of 100 new IBC relationships by 2022.
- Have a joint celebration event with an existing Brother Club.
- Meet with your IBC(s) online.
- Complete half of a craft project and let a Brother Club finish it.
- Make friends across borders.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Reach out to local (elderly, lonely, needy) people.
- Visit a local care home or community centre and entertain the residents for 100 minutes. Include a coffee/tea break! Sing, dance, paint, etc..
- Visit the housebound in their homes.
- Pick flowers and give small bouquets to people in the community with a note – example: *For 100 years we have served communities around the world, and we are not done yet. Have a nice day.* Don't forget to include information and the contact details of your club.
- Focus on social activities and fellowship rather than collecting money during the 1 – 8 May 2022 celebration week.

ENVIRONMENT

- Plant trees – 100 ideally!
- Give away 100 plants or seed packets (flowers or vegetables).
- Hand out 100 locally grown fruits and vegetables.
- Gather 100 bikes and 100 people for a scenic bike ride.
- Pick up litter along the seashore and roadsides, in forest areas, parks...

We hope we have managed to give you some ideas about how you or your club might commemorate the historical occasion of our centennial. Let this booklet stimulate for your imagination and lead you to create your own diverse and distinctive projects to mark our 100 years that we may all enjoy through social media and virtual platforms. We look forward to celebrating with you.

Festive Regards,

The Centenary Celebrations Team



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