

How to run the perfect pub quiz

1. Venue

Loads of pubs should have a free venue room, usually upstairs or at the back. For a successful and competitive quiz, I would recommend trying to get around 50 players, so plan on maybe 10 teams of 5 or 6. Remember, you will need enough tables and chairs for everyone too. It would be good to have somewhere with a microphone, and ideally a music system so you can have some tunes playing at the start/the end/ the break and maybe between rounds or questions.

2. Questions

Might be an idea to have a round that is relevant to the people coming – i.e a trivia round all about the town you are in/your university/your line of work..or turn the tables and make it about Borneo! Quite fun also is a music round, i.e. play the opening few seconds of a random collection of songs and people have to name the track and the artist..or do a picture round and name the famous face or landmark etc. A great site with loads of ideas is here: <http://www.quiz-zone.co.uk/>

3. Prizes

Two approaches to this. Firstly I would try to acquire some from companies. You will need to take along your Borneo ID card which should have been sent, and even wear the t-shirt if you can, so that you look more credible. Don't go to the big retailers as they will have central policies on what charities they donate too etc, try and target smaller, independent stores. They might want to know what the prizes are going towards, so do a bit of research on the website and former Borneo blogs about what Raleigh does as a youth development charity, not only do we work on really worthy projects in developing countries but the charity also gives young people between the ages of 17 and 24 (and many from socially excluded or disadvantaged backgrounds) the opportunity to take part and foster their own personal development. Reinforce the fact that this is not going to be a holiday for you! Remember the prizes you want will be for a winning team - so for more than one person. To keep the mystery, you could always wrap the prizes and have them as a lucky dip for the winning team? I had advent calendars at Christmas and chocolate Easter bunnies at Easter... Secondly – you could always get someone to sponsor you and use the money for prizes. This would be money well spent as it is a means to accruing even more money! If you do have alcohol as a prize, then make sure the management of the pub are cool about it (they may not appreciate everyone cracking open bottles of wine at the end). A raffle is also a good idea, if you have plenty of prizes!

4. Extras

I would recommend a game of heads and tails as well in the middle (good to have a scheduled drinks break in the middle) of the quiz. Whip round the room with a hat/tin and get people to put in a pound if they want to play. Once they have paid they stand up. Explain that it is a game of Heads and Tails and ask everyone to put hands on heads if they choose heads or bums if they choose tails..Flip the coin and those who guess wrong must sit down. The last person standing gets the prize, this takes about a minute to do and will earn you about £50!(depending on your numbers). I gave away a bottle of champagne to the winner (which I got from the farmers market) and a calendar (also free).

5. Other things to think about

Think about how much you are going to charge people and make sure you tell them in advance. You will probably find that people will be willing to pay up to £5 each as it is for charity but only charge as much as you would be willing to pay to go to a pub quiz!

Raleigh

Think about who you would want to be quiz master – You might want to do it all yourself, but if you would rather talk to people and tell them about what you are going to be doing then you might want to rope in a confident friend to take of the master of ceremonies role! Market research is a must too, so I would recommend you go along to pub quiz to see how it is run and to get some ideas.

6. Advertise it

People can be really hard to pin down so get a date set and in peoples diaries as soon as possible. Set up a Facebook group and invite everyone you know. Encourage work to enter a team and perhaps get other offices/organisations to enter teams too, so it is competitive.

Running a pub quiz really is very easy and surprisingly very enjoyable, which is what your fundraising should be!! If you are planning on organising a pub quiz to raise money for your expedition, please do let your support coordinator know as we always love hearing about great fundraising activities.

Best of luck and happy quizzing!