



Calum's an MS(Y)P

A YOUTH worker at Kirkcaldy YMCA has successfully been voted in as a Member of the Scottish Youth Parliament (MSYP)

Calum Ware (22), became one of only two YMCA representatives in the Parliament, which aims to give young people across Scotland a say in national matters. He was voted in by YMCA Scotland members and will represent the east coast. Young people in Kirkcaldy will be able to approach Calum with their views on national issues such as health, unemployment and the education system, and he can take them forward to the Scottish Youth Parliament's meetings which take place three times a year.

Calum will also have to visit various YMCAs across his constituency to canvas the opinions of young people who make use of their facilities.

Calum said; "It's a big task, but it's one I'm looking forward to carrying out."

The former Auchmuty High School pupil puts much of his success down to the support of Liz Easton, general secretary of Kirkcaldy YMCA and others at the establishment. Calum first started working at the YMCA in 2007 as a Project Scotland volunteer when

24 hours on a treadmill for funds

ONE of Calum's first jobs is to launch next week's 24-hour fundraiser at the YMCA.

The Tread-athon starts on next Thursday morning (February 11) and will see around 200 youngsters aged 10-18 hit the treadmills for 24 hours to raise funds for their own activities and amenities.

he was "trying to find his way."

He took on the position of a youth leader, helping out at the YM, where he was involved in organising and promoting gigs and community festivals designed for young people.

After spending a summer in Gothenburg through a YMCA project, Calum left to pursue other interests, but continued to help out as a volunteer.

He returned to the YMCA in October 2009 on a placement through a HNC in Working with Communities which he is currently studying at Adam Smith College, and is hoping to go on to study at Dundee University. He will spend the summer working at Camp

The event co-incides with the school half-term and everyone taking part is asked to raise £10.

They can walk, jog or run, and there will be lots of other activities on offer at the same time.

Calum hopes the Tread-athon matches last year's Bounce-Athon which netted £1000.

America with youngsters with special needs. He now spends around 20 hours a week at the YM, helping on adult education and youth work, as well as serving as a part-time youth worker with Fife Council, based at the Savoy Centre in Leven where he helps develop sporting opportunities for disadvantaged youngsters.

And in his very limited spare time he plays floorball for the Balwearie Floorball Club. "I don't have a lot of free time, but I love my work and I am really looking forward to working with more young people in the future through my work as a MSYP," he said.

AUSTIN YOUNG