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Dear Reader

Welcome to our January Welcome Edition 2025! We hope that you love your time in Swansea and settle into your new home here! We have a detailed welcome programme to help you meet new people and explore the local area and other areas of the UK.

This news letter should help you get a bit more information on the type of events we have to offer, our volunteering scheme we have available and the services we have to offer!

Our activities also run all year round with trips to different UK cities, film nights, social events and more!

If you have any event suggestions please email gocial@swansea.ac.uk - we greatly appreciate them!

Emma, Fiona, Abbie, Nick, Nic, Mike, Caroline, Beth
International@CampusLife



International@CampusLife

Here to help

International@CampusLife (ICL) are here to help and support International students with non academic queries. In particular we can help with visas and immigration, international family questions and cultural aspects of living in the UK. We also provide opportunities for social interaction and community building through our GO! Programme.

Please visit our website to explore our pages of advice and guidance, as well as details on how you can get in contact with us via email, Live Chat, ad hoc webinars or other online activities:

www.swansea.ac.uk/international-campuslife/

We also have our Instagram account, where you can tag us and when you go on events, keep an eye for your photos!

<https://www.instagram.com/campuslifesu/>

What's Going On?

Our Welcome programme will be packed with fun-filled activities to help you settle into your new home here in Swansea! We have many activities that will widen your imagination, give you the opportunity to meet new friends and make your time at Swansea University the best it can be!

Here is a list of some of our upcoming events:

- 14th and 15th January - GO! Social: Calming Crafts
- 16th and 23rd January - GO! Social: Coffee and Chat
- 18th January - GO! Trip: Designer Outlet by Bus
- 22nd, 29th and 30th January - GO! Walk: Explore Swansea
- 25th January and 8th February - International Welcome Day
- 27th January and 3rd February - GO! Social: Welcome Breakfast
- 31st January - GO! Film: Over the Hedge
- 2nd February - GO! Trip: Birmingham
- Date to be confirmed - GO! Eat: New Slow Boat

There is an event for everyone to enjoy so please browse our event ticketing website for a full list of our events. All of these can be booked at:

<https://university-swansea.native.fm/group/5010/international-campus-life>



GO! Programme Lookback

GO! Trip: Bath Festive Markets

Our GO! Trips to Major UK cities are always International@CampusLife's most popular events. This time we headed to the Bath Festive Markets - home to over 200 independent craft and food stalls!

"I loved visiting the Roman Baths, there is so much to see in Bath!"

"The Christmas market was great - so beautiful"

"The city was gorgeous!"

Meet the GO! Team

In each edition we will meet another GO! Team Member!

Your name: Naveen Kumar

Your course: Msc Management (Artificial Intelligence)

Your nationality: Indian



Why did you choose to study at Swansea University?

The university's encouraging campus culture and significant focus on research and it has a beach which I always love because I come from a place where we have the second longest beach in the world google it to know where I am from! 😊

Why did you decide to volunteer as a GO!Team member?

I chose to volunteer with the GO!Team because I thought it would be a great opportunity to help and interact with students from all backgrounds while also developing my interpersonal and management skills.

What do you see as your main job as a GO!Team member?

My primary responsibility is to help students have a good, inclusive experience that makes them feel connected and welcome. This entails supervising students at activities like Go Social and Go Film as well as ensuring their enjoyment and safety when participating in outdoor pursuits like our beach walk from Three Cliffs Beach to Mumbles. My main goal is to create an environment at Swansea where students feel at ease, involved, and confident enough to try new things.

What makes a good GO!Team member?

Excellent GO!Team member is approachable, understanding, and respectful of others' concerns. They need to be proactive, trustworthy, and passionate about promoting a welcoming and safe atmosphere. It's also critical to be flexible and able to respond positively to a variety of circumstances, as GO!Team members frequently have to react to various situations and personalities.

What has been the best part of being a GO!Team member so far?

Making connections with the fellow students, student experience team and witnessing their success as they participate in the events and activities, we plan has been the most rewarding aspect. It has been wonderfully enjoyable to help create these moments and watch students truly enjoy these experiences. Thanks to Nicola, Beth & Caroline who always been so supportive.

Why do you think other students should apply to be on the GO!Team?

Joining the Team is a fantastic opportunity to improve your leadership, communication, and event planning abilities while having a good influence. It's a special chance to make friends, interact with a varied student body, and join a community that encourages participation and inclusivity. The GO!Team is the perfect platform for students who want to develop both professionally and personally while also making a positive impact.

The GO! Team Volunteer Programme

Volunteering is a great way to meet people, gain employability skills and get involved with the community. If you'd like to volunteer as a GO!Team Member, and want more information please register for a discovery account and sign up to be a GO! Team Volunteer here:

<https://volunteering.discoverysvs.org/volunteers/opportunity/10193151> or email gocial@swansea.ac.uk.



GO!Eat | Cost £10 (usually)

International and Home Students have come along to a different Swansea-based restaurant each month to enjoy food from all the over the world and meet new friends too! Our host restaurant will typically provide us with a £10 set-menu for us and there's always plenty of food! GO!Eat evenings are advertised across social media and tickets are sold via:

<https://university-swansea.native.fm/group/5010/international-campus-life>



5 Quirky British Traditions:

- Cheese Rolling - taking place every year in Gloucestershire, England, the event involves rolling a wheel of cheese down a steep hill, while participants chase after it.
- Jack in the Green - "Jack" covered with leaves and looking like a moving hedge can be seen walking the streets of Hastings to celebrate May Day.
- Tar Barrel Racing - on Bonfire Night, 5th November, the local men, women and children of Devon, carry full-sized lit tar barrels through the streets! The organisers believe its origins can be traced back to the gunpowder plot of 1605.
- Wife Carrying Race - pairs of people, which don't have to strictly be women or wives, are carried over 380 meters over obstacles including hay bales and water.
- Gurning Competition at Egremont Crab Fair - a competition that has been taking place in England for over 700 years. The competition involves contestants pulling grotesque faces, known as "gurns" while looking through a horse collar.

hapus

The Student Life Toolkit
Pecyn Cymorth Bywyd Myfyrywyr

Living in the UK after moving from a different country is bound to be a huge adjustment.

Our online Student Life Toolkit, [Hapus](#), contains information on how to deal with culture shock, and lists the many teams across the University who can support you and help you settle in! You can access the course via your Canvas account and it is available in [English](#), [Welsh](#), [Chinese](#) and [Arabic](#).