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GO! News

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Dear Reader

Welcome to a special January Issue of GO!News for 2023!

We hope you enjoy reading about all the things we have to look forward to during the start of the New Year!

We've been working hard to create a fun, safe and exciting programme of social events to welcome you to Swansea University, wherever you happen to be in the world, and kick-start this next chapter of your life!

We also have information on volunteer opportunities and where you can access advice and support. Emma, Fiona, Abbie, Nick, Nic, Chris, Mike, Kayleigh, Beth
International@CampusLife



International@CampusLife

Still 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.

Remember - **we are still here to support you!** 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 **Official Swansea University International Welcome Group** on Facebook, dedicated to welcoming new International Students to our university, linking them with course-mates and friends. [Click here](#) or search for us on Facebook and become a part of our International community.

What's Going On?

Our January welcome programme will be packed with fun-filled activities including film nights, board games, exploring Swansea town centre and our popular welcome days.

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:

- GO! Social: Welcome Breakfast - 16th January & 30th January
- GO! Walk: Explore Swansea Town - 18th January, 25th January & 1st February
- GO! Trip: Birmingham - 21st January
- GO! Eat: The New Slow Boat - 24th January
- GO! Trip: IKEA 5th February
- GO! Social: Board Games - 8th February
- GO! Family: Arts and Crafts - 18th February

There is an event for everyone to enjoy so browse our future events, and not just by ourselves our team in Welfare@CampusLife who have loads of events planned! All of these can be booked at:

<https://events.swansea.su/group/313/campus-life>



GO! Programme Lookback

GO! Trip: Festive Bath

Our GO! Trips to Major UK cities are always International@CampusLife's most popular events. Students wandered around the twinkling festive markets, went ice-skating on Bath's outdoor rink, played glow-up golf under the stars and learnt about Bath's rich history at the Roman Baths! It was a truly magical trip - the best way to get into the festive spirit!

"I loved the trip to Bath! There was so much to see and do. The christmas markets were my favourite part. The historical side of the city was very interesting also!"

Meet the GO! Team

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

Name: Nadeeshani Jayasuriya (Hansi)

Course: MSc Public Health and Health Promotion

Nationality: Sri Lankan

Why did you choose to study at

Swansea University?: I chose to study in Swansea University because it is one of the oldest universities (since 1920s); ranked 12th in the UK for student satisfaction and also it is situated in one of the safest areas in the UK.

Why did you decide to volunteer as a GO! Team member? The Go! Team has wide range of activities and events which I can participate as a volunteer and it certainly has a flexibility when it comes to active participation.

What do you see as your main role as a GO! Team member? To communicate with the students under the guidance of project coordinators regarding events, explaining the process while enjoying it with them. It is a great privilege to participate in the organizing process as well as the in the outcome of the event.

What makes a good GO! Team member? A good Go! Team member requires higher level of communication within the team as well as towards the students.

What has been the best thing about being a part of the GO! Team so far? I had a privilege to work with the team for the trip to Glastonbury which made me to get hands on experience in interacting with students and the team members. The support I received in every step of the way to make the event a successful as well as the flexibility makes the team to stand out in every other opportunities in the volunteer journey.

Why do you think other students should apply to be part of the GO! Team? I can assure the Go! Team members have the flexibility when it comes to events. There are wide range of events which you can volunteer, one off ones, trips, eat -and cultural festivals etc. which makes so interesting when volunteering. Beth and Nicola are both lovely, kind people and helped me throughout so far to reach in becoming a successful volunteer. They will provide in depth information in each and every event, while working with you simultaneously to make the event successful.



GO!Eat | Cost £10 (usually)

Since starting a couple of years ago, our GO!Eat evenings have grown in popularity - 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://events.swansea.su/group/313/campus-life>



5 facts about Swansea:

- Swansea has been recently named as the cleanest city in Wales and is the second cleanest city in the whole of the UK.
- Wales officially has more castles per square mile than any other country in the world. With Swansea housing 11 of them! Caerphilly is the largest castle in Wales and is the second largest in Europe behind Windsor Castle.
- The Mumbles – two islands off the coast of Wales – gets its name from the French word 'mamelles', meaning breasts. When you look at them you can see what the French were going on about.
- In 1823 the first ever human fossil was discovered near Swansea in the Gower Peninsula. The Red Lady of Paviland (who is actually a man) dates back over 33,000 years and was dyed by the red ochre in the surrounding rocks.
- Swansea Jack (1930 – October 1937) was a famous Welsh dog who rescued 27 people from the docks and riverbanks of Swansea, Wales. You can visit his Memorial which is opposite the St Helens cricket and rugby ground.

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 gosocial@swansea.ac.uk.

