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GO! News

Spring 2024 Issue

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Dear Reader

Welcome to our Spring Issue of GO!News for 2024!

We hope you enjoy reading about all the things we have arranged for you with *hopefully* the weather improving and days getting lighter.

Why not celebrate a change of season by joining us at one or more of our many events/trips we've got planned? With plenty of options, we hope that there is something that appeals to everyone. If you have an idea, please let us know: gosocial@swansea.ac.uk

We also have information on volunteer opportunities and where you can access advice and support.

Emma, Fiona, Abbie, Nick, Nic, Mike, Kayleigh, 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.

Remember - we are 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 Spring programme will be packed with fun-filled activities including film nights, board games, exploring Swansea town centre and our popular trips.

Here is a list of some of our upcoming events:

- The Bigger Picture Festival - 5th and 7th March
- International Women's Day - 8th March
- GO! Eat: Gallini's - 12th March
- GO! Film: About a Boy - 15th March
- GO! Social: Board Game Bonanza - 19th March
- GO! Walk: Explore Swansea - 20th March
- GO! Trip: Oxford - 23rd March
- GO! Social: Holi Festival - 25th March
- GO! Family: Spring Treasure Hunt - 27th March
- GO! Trip: Laugharne & Saundersfoot - 3rd April
- GO! Family: Plantasia - 5th April
- GO! Eat: Thai Bach - 11th April
- GO! Social: Bingo - 15th April
- GO! Social: Art Therapy - 18th April
- GO! Social: Earth Day - 22nd April

There is an event for everyone to enjoy so browse our future events. All of these can be booked at:

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

GO! Programme Lookback GO! Trip: Birmingham



Our GO! Trips to Major UK cities are always International@CampusLife's most popular events. For Lunar New Year, we headed to Britain's second largest city with a history dating back hundreds of years. The city has been a major influence over British life, becoming a centre of trade and industry, culture and technology, as well as being home to numerous international communities.

"Explored England city life and saw fire works for Lunar New Year!"

"I went to Cadbury World and National Sea Life. The sights were beautiful"

"Birmingham was filled with vibrant experiences. The highlight of my day was visiting the iconic Bullring shopping center. Overall, Birmingham offered a delightful blend of art, cuisine, and urban charm, making it a memorable destination."

Meet the GO! Team

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

Name: Sukriti Jacob

Course: MSc Management (Business Analytics)

Nationality: Indian

Why did you choose to study at

Swansea University? I liked the course curriculum

for my programme and I found that during the admissions process, I received proactive support and good guidance throughout. Something I really appreciate as I did not have the same experience with other universities I applied to. Also, I loved the beach location of the university.

Why did you decide to volunteer as a GO! Team member? I met the GO! Team during a Welcome Event, I found it to be a wonderful opportunity to get out of my comfort zone and interact with new people. I also saw the role as an opportunity to enhance the university experience for international students.

What do you see as your main role as a GO! Team member? I see my job as a support worker, ensuring that GO! Team events are a success. By extension I also see myself as an ambassador for highlighting opportunities, events, and work done by the team with all students I meet.

What makes a good GO! Team member? A GO! Team Member should be; willing to interact with people and be interested in their stories with a positive attitude. Be Flexible and open to new experiences, and be on time!

What has been the best thing about being a part of the GO! Team so far? The best part has been the invaluable opportunity to develop a diverse set of skills. Through organizing events, socials, trips, and festivals for international students at Swansea University, I've honed my communication, teamwork, and leadership abilities. Additionally, interacting with students from various faculties has enhanced my cultural competence and adaptability, enriching my university experience beyond the confines of my academic coursework.

Why do you think other students should apply to be part of the GO! Team? It offers a unique chance to broaden one's horizons and develop essential skills beyond the academic realm. By engaging with a diverse community of international students and organizing events and activities, members not only contribute to the vibrant campus culture but also enhance their communication, organization, and leadership abilities. Moreover, the opportunity to network and collaborate with students from various faculties fosters a sense of inclusivity and community, enriching the overall university experience.



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 Castles to visit in the area:

- **Oystermouth Castle** -majestically on the hill in Mumbles, with stunning views overlooking Swansea Bay and opens back open in Spring
- **Pennard Castle** - Pennard Castle's situation is dramatic and beautiful. It is perched on the edge of the valley of the Pennard Pill, with a sheer drop below to the north and west.
- **Cardiff Castle** - hop on a train and visit our Capital's main castle.
- **Weobley Castle** - a 14th-century fortified manor house on the Gower Peninsula and overlooks Llanrhidian saltmarshes and the Loughor estuary.
- **Margam Castle** - Within the grounds of Margam Country Park, you can visit this 19th Century Gothic Mansion.

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.



Welfare Wednesdays



Join Welfare@CampusLife for Welfare Wednesdays, 11am -12pm, in Taliesin Create, Studio area. Look out for full details on Native



Come and have a hot drink and a chat and let us know what you do to look after your Welfare and how we can help you with that while you're here at Swansea University.