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GO! News

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Dear Reader

Welcome to our Winter Edition 2023! We hope that you've now settled into Swansea University life and getting to grips with the Welsh way of life!

Here at International Campus Life, we have been organising a wide range of events for the winter season. Our aim for these events is to give you the opportunity to meet other students and catch up before the Festive break! Whether you are going home or staying here in the UK, we have plenty of ideas for you!

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

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

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 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 Winter programme will be packed with fun-filled activities for everyone to enjoy.

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:

- 15th November - GO! Social: Erasmus Mixer
- 21st November - GO! Eat: Smokin Griddle
- 24th November - GO! Film: Wall-E
- 30th November - GO! Trip: Bath
- 7th December - Go! Film: Home Alone
- 12th December - GO! Social: Festive Mixer
- 13th December - GO! Eat: Pub on the Pond

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://events.swansea-union.co.uk/group/313/campus-life>

You can also find our Festive Handbook [here](#).



GO! Programme Lookback

GO! Trip: Bristol

Our GO! Trips to Major UK cities are always International@CampusLife's most popular events. This time we headed to Bristol, England. Students' enjoyed wondering around this vibrant, cultural city. With plenty of things to do there, they got the chance to go to Museums, Bristol Aquarium and check out street art.

"I loved visiting the cathedral and the museum!"

"Great sites, interesting architecture and good organisation of the trip"

"The city was very pretty. Bristol Museum was really amazing."

Meet the GO! Team

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

Your name: Hadiza Abubakar



Your course: MSc Management (Business Analytics)

Your nationality: Nigerian

Why did you choose to study at Swansea University? I opted for Swansea University because of its esteemed Business Management programme, a perfect fit for my career goals in customer experience management. The university's emphasis on hands-on education and its extensive industry network also offered a unique advantage for gaining practical skills.

Why did you decide to volunteer as a GO!Team member? I decided to volunteer as a GO! Team member to assist international students in their transition to Swansea and the UK, aligning closely with my interests in customer experience and community engagement. This role also offered the chance to showcase the beauty of Swansea through organized events and trips, further enriching my skills in event management and networking.

What do you see as your main job as a GO!Team member? Tour guide, and Project coordinator

What makes a good GO!Team member? Being able to develop communication skills, project management skills, teamwork skills and customer service skills.

What has been the best part of being a GO!Team member so far? Being able to go on trips and see beautiful sites in Swansea and the UK.

Why do you think other students should apply to be on the GO!Team? I believe other students should apply to be on the GO! Team because it's a unique platform to make a meaningful impact on the lives of international and local students, enhancing their university experience. Beyond the altruistic benefits, team members can develop essential soft skills like leadership, event management, and cross-cultural communication, which are invaluable in any career, especially in fields related to management and customer experience.

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://events.swansea-union.co.uk/group/313/campus-life>



5 British Festive Traditions To Do:

- Watch the King's Speech - The tradition was actually started by the King's great grandfather, King George V, when he delivered the first address over the radio in 1932. George V's first message was written by English writer Rudyard Kipling and transmitted live from a studio that was created for him at Sandringham estate. Tune in to BBC1 on Christmas Day to watch this!
- Pantomime - Pantomimes are a revival of old school Roman comedies like Lysistrata with slapstick humour and ridiculous jokes. There's plenty in the area, in Cardiff, Swansea and even Llanelli - why not try it out and see if you like it?!
- John Lewis Christmas Advert - Yes, that's right, a TV Advert is a key part of the Festive time of year - A lot of people even think it isn't the Christmas season until the John Lewis Christmas advert is released. Often a little short film telling an emotional story, the advert always pulls on the heart-strings while spreading some festive cheer.
- Switch on christmas Lights -Another sign it's officially Christmas is switching on the Christmas lights. This holiday tradition began in 1954 on Regent Street in London.
- Swimming- Fancy a dip in the Ocean in Winter? All around the country, on the morning of either Christmas Day, Boxing Day and even New Years Day, people dress up in fancy dress and go for an icy dip in the sea, and raise money for charity - <https://www.visitwales.com/things-do/adventure-and-activities/watersports/festive-swims-wales>