

International Student Newsletter - November 2017



PRIFYSGOL
BANGOR
UNIVERSITY



A group of Bangor International Students meet Wales' First Minister

Diwali is the Hindu festival of lights and this year, to celebrate the occasion, six Bangor University Indian students were invited to Cardiff for a special event with the Rt Hon Carwyn Jones AM, First Minister of Wales.

International Student Ambassadors together with Bangor Indian Society members travelled to Cardiff on the 26th October with Marcel Clusa from the International Student Support Office.



Photo: Richard Bosworth

Hurricane Ophelia could not stop the enthusiastically eager group from getting to the Capital of Wales, where a big reception was waiting for them at the Millennium Centre. Students got to meet, mingle and even dance (!) with the First Minister of Wales, who dedicated a few words in his speech to acknowledge the importance of the current 2,000 Indian students studying in the UK for the future of this country, and for the future relations between Wales and India.

We all really enjoyed the event and everyone made us feel really welcome. In the words of Shailaja Bakshi (PhD student in Linguistics) "It was interesting to see that not only Indians but even people from other nationalities such as Welsh came to this Diwali event! Everyone was SO welcoming!". "I loved every bit of my trip to Cardiff to see the First Minister! It was a life time experience for me and I have come back with memories and friends for a lifetime!" said Yasharth Mishra (BSc in Computer Systems Engineering).

Celebrations ended with the biggest Diwali event in North Wales, organised by the Bangor Indian Society on the 26th October in PJ Hall. Music and Dance performances got everyone on their feet in an event that finished with PJ Hall becoming a huge dancefloor for everyone to dance the night away.

One World Gala 2018

The International Education Centre is looking for talented people to perform at our evening Gala on the

9th March 2018,

so if you can sing, dance or play music we would like to hear from you.

Donate a little of your time, have fun and help us raise funds for charity!

Interested? Register at
internationalsupport@bangor.ac.uk
All students & staff welcome!
Audition date: 16th February 2018



HOW TO CONTACT THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUPPORT TEAM:

Website: www.bangor.ac.uk/international/support

Email: internationalsupport@bangor.ac.uk Telephone: 01248 382882

www.facebook.com/BangorUniversityInternational www.instagram.com/bangorinternational

#Bangorinternational



Internationals GO GREEN



A team of 30 enthusiastic international students from Bangor University got together on the 4th of November for a cleaner planet! They spent 3 hours picking up (a lot of) litter around upper and lower Bangor as part of a new project organised by the International Student Support Office - called **Internationals Go Green**. The initiative consists of a series of trips and events aimed at raising awareness on environmental issues, sustainability and wellbeing among students. In addition, all their events are organised together with other University Departments (with UNDEB Bangor this time) and Local Organisations to enhance the Student Experience to the max and to work as a bridge between students and the local community.

Students experienced first-hand the problematic of litter and waste in our current societies. Kilos and Kilos of items were picked up from the floor, one by one, in a very short period. These consisted mainly of plastic and glass bottles, cans and take-away related litter. 15 bags full of litter were collected from the Pier to the High Street to College Road, highlighting the need for a change. Plastic can take up to thousands of years to decompose and in the majority of cases, the litter around Bangor ends up in the sea, becoming a real hazard for many species and habitats.

The event on Saturday reminds us that each and every one of us needs to engage and work for a better, cleaner planet. In the words of Frederick Walters from Germany –BSc student in Marine Biology/Zoology – “Seeing the shocking amount of rubbish gathered on that day, in such a short time, has made me realise how much one can do for our world. It is vital for people to get active and change our future”.

A time to change our actions has come, as shown by this group of students from all over the World who dedicated their Saturday morning to clean up our city and hopefully influence the actions of others to help reduce littering for a nicer, healthier and even more beautiful Bangor.



International Ambassadors' Column - Jeanne Alberty, Switzerland

Visit of Westminster and the House of Commons with NWAMI

"On the 17th of October, some of us international ambassadors were privileged to be invited to a conference given by NWAMI (North Wales Association for Multicultural Integration) in Westminster, London.

Once arrived at the Parliament, we got the possibility to attend a debate between deputies regarding international investments led by Greg Clark, Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. We observed the progress of a



real debate and felt the atmosphere between the walls of the Parliament.

Afterwards, we were welcomed to join a lunch reception, made of oriental dishes and accompanied by some really nice songs and music played by different Welsh artists, celebrating acceptance and unity.

Following the break, we attended the conference given in one of the chambers facing the river Thames. This one was introduced by Dr Sibani Roy, the president of the association and hosted by Rt Hon David Jones MP. Other speakers, such as a delegate from Amnesty International; Lord Roger Roberts of Llandudno; an intercultural community councillor made presentations and then proceeded to an open "Question & Answer" discussion before closing the session.

It was a long day for the ambassadors, who came back to Bangor on the same day, but it was a very fascinating experience, from its uniqueness and from the message of solidarity, unity and harmony, that the association is aiming at and trying to spread."

More details about Jeanne and how to contact the rest of the Ambassadors at: www.bangor.ac.uk/international/studentprofiles/ambassador



Bangor International Student Society



"Last Friday (3rd November), we collaborated with over a dozen societies and clubs to hold an International Cultural Fair! The purpose of the event was to showcase the many 'cultural' societies & clubs present at Bangor University, and to help raise funds for all of them. Every society & club had a stall around P.J. Hall. Some sold food, others sold clothes from their culture, and all of them accepted donations from visitors! With performances by History & Archaeology Society (BUHAS) and Bangladeshi Society on stage and demonstrations by the Ki-Aikido, Jiu-jitsu and Karate martial arts clubs on judo mats in the middle of the hall, visitors not only got to meet the societies, they got a non-stop line-up of entertainment as well!

At the end of the night, we staged an auction to raise funds for the Cathedral Food Bank. Certain very special people from the International Students Support Office (ISSO) were 'volunteered' for this event, as well as those from various society committees and anybody else who wanted to help. At the end of the night, over 100 visitors turned up to the event, and a total of **£130** was raised for the Cathedral Food Bank! If you would like to donate to the food bank as well, head over to <http://www.cathedralfoodbank.org/> for more information. Thank you all!"

Chinese Students and Scholar Association

“On October 7th, the Chinese Students and Scholar Association of Bangor University held a Mid-Autumn fresher’s welcome gala in PJ hall. It’s worth mentioning that we were honored by the presence of the mayor of Bangor—Mr. Derek Hainge; the director of Confucius Institute—Mr. David Joyner and the Chinese president—Mrs. Yanjun Xin; and the head of BCSSA—Mr. Wenhao Zhang. They all gave wonderful speeches.

The show began with some dancing and rapping, making the audience feel the cheerful festive atmosphere quickly. Then two Chinese students performed for us with a duet on Bamboo Flute and Guqin called Three Variations on Plum Blossom. Besides, another girl gave us a Pipa solo (Big Fish & Begonia). These allowed us to experience the beauty of Chinese classical music. As for traditional dancing, the performers brought us a gorgeous pavane solo and a pretty Mongolian solo. Our Lady’s primary school performed a lovely Tibetan group dance too. Of course, the gala also had some modern parts: a male solo, a duet song, a Chinese comic dialogue and so on. In addition, the BCSSA members and CI staff hosted a Chinese costume fashion show to express the combination of modern and classical. Last but not the least, our sponsor also set a raffle with a prize of £100. Because of this successful Mid-Autumn welcome gala, we are looking forward with great pleasure to celebrate CSSA’s next party! See you there!”



Bangor Indonesian Society

“It’s been two months of enjoying student life and some of us might be already thinking that college life is indeed tense and stressful at some points! and yes! we also need good food to keep us in the mood for studying too! Some Bangor Indonesian Society students come up with the idea that cooking skills are essential, as cooking can help divert the exhaustion of studying and escape from assignments for a moment while making good food to recharge our batteries. Speaking of good food, did you know Indonesia is one of the top cuisine countries in the world with hundreds of great recipes? Rendang (Indonesian spicy beef curry), is one of the examples. It is made by mixing various herbs and coconut milk, stewed in a constant heat which normally takes a couple of hours to cook (could be more for tastier and more tender texture). For more details on this, Bangor IndoSoc will be posting some of Indonesia’s

delicious quick-cooking meals

during the following months. Follow our Instagram account @Bangor.Indosoc and stay tuned! You won’t regret it!”

P.S: if you want the quickest way to taste Indonesian food, you can get *Indomie* from Amazon or some local shops. They are the best selling ramen, so why not giving them a try? :)



Presenting the new Doctoral Society

"Hi to all research students!

We want to introduce you to the newly founded Doctoral Society, dedicated to research and PhD students across all academic schools.

We are here to support you, organise social and academic events and develop a platform for interdisciplinary exchange.

Join [Doc Soc](#) on Facebook to find out more about our friendly group and have fun besides your studies.

<https://m.facebook.com/groups/1336832373095331>

Next Event:

Free tea, coffee and cookies at Undeb Bangor's weekly PhTea! Hosted by Undeb, pop in to say hello to your fellow students anytime between 12-2pm every Thursday, 4th floor of Pontio in the SU Room of Requirement.

Say hello on Facebook today!

See you soon,

The Doc Soc committee "

President

Ian Roberts

Vice President

Sergio Castellanos Gamboa

Treasurer

Andrew Wildman

Secretary

Owen Powell

Social Secretaries

Shailaja Bakshi

Adina Grigorie

Lucy Evans

Isabel Schestak

A promotional graphic for PhTea. It features a central image of hands holding white mugs with the Undeb logo. The text "Lunch time get together for all PhD students" is written in a white box with a red border. Below this, the word "PhTea" is written in large, bold, black letters. At the bottom, the location and time are specified: "Location: Undeb Bangor (4th Floor, Pontio building)" and "Time: 12-2pm, every Thursday". The background is a colorful rainbow gradient.

Lunch time get together
for all PhD students

PhTea

Location: Undeb Bangor (4th Floor, Pontio building)
Time: 12-2pm, every Thursday

HOST

"GREAT EXCITEMENT! HOST UK is open for applications for you to apply for an experience of a lifetime. British festive time is something so *very* special and can only really be fully appreciated when you get the chance to spend it in the warmth and comfort of a British home with the heartfelt welcome of a British Family. This is *exactly* what we are able to offer. You will have the chance to understand and participate in festive traditions, eat well, exchange ideas, and learn more about British life at this most joyous of times.

HOST is accepting applications until 5pm on the 20th November, and the sooner you apply, the more likely you are to receive an invitation.

"It was the best decision of my whole exchange experience to stay at my HOST family during Christmas. They family was so sweet and warm and really welcomed me as a family member!" Maja So, student from Denmark.

Find out more now and submit your application at www.hostuk.org.



What is ELCOS?

The English Language Centre for Overseas Students is based in Rathbone Building and we do ...

... an English Language Improvement course which is full time and open to anyone wishing to improve their English throughout the year and during the summer

... IELTS preparation classes once a week which are open to everyone

... free English classes on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings (children welcome too)

... a Writing Advice Service for one to one help with written English

... Conversation Club with the International Education Centre which is free and open to all who want to speak English in a social environment

... pre-sessional courses for students preparing for academic degrees

... English language modules for students currently studying in academic schools

For more information visit <http://elcos.bangor.ac.uk> or follow us on

 English Language Learners at Bangor University

 elcos_bangor

 @ELCOSBangor



The Study Skills Centre

We offer 1-2-1 writing appointments, workshops, and Maths and Stats support.



To arrange an appointment for [1-2-1 Writing appointments](#) or for [Maths and Stats support](#) visit our website.

Why not attend one of our free, interactive workshops this semester. [Visit our website to reserve your place.](#)

For further information or advice contact us:

Website: www.bangor.ac.uk/studyskills

Email: Studyskills@bangor.ac.uk

Telephone: 01248 38 2689

Or search for us on [Facebook and Twitter.](#)

OUT OF YOUR DEPTH?

HOUSE HUNTING MAKING YOU FEEL LOST AT SEA?

There's a surplus of housing available in Bangor. Stay with the University and there's a whole lot more we can do to help you!

✦
Undeb Bangor
House & Bounce
information day
November 15th

Housing advice and contract guidance available at the Student Housing Office Student Services, Rathbone Mon-Fri bangorstudentpad.com





The Sustainability Lab



“Local and international students and staff along with local and national organisations have been out and about this October cleaning up the streets and campuses across Bangor, raising awareness and sharing ideas about reuse and recycling.

In partnership with a number of organisations, The Sustainability Lab ran

an exciting range of WAW activities and events. These included waste awareness visits, advice and surveys in student accommodation, litter picks, an information sharing and discussions day and our new recycling game.

We also partnered with Makerere University in Uganda - WAW across continents! Activities included litter picking, rubbish sorting, displaying waste

messages across campus, and an upcycling exhibition of eco seats, earrings and much more.



WAW organiser and Waste Co-ordinator for Bangor’s Environmental Performance Team Gwen Holland said:

“Bangor has positioned itself as The Sustainable University, and waste is a big part of its impact on the environment and on the local community so we need to improve our reduce-reuse-recycle rates. To do this we need everyone to pull together – students, staff and visitors. WAW did just that plus showed people simple, everyday ways of how they can make a difference.”

Gabe Hibberd, Campus Life Sustainability Coordinator said:

“Encouraging waste awareness across the University is worthwhile and can save students money in the future. Thanks to the Sustainability Lab, Campus Life and our student volunteers, we now have a cleaner and more aware campus. ”

More information

[Read more about WAW 2017](#)

[What is sustainability@Bangor?](#)



International Halloween 2017



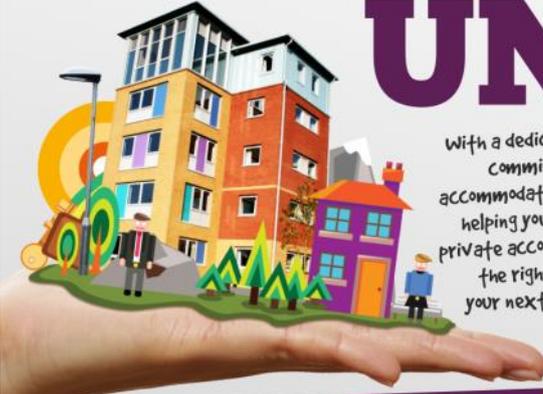
50 international students got together to celebrate Halloween like no other this year with our Pumpkin Carving Wokshop in collaboration with Campus Life! What a great bunch of artists!

Congratulations to all of you for carving the best pumpkins EVER. Follow us on [Instagram](#) so you won't miss our future events!

Photos by Will Philpin/WIRC



STAY SAVVY! STAY WITH BANGOR UNI!



With a dedicated team of staff committed to putting your accommodation needs first, be it helping you search for the best private accommodation or finding the right hall for you, getting your next place to live through the University is the **smart move!**

STUDENT HOUSING

Impartial advice and support
Extensive choice of properties
All our landlords have committed to our Conditions

WWW.BANGORSTUDENTPAD.CO.UK

UNIVERSITY HALLS

All-inclusive living – no surprise bills!
Live with friends and choose your own rooms

24/7 service and pastoral support
WWW.BANGOR.AC.UK/BOOKAROOM

CAMPWSBYW
PRIFYSGOL BANGOR UNIVERSITY
CAMPUS LIFE
YN CYFLWYNG PRESENTS

CAPELA
8.30 PM

MEIC AGORED OPEN MIC

01.10.17 12.11.17 10.12.17

CAMPWSBYW@BANGOR.AC.UK | BERFFORMIO
EMAIL CAMPUSLIFE@BANGOR.AC.UK TO PERFORM

f CAMPWSBYWBANGOR | CAMPUSLIFEBANGOR **@**

What's On

International Student Support

Manchester Christmas Markets!

Join the trip and soak up
the Christmas atmosphere!

Saturday 25th November
9am-8pm
£15 adult / £10 child

PRIFYSGOL BANGOR UNIVERSITY

Tickets available from the
International Education Centre Reception

Pontio

FLOWN

**Pirates of the Carabina
presents**

Theatr Bryn Terfel
Tuesday 14 (7.30pm) Wednesday 15 (2pm & 7.30pm) Thursday 16 (7.30pm) November
£16 standard / £14 over 60 / £10 students & under 18

