

FEB / 2016

ABERYSTWYTH PSYCHOLOGY

DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER



Dr Nigel Holt, Head of Department

Hello everyone, and welcome to the Psychology newsletter. It's been a busy few months around here, lots of coursework and exams for students, lots of teaching and marking for staff and very impressive work it was too. As usual, we've been out and about talking about

Psychology at Aber, with visits to schools and universities in Wales, Hong Kong, England and Ireland. We've had guest lectures from some of the finest psychologists in other Universities and look forward to more. Psychology here just gets better and better – so look out for more opportunities and guest lectures for you all in the coming months.

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GRADUATE PROFILE

"The Psychology department in Aberystwyth is
absolutely fantastic
mainly because of the **passionate staff** who are
always willing to help students"



"I'm taking a year out before (hopefully) returning to Aberystwyth to do a Post Graduate course in Education which will allow me to teach school children. Being taught by lecturers who all love Psychology and publish in journals regularly has inspired me to teach others"

Holly Casey, Aberystwyth Psychology Graduate 2015

Yosano Japan 2016

Alys Galal - Psychology Student

At the end of 2015 I was lucky enough to win a competition and go to Yosano, Japan with eight other people from various departments. I was placed with a host family for the duration of the trip. They didn't speak a word of English but made a lot of effort to communicate with me and to try and learn some English as well.

On our first day in Japan we stopped at Kyoto City to visit the golden temple which was amazing. It's set on a big hill which you can walk up to see the different monuments. On our day off the family took us to visit Amanohashidate, a village near the sea, which has a turning bridge. It was very beautiful and they had a street full of western style cafes and amazing traditional Japanese restaurants, where we ate.

It was very hard to say goodbye to all of the amazing people that we had met, but comforting to know that hopefully one day I will be able to go back and visit everyone. I think the trip was a great success, as for them to have us students learning about their culture strengthened the relationship between Aberystwyth and Yosano.



ABERFORWARD SCHEME

Henry Milsom - Psychology AberForward Intern

I started my AberForward graduate development placement at the department just after Christmas and I've really enjoyed my time here. I've been kept busy mapping the department's school visits around the UK, liaising with colleges and sixth forms and writing A-level psychology briefs.



It's been cool being on the other side of the student-staff divide and I've really started to appreciate how hard the department work to make the student experience great. I've learnt a lot working here; I've really developed my skills and gained some new ones, and I'm sure the experience is going to be useful looking forwards.

ABER PSYCHOLOGY ON TV

A book by Aberystwyth University psychologist Dr Nigel Holt is the reading of choice for Nordic Noir detective Saga Norén, star of *The Bridge* currently being screened on BBC4.



DEPARTMENT RESEARCH

Saffron Passam, Psychology PHD Student & Teaching Fellow

Saffron Passam is excited to be collaborating with Joanne Hopkins Head of Home Office Wales, on a project addressing the issue of class, gender and career development. Supported by Dr Debra Croft, Director of Equality, and Joanne Hiatt, Careers Consultant, students from lower socio-economic backgrounds will participate in activities designed to explore barriers to aspirational career identities.



Further phases of the project will engage with employees from the Home Office Wales and students attending Aberystwyth Summer University. The overall results will contribute to UK policy development, which seeks to increase the numbers of women from disadvantaged backgrounds joining the civil service.

Nominate the
Department of Psychology
or
Nominate
Individual Psychology Staff

www.abersu.co.uk/slta/nominations



Gwobrau Dysgu dan Arweiniad Myfyrwyr
Student Led Teaching Awards

Psychology Society

Martin Scott

The Psychology Society – who are we? We're a friendly bunch of Psychology Students run by a committee of students from all year groups! We're free to join, and the main thing we do is provide a social side to Psychology at Aberystwyth with events like fortnightly themed socials and film nights, guest speakers, as well society meals and trips.



Below is a picture from our Christmas meal, perhaps the only time we look classy enough to be on this newsletter! Join us!

Key Contacts at Aberystwyth

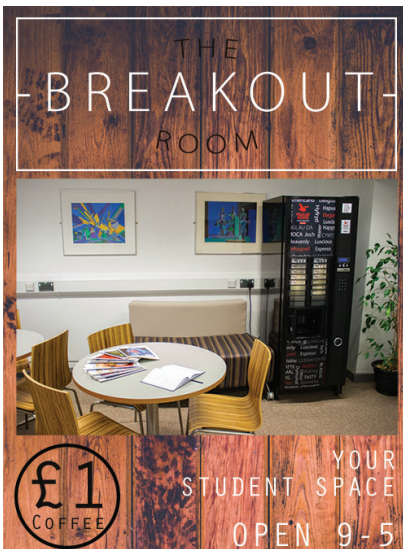


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NEW STUDENT SPACES



We have been working hard recently to try and fulfil some of your 'Tell Us Now' requests and this has led us to create the NEW breakout room!

It is now in room 1.10 in P5 (opposite the main office) and boasts a coffee machine, seating areas and a computer monitor with cables to attach to your laptop.

We are also working on adding a new group work / interview room to the department. This will help provide space for you to work on projects and help make sure there is always somewhere that you can book for work, projects and dissertation interviews.