

QMUSU MONTHLY



THE STUDENTS' UNION
QUEEN MARGARET UNIVERSITY
EDINBURGH

Officers News | November/December, 2023

WELCOME TO QMUSU MONTHLY!

The Students' Union's brand new monthly newsletter to keep you updated on what your officers and staff team are up to in the SU!

Find out information about upcoming and ongoing events and projects that we're working on, and ways in which you can get involved with your SU and the university!

FIND OUT WHAT YOUR OFFICERS HAVE BEEN UP TO THIS MONTH

Our fortnightly Officers' Committee meetings have officially taken off and our officers have loads of exciting things planned, ranging from different campaigns, TikTok takeovers and selecting our Sport & Society of the month! Read on to hear more about how they're doing.



YOUR STUDENT PRESIDENTS



Jay (Academic Life) and Lou (Student Activities) have plenty to update on, with diaries getting busier every day! Want to hear about the brand new societies coming to campus, or about how many boards and committees Jay has been sitting on? Tune in to our Student Presidents' Update to read all about it, with news on November, SU elections, Grand Ball and more!



A MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICERS

The Officers would like to congratulate students on getting through November in the run up to assessment season, as well as those who absolutely smashed this years' Movember season! The effort that all students have put in this semester has been wonderful to see and we can't wait to see you all back in semester two.

We hope you continue to engage with us and keep up with what we're doing - we're busy busy people! Please keep the feedback coming, and if there is anything that you would perhaps like featured in the SU Newsletter, just give us a shout on suofficers@qmu.ac.uk!

Lots of love,

the Officers' Committee x



YOUR STUDENT PRESIDENTS' UPDATE



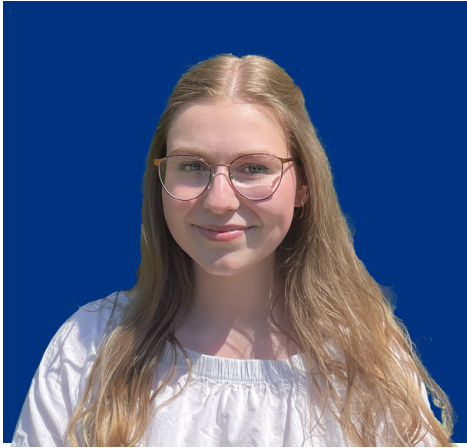
With the semester quickly coming to a close, Jay and Lou have been working all November to enhance the student experience, support our sports teams and societies, and help with exam and study preparations. From the relaunch of QMUSU's 'QMUOK?' initiative to opening up table sign ups for Grand Ball, it's been a joy to continue working alongside all of our students at such a busy time of the year!

Jay has been continuing to work on the SU's four main priorities of the year through contributing to various projects and working closely with the academic staff team to ensure that QMU students are being looked after as deadline season approaches.

After hosting our final Academic Council session of the semester, Jay has taken onboard all of the feedback from our Class Reps and will continue to take it forward to the relevant teams.

Lou has spent most of November supporting our sports and society teams during their fundraising endeavors for another busy month of November. S&S, once again, have absolutely smashed November, led by a fab committee, who will be highlighted further into the newsletter. There have been lots of fabulous S&S events taking place last month which really brought Maggie's to life. Grand Ball planning is also in full swing, Lou and the SU staff team are working hard to ensure that the celebration of sports and societies achievements in 2024 will be a big one. Sign ups and payment for tables at the event have officially kicked off and we're so pleased to see loads of S&S planning to attend

OFFICERS' COMMITTEE UPDATES



Steph - Societies Officer

Steph continues to work hard, preparing for the end of year assessments while continuing to highlight the achievements of our societies. She's been so pleased getting to see all of the societies' hard work this month and wishes them all the best for the New Year.

Ruth - Sports Officer

While working hard on placement, Ruth has continued to stay in touch with all of our sports teams to keep in touch with how they're all getting on, feeding back directly to Lou on any and all sports teams' concerns.



Charly - Events Officer

Charly has been working hard on setting up some fun and chilled refreshers activities for both the new and returning students to enjoy and come together in January. She is very excited for what the second semester will bring events-wise.

OFFICERS' COMMITTEE UPDATES

Lucas - Equality and Diversity Officer

Lucas continues to contribute to the work of the Equality and Diversity Committee and the Race Equality Steering Group. He's so pleased to have been able to run a successful Rainbow Laces campaign with the support of Lou and our S&S.



Hannah - Welfare Officer

Living that busy paramedic student life, Hannah continues to post and promote material surrounding well-being and support available for students, particularly around preparing for assessments and managing stress.



William - Post-Graduate Officer

William has been working hard, alongside his own studies, to represent and feedback the needs of our post-graduate student cohorts at QMU. He will continue to actively gather feedback in order to enhance the post-graduate student experience on campus.



STUDENTS' UNION PRIORITIES: UPDATES

Representing all student groups

The Students' Union continues to work on representing under-represented student groups at QMU including, but not limited to, international students, post-graduates, student parents, etc.

The SU have launched a series of WhatsApp groups to provide a communal space for these students to engage with one another and the SU directly.

We will also be facilitating and promoting focus groups, where students who are part of these cohorts can come forward, share their experience and let us know how to best support their needs.

Developing academic timetables

The SU have begun a collaborative approach to academic timetabling alongside the university, who are keen to ensure that students' lives at QMU are balanced, with enough study and free time to succeed.

The university has agreed to include questions on academic timetabling in future student surveys to gather feedback that can be taken onboard and actioned

The next Question of the Semester will also focus on timetabling so that students can let us know what needs to be improved.

A trans-positive culture

The SU are working alongside QMU's EDI advisor on developing a trans inclusion policy and guidance that will protect the rights of both trans staff and students at QMU.

This policy and supporting guidance will be embedded into the work of the Equality & Diversity committee, and a trans inclusion working group, made up of staff and students, will work with the Scottish Trans Alliance team to deliver a policy and guidance that ensures the safety of our trans community members on campus.

Protecting student spaces

We continue to work alongside the university in protecting our current student spaces on campus and developing more for future use.

The Question of the Semester saw positive feedback to Maggie's as a student space and provided constructive suggestion on how to improve the service, which will be taken onboard in the new term.

We have representation on the Future Spaces Delivery group, which is currently overseeing exciting new changes to facilities on campus for student use.

SOCIETY OF THE MONTH



MUSICAL THEATRE

November's society of the month is MT! After two fabulous sold out nights for their showcase, which allowed the QMU community to watch all of their hard work, they continue to grow and strengthen as a safe place for all members to be themselves!

- Steph x

SPORT OF THE MONTH

THE SAPPHIRES

The Sapphires have had a busy month of training for their competitions. As well as holding an amazing fundraiser 'Bring a Friend to Cheer' to raise money for Movember, which was a huge success. Cheerleading make a big effort to support other S&S and bring bring the community feel to the uni

- Ruth x



BEING REAL IN THE OFFICE THIS NOVEMBER



MOVEMBER 2023


Marcus
Stewart



QMU Movember Event Calendar



8th	MO-PUB CRAWL	
15th	MO-Pub Quiz	
17th	MO-KARAOKE	
29th	Finale Night!	




Aela Izatt

The SU would like to say a huge thanks and congratulations to the 2023 Movember committee and, of course, all of the sports and societies! The effort put into arranging all of these events and raising money for an important cause was amazing - not to mention all of the lovely mustaches that were grown too!

We're so pleased to see students continuing to come together each year to open up conversation and raise awareness surrounding men's mental health and we cannot wait to see it all start back up again November 2024!

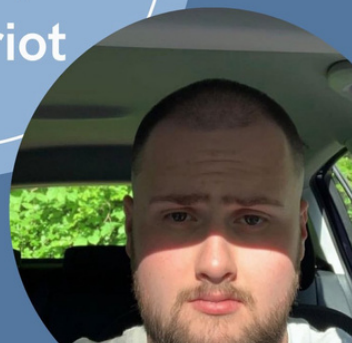
See how much some of our teams made on the next page:


Jacob
Davie




Emma
Hughes


Toby
Herriot



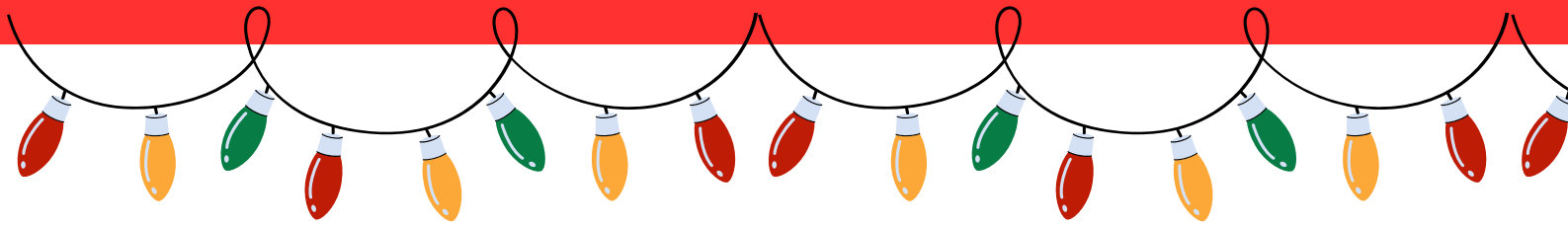
MOVEMBER 2023

INDIVIDUAL

TEAM

		Amount Raised (GBP)
Team		
1	<u>QMU Women's Hockey</u>	£1,602.73
2	<u>QMU Mens Football</u>	£1,073.00
3	<u>Qmu Badminton</u>	£950.00
4	<u>QMU GAA</u>	£615.00
5	<u>QMU Volleyball</u>	£326.60
6	<u>QMU Running & Cycling</u>	£185.00
7	<u>QMU Sapphires</u>	£99.47
8	<u>QMU Sapphires Cheerleading</u>	£20.00

DECEMBER RUN-DOWN 2023



This December, we held our first ever Christmas-themed TGIT, with special guest appearances from Santa, his elves and the wonderful Ms. Claus. The atmosphere was so warm festive as we handed out anonymous Christmas cards written by the students and served over 300 free hot Christmas dinners (with dessert)!!

Unfortunately, not all students are able to be with families over the holidays for various reasons, so to make things feel a little more homely over the break, and with the incredible support of the university, we were so pleased to have been able to purchase some cozy gifts for the students who were unable to make it home for the festive period. Ranging from hats, scarves, blankets and cozy socks, the SU team had a great time setting up shop in the office wrapping all of the gifts, and we hope that those who got one had a lovely, restful break!



DECEMBER RUN-DOWN 2023



**FROM YOUR SU TEAM, WE SINCERELY
HOPE ALL STUDENTS & STAFF HAD A
LOVELY BREAK AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR,
AND WE CAN'T WAIT TO KEEP WORKING
WITH YOU ALL THROUGHOUT 2024!**