#### We're here for you

Representation Support Activities Events

@standrewsunion www.yourunion.net

Your

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Scan the QR codes to find out more about everything covered in this book.

# About US

The University of St Andrews Students' Association (aka **Your Union**) is independent from the University. We work to support students through three broad categories: **Representation**, **Activities** and **Spaces**. Here's a few things to know about us:

- We aim to be your home away from home, a space to feel comfortable and part of a community. We're here to help you through the tough times and celebrate the good times.
- Six full-time elected Sabbatical Officers and Student Officers form the Student Representative Council (SRC) their job is to represent students to the University and beyond. We are governed by a Board of Trustees.
- All students are members, automatically giving you access to our services.
- Our Advocacy Service (HelpHub) offers free independent advice.
- We provide funding and support for student activities.
- We work closely with School Presidents and Educational Representatives and train and support over 350 Class Representatives, who help to ensure the quality of your educational experience.
- We put on some pretty great events. From weekly club nights to all-building parties and even your Graduation Ball!
- We have three bars, three cafés, a nightclub, and a fully equipped performance space. Not to mention lots of spaces for student groups to meet as well as rooms to revise.
- Because we're a charity every penny spent in the Union goes straight back into funding our activities.
- We do all this with the aim to make your University experience as amazing as it can possibly be!

# Your Sabbaticals

Sabbatical Officers (Sabbs) are elected, full-time positions, held by students taking a year out from studying or have just graduated. Sabbs work for and lead the Students' Association.

Pictured left to right:

**Milo Hill, Director of Events and Services, @yourdoes.sta** Designs and implements all the events that happen in the Union.

**Cam S. Brown, Association President, @yourpresident.sta** The official spokesperson for students and the Sabbatical lead on the Change Programme.

# Catriona Martin, Director of Student Development and Activities, @yourdosda.sta

Supports students with extra and co-curricular interests like charities, volunteering, societies, employability.

#### Hitanshi Badani, Director of Education, @yourdoed.sta

Works with your Class Reps and School Presidents to advocate for student interests in academic practice and policy at all levels of the university.

#### Olivia King, Athletic Union President, @ustaaupres

Represents students and helps manage sports. That includes all sports clubs, recreational sport, the gym and facilities.

#### Caitlin Ridgway, Director of Wellbeing and Equality, @yourdowell.sta

Focuses on student wellbeing, support, student safety and inclusion.



# Follow the Sabbs on instagram.

# Get Involved

### Societies

We have around **130 affiliated societies**. They run all kinds of activities, covering almost anything you can think of - academic, charitable, cultural, faith, political, artistic and recreational.

Whether you're interested in ballroom, bees or books we've got something for you.

**Subcommittees** 

Subcommittees are like "super" societies, funded directly by the Union - all students are automatically members of subcommittees.

## **Activities Subcommittees**

Our **Activities Subcommittees** provide a wide range of activities, such as Mermaids – our own theatre group, STAR – St Andrews Student's radio station, Ents – run events in the Union and Charities Campaign who raise around £45000 a year for selected charities.

Find more information and a full list of Activities Subcommittees on our website: **yourunion.net/activities**  "There's a huge number of ways you can get involved with life in St Andrews and Your Union."



**Amnesty International** 



**Charities Campaign** 

# Representational Subcommittees

We are your voice! Our elected officers and subcommittees strive to make sure you are heard and represented.

The **Student Representative Council (SRC)** has elected officers and subcommittees which represent the diverse student community in St Andrews. It meets approximately once a month and their meetings are open for any student to attend.

#### **Representational Subcommittees:**

- Accommodation
- Alumni
- BAME Students' Network
- Carers, Commuters, Mature and Flexible Learners Forum
- Community Relations
- Disabled Students' Network (DSN)
- Education Committee (EduCom)
- Environment
- Equality Committee
- Saints LGBT+
- Wellbeing





yourunion.net/representation

### Funding

We financially support all kinds of activities, whether through societies or individual efforts.

- Student Project Fund
- Societies Fund
- Employability Fund
- Mermaids Performing Arts Fund
- Anthony Tudor Fund
- Education Discretionary Fund
- Rector's Fund

#### Volunteering Recognition

By getting involved with our activities you become a student volunteer.

#### The Volunteer Recognition Scheme

supports student volunteers and enables them to log their volunteering hours, develop key skills for the future, and provides a platform whereby student achievements can be formally recognised by the University.



yourunion.net/activities



# Support

Our support web pages can connect you with resources that can help with almost any issue. Information includes student-led networks, University support services, online resources, and external organisations. The below information covers some of the services we offer:

### Help Hub

Free advice service for support with academic, non-academic, accommodation related issues.

### **Accommodation**

The Association President, Accommodation Subcommittee and Help Hub are here to help with the tricky bits of accommodation.

The Help Hub provides free, confidential advice and services:

- Private Accommodation Viewing
- Lease-checking
- Information about Fife Council/Government resources

Learn more about finding accommodation and flat mates, who represents you when it comes to issues and what resources and events are on offer on our support web pages.

### **Cost of Living**

Our **Cost of Living Guide** shares information on resources available to support you. This includes discounted food and travel, parttime work opportunities, loans and scholarships, energy saving tips, budgeting advice, resource for parents and carers, support services, and more.

### **Campus Larder**

The Campus Larder provides students who are struggling during the cost-of-living crisis with free food and essential items. It's open to all students and staff during term-time on the top floor of the Union. Simply book a slot in advance.





yourunion.net/support

### **StAnd Together**

StAnd Together is a joint initiative between the Union and the University focused on student-led peer education and support.

It encompasses:

- Got Support peer support scheme
- Got Consent gender-based violence prevention
- Got Limits drugs and alcohol awareness

# Safe Nights Out

We've got lots of information about safe nights out on our **support web pages**. Did you know we have a **quiet room** in case you need to decompress, sit down, take medication, or call friends on a night out? We use **Ask for Angela** so if you are in an uncomfortable situation, simply ask a member of bar staff or customer safety staff for Angela. They can help you out of the area and into a taxi without putting you in an unsafe situation.

### Wellbeing

As well as our Wellbeing Subcommittee we have a full-time **Wellbeing and Equality Co-ordinator** who is here to represent and help you.

### **Mental Health Agreement**

At the start of 2022, we surveyed students about the areas of wellbeing that are most important to them, and what they would like to change at the University and the Union to help improve mental health and wellbeing.

These responses and findings from other surveys helped shape our thinking when we created the four priority areas for the **Student Mental Health Agreement**, in partnership with the University.



# Educational Representation

The Students' Association trains and supports over **350 Class Reps**.

The **Education Committee** which represents your academic interests meets weekly. School Presidents, the DoEd, Faculty Presidents and the PG Academic Convenor sit on this committee. We have a **full-time Academic Representation Co-ordinator and Education Advocate** who are independent from the University. They can support and advise you on academic alerts, appeals, and discipline cases.

The **President and Director of Education sit on University Court**, the governing body of the University.

#### The School Presidents' Forum

allows academic representatives to discuss issues with members of the Proctor's Office.

> Class Reps help to enhance learning, teaching, and research. They also advocate on **library and employability issues**.



# Elections

It's never too early to think about **running for an elected position within the Students' Association**.

There are around **60** positions. These include:

- 6 full-time Sabbatical Officers
- Members of the Student Representative Council
- Student Trustees
- School Presidents
- Language Convenors

#### Any student can stand in the election.

If you don't fancy standing for a position make sure you **vote** - your vote truly will make a difference to your future!

# Your Voice, Your Vote



yourunion.net/representation



# **Services and Spaces**

### Services

Find out more about our general services which cover everything from **parcel deliveries**, to **free condoms**, to **camera hire**.

### Printing

We can print flyers, tickets and large format posters.

Email: sadesign@st-andrews.ac.uk if you have any questions. We also have a colour Uniprint printer in the building.

# Publicity

Need help advertising your event or society? Our website has some really helpful information, including how to do an instagram takeover on our account.

## **Study Space**

There are lots of spaces available in the Union, ask at reception about hiring a room for studying or hang out in the booths on the top floor.

### Hire a Space

We have a unique selection of spaces on offer, each with their own style and identity and are perfect for hosting events.

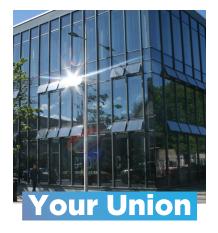
Visit our website for information about our services, spaces and room hire.

vourunion.net/about/services





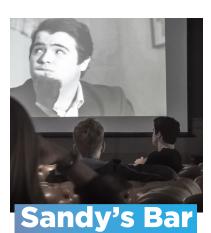
yourunion.net/spaces

















# **Feeling Hungry?**

Visit our cafés and Main Bar for great value, locally sourced food.

Did you know you can get 10% off hot drinks when you bring your reusable cup to our cafés?!

PLUS you can pay with teya to earn points in almost all our spaces too.













View our menus and find out more online. yourunion.net/spaces





# **Loyalty and Payment App**

# Earn points as you pay and get rewards

Scan below to download the free app today



# WEEKLY NIGHTS OUT



#### Events not to be missed this year:

- Halloween 31st October
- Winter Wonderland 29th November
- St Patrick's Day Party 17th March
- Graduation and Summer Ball 5th July



See all our events and find out more about how to save money through our Platinum Pass. **events.yourunion.net** 

Access to an unlimited social life all year long!

PLATINUM PASS

UNIO

# 

# WHEN YOU SPEND £40 OR MORE ON THE APP!

# **USE CODE: APPUNI50**





EVERY

PENNY

SPENT

**STAYS** 

HERE

Every penny you spend in the Union goes straight back into funding: Societies | Representation | Activities | Events | Support

# Your Union, Your Change



We want your Students' Association to be the very best it can be. That's why we're currently going through a programme of transformation. The goal is to ensure Your Union provides an experience in St Andrews that is truly unmatched. A Change Committee which is a subcommittee of our Board has been created and they have appointed a Change Team to lead this programme. Visit: **yourunion.net/change** for updates.

#### Meet the Change Team:



Antony Blackshaw Change Director



Natalie Bates Change Consultant (Democracy & Representation)



Graeme Wood Change Consultant (Commercial Development)

**Antony** has worked in Students' Unions all his working life, starting as a sabbatical officer. After 25 years in Chief Executive and Interim Chief Executive roles across the UK he brings a wealth of experience and sector knowledge.

**Natalie** has worked within Student Voice in the higher education sector in England and Scotland since 2016. She brings her experience and passion for supporting and empowering student leaders and volunteers.

**Graeme** has worked with Students' Unions since 1999. His previous roles include Head of Commercial Services at Sheffield University Student Union, Deputy Chief Executive at Leeds University Union and Non-Executive Director at NUS Trading. His areas of work include Strategy Development, Training, Compliance, and Project Management.

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