



Silwood Park Student Union Council Report
By Isabel Fenton, Silwood Union President

Clubs:

Silwood Clubs have had an extremely successful year, with regular activities including: cricket, football, photography, escape, running, climbing, diving, archery, zumba, swimming, chickens, natural history, allotments, squash, gym, tennis, basketball, music group. This year for the first time in Silwood memory, clubs have started to make use of the opportunities provided through the Union in South Ken, with several Harlington applications being submitted. Climbing has also received funding through the Sport Imperial Recreational Funding Scheme, allowing them to expand their activities and membership base.

Tours:

While the tours procedure was new to clubs at Silwood we have had several successful spring tours this year. Silwood Natural History society organised a weekend away bird watching in the Peak District and the Photography club organised a weekend of landscape photography practice in Brecon Beacons National Park. Climbing also organised a very successful tour to France. One challenge with tours is that with the high turnover of Masters Students and new people taking on clubs and activities, combined with the small community nature of Silwood, we've found it difficult to get club organisers to plan tours so far in advance. Hopefully this year has started a trend and Silwood clubs will continue to make the most of the tours opportunity.

Events:

Planning is underway for Silfest (our music festival) to be held on the 27th July. We have currently sold 53 tickets. Most of the bands have been decided upon, and the food/ other entertainments are being organised. We have planned a country night to be held on the 11th June, with a live band and a BBQ. There have also been a number of other events run over the past 4 months. Attendance in each case has been between 40-60 people on each occasion (roughly two-thirds of the people living on campus).

Finance:

Our finances are looking reasonably healthy. The majority of the grant has been spent, and it is likely that it will all be used by the beginning of July. Silfest is looking like it will currently make a small profit.

Facilities:

We have been working on improving some of the facilities available at Silwood. In conjunction with the Union and Sport Imperial, we are submitting an application for new gym equipment to replace the equipment that has been there for about 10 years now. Sport Imperial have also promised to clean the tennis court surface and refurbish the interior of the squash court. We are currently working with Campus Services on the possibility of having a Hertz car parked permanently at Silwood as part of the car share scheme.

Council
11 June 2013

Handover:

We have begun planning for the handover to the new committee in October. This has involved creating, with the help of Vic Casambros, a set of handover documents so that the handover process should go much more smoothly. This is particularly important as, for many of the positions, the previous committee members will leave before the new ones begin. Currently no such documents exist for Silwood.

Meetings:

I have attended a number of meetings at Silwood over the past 4 months, including discussions on College's Education and Student Strategy (with Debra Humphries), Silwood Health and Safety Committee and a discussion with Sport Imperial about how they can better integrate with Silwood Students. The last Exec meeting of term is going to be held at Silwood, which is a first, and there is currently a discussion about holding more meetings at Silwood next year.