A black silhouette of a horse with a bow and arrow

Description automatically generated

Hi everyone,

I’ll start by first congratulating you on getting a confirmed place on the Bioveterinary Science course at Liverpool! You should be extremely proud of yourselves and you couldn’t have chosen a better place if I do say so myself.

My name is Laura and I am currently a third-year biovet student, so I’m on the final stretch now. For this upcoming year, I will be your representative within the Liverpool University Veterinary Society (LUVS).

To start with I will introduce myself a little bit more before explaining exactly what LUVS is and why you should join this amazing society. I will also provide you with some real-life reviews from a wide range of current LUVS members, just in case you need a little more persuasion.

So about me:

I come from the southwest, from a place called Gloucester. I have always grown up surrounded by animals and I am definitely the reason that at one point my house was host to 17 animals! I might not be the sportiest person in the world but I am the president of the University’s Canoe club for this upcoming year. LUVS hosts a range of vet-only sports clubs which are more accommodating to hectic timetables and are a fantastic way of meeting new people across all years as well as a great way to let off steam. My favourite part of LUVS (besides fresher’s week, of course) are all of the different sub-societies – there is something for everyone!

As much as the sports clubs and sub-societies are vital to the student experience, LUVS takes student welfare and well-being very seriously. With a 30+ member committee, the Vet School, Life Sciences as well as the University and wider community as a whole, it is without a doubt that help is always available and extremely accessible. LUVS itself offers Peer Support, which is an outstanding team of current vet students who are trained to offer wellbeing support. There is also a ‘Buddy System’ in operation within the society. This system essentially pairs a first-year with an older year who can provide support and advice on everything from module help to go-to places to visit in the city!

## **LUVS Fresher Week 2023**

During fresher’s week, LUVS hosts a whole range of events that are free to all LUVS members! From day one, you’ll have the opportunity to let your hair down and get a taste of what being at the University of Liverpool is really like. There will be a polished timetable posted on the LUVS Facebook page (more on how to access this later) but you can look forward to many fancy dress opportunities, ‘meet the buddy’ and the corresponding buddy meal, pub crawls and quizzes and plenty of cake! Vet Freshers Week is one of the highlights for all vet and biovet students but your first one will always be the most memorable.

# **Membership**

Membership is completely voluntary, but joining this amazing society is a great way to kickstart your university journey and I couldn’t recommend joining highly enough. And it’s not just me who thinks that…

This is what Ewan, who’s entering his third year of biovet, has to say –

“*The Bioveterinary Science course and LUVS has allowed me to gain valuable knowledge that will help me with my future aspirations of undertaking Veterinary Science. Modules such as LIFE239 which was a highly practical module and included multiple trips to Liverpool’s Leahurst Farm Campus and to Chester Zoo. During my time at Liverpool, I have also managed to get involved with multiple sub-societies which has allowed me to meet interesting new people and make friends. Lots of support and mentoring has been provided for me throughout and always encourages those wanting to study Veterinary Science*”

‘But what if I don’t want to study veterinary science afterwards?’ I hear some of you say. Never fear, LUVS is still the society for you.

Alex who graduated just a few years ago knew that she didn’t want to continue studying after completing her degree but nevertheless, she still fell in love with LUVS –

“*Why I like to be involved in LUVS as a Biovet who DOESN’T want to be a vet?*

*For starters, I like that LUVS lets me meet people from different backgrounds, knowing that we’d get on through sharing a common interest despite studying a different degree. LUVS allowed me to make friends outside the biovet course, especially through their sports teams – I joined the vet women’s rugby team who have been like family here at university.*

*Despite me not wanting to be a vet I never felt like an outsider at any LUVS functions. In fact, people are really interested to hear about what I am learning and wanting to do career wise. I have also enjoyed hearing about the veterinary course itself and this has helped me make a decision that veterinary practice was not for me! From a career perspective, LUVS is also a great way of networking to make friends and potential colleagues for the future!*

*LUVS is a really fun and welcoming society; the Committee do a really good job at organising loads of events such as Leahurst parties to help everyone let off a bit of steam. They go out of their way to make Biovets feel appreciated and I definitely have a lot of happy memories thanks to LUVS. I recommend it to any biovet who wants to make animal-loving friends and have a good time!”*

Furthermore, here are a few comments from students who joined LUVS as a biovet and are now are still at Liverpool doing Veterinary Science -

*“I loved being part of LUVS as a biovet, not only was it a good chance to meet similar minded people through the sub societies, it was also a great chance to party with my course mates! LUVS put on so many different events (my flatmates would often say ‘there’s another LUVS event?!?’) and they have support from older students such as the buddy system so there is always something to do and someone to talk to. You don’t have to want to be a vet after your degree to be part of LUVS. Just up for a good time sober or not! P.S join LUVS hockey, it’s the best sub society ;)”* Esme Morgan

*“LUVS is great excuse to hang out with some of Liverpool’s biggest partyers! Whether it was a big night on the town, formal dinner or sports club, LUVS does it all with the added bonus of meeting people with similar interests”* Issy Cooper

*“LUVS was such a good way of incorporating biovets into the vet life at uni, I made so many friends through LUVS football which allowed me to make friends with other vet groups through LUVS events”* Edward Newing

*“As a previous biovet who is now on the vet course being a member of LUVS gave access to many societies in particular LUVS rugby, allowing for great down time and are a great way to make new friends which are on a very similar but different courses thus many have similar interests”* Tomos Rich

# **Membership benefits**

* Free access to all freshers’ events in first semester
* Free Vet Freshers’ Week t-shirt
* Free freshers ‘welcome pack’
* Free entry to LUVS talks
* Discounted, sometimes free entry to LUVS events
* A ‘buddy family’ to guide you through your time at Liverpool
* Drinks deals
* Access to JAVS journals, bursaries and competitions
* Free Vet times subscription
* Eligibility to join the LUVS committee and have your say on how the society operates
* Eligibility to join any of the sub-societies and sports team that are on offer

**If we’ve managed to tempt you, please follow these steps:**

1. Please make a bank transfer of £35 online to **Liverpool University Veterinary Society**

Account number: 20590223

Sort code: 20-51-43

**PLEASE PUT YOUR NAME AS THE REFERENCE** so that we can keep track of your payment and of our new members.

1. When you have made the payment, please fill out this google doc, confirming you have made the payment.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSejIhNNk-VTmImQTnZsVofCHH4j6nuGmORMwLuxAB6Y7vgeeQ/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0&usp=mail_form_link>

Please make this payment by 01/09/2023 so that we can ensure everything is in place for when you arrive later that month.

Thank you!

Laura

LUVS Biovet rep