It’s wonderful to welcome students from all over the world to our first ever One-World Festival Week, and to Birkbeck itself, whether you are re-joining us after the summer break, or if you are embarking on your studies here for the first time.

Birkbeck is a university like no other. We offer everyone the opportunity to fit their university study around all those other things which occupy their time, whether family lives or work. For some of you, this will be a return to education after a gap; for others, this will be your next step from school or sixth form.

We understand there will be excitement and some trepidation as you enter a new part of your lives, expand your horizons and embrace new opportunities in your social lives and your careers.

For those of you who have joined us in London from further afield to study here: you are in good company. Our student body is made up of individuals from over 120 different countries and we have partnerships and opportunities for our students in academic institutions all over the world; from Brazil, to Italy, to India. It’s no wonder that Birkbeck was judged to be in the top 5% of universities globally for attracting international students in the QS World University Rankings this year.

I hope you take advantage of all the opportunities on offer at Birkbeck, University of London, starting with the events at the One World Festival Week, and throughout your time here. We want to get the most out of your time with us. We recognise that you have many and varied commitments, and our teams will be able to offer the intellectual and pastoral support you need to achieve your goals, including bespoke career support. Our in-house recruitment agency, Talent, has helped hundreds of students to find jobs and internships, and budding entrepreneurs can work with Birkbeck’s Enterprise Pathways programme for training in developing their own companies.

I wish you well and hope you enjoy your studies, your new friendships and the world that will open up for you.

Master of Birkbeck: Professor David S Latchman, CBE, MA, PhD, DSc, FRCPath, FRSA, FKC
Hello!

And welcome to the Lamp & Owl, the student magazine at Birkbeck Students’ Union. This magazine has been a part of Birkbeck life for a long time; however in recent years it has fallen by the wayside. Thanks to commitment and drive from a small group of students, we have managed to breathe new life into the magazine! This edition marks the relaunch of the Lamp & Owl, spearheaded by a wonderful new editorial team of students just like you, who are dedicated to producing exciting and student-led content for the entire community at Birkbeck College, University of London.

What better way to relaunch a magazine meant for the diverse Birkbeck community than a One World Week special! This unique edition celebrates the diversity and varied cultures at Birkbeck, as well as introducing new students to everything Birkbeck and the local area has to offer – it is the Freshers period after all. This edition of the Lamp & Owl has been a wonderful collaboration between students and staff, both in the Students’ Union and the College so I’d like to say a special thank you to everyone who has contributed and made this happen. Without your assistance this would be little more than this Editors Note!

I hope you enjoy the Lamp & Owl, One World Week edition – and if you’re a new student starting with us, I hope you enjoy your time at Birkbeck!

If you’re interested in joining the Lamp & Owl team or simply want to find out more, drop us an email on lampandowl@bbk.ac.uk

Thanks,

Hannah Mullarky
Communication and Campaigns Coordinator
Birkbeck Students’ Union

Interested in writing for the Lamp & Owl?
We’re always looking for new students to contribute to Birkbeck’s student magazine. Get in touch to register your interest or find out more.

Email: lampandowl@bbk.ac.uk
I am delighted to formally open the first-ever One-World Week at Birkbeck, University of London. I am Professor Kevin Ibeh, Pro Vice Master (International), and on behalf of the College, I heartily welcome our new and continuing international students and the rest of Birkbeck community to the series of events marking the College’s first-ever One-World Festival.

I particularly welcome this year’s cohort of new international students who have joined us from scores of countries around the world. I warmly congratulate them on their sound decision to join a world class research and teaching institution with a distinguished history and an outstanding international pedigree.

The One-World Week expresses Birkbeck’s internationalist worldview. Through this week of events, the entire College community - staff, students and their Unions - are reaffirming our belief in a commonly shared world, a diverse world, but one bound together by our common humanity.

This formal opening offers us an opportunity celebrate Birkbeck’s exceptional international reach. As I write, students from over 120 countries have studied or are studying at Birkbeck, and our staff complement reflect comparably diverse international backgrounds. We also have research and academic partnerships, at individual and institutional levels, in scores of countries around the world. It is no surprise, therefore, that Birkbeck regularly ranks among the World’s top 10 universities in terms of international outlook.

Birkbeck is committed to further strengthening its international standing and renewing its rich and vibrant culture. Welcoming and integrating wonderful international students such as yourselves into our community is an important part of that agenda, so are this annual One World Week programme and our recently refreshed portfolio of social, cultural, employability-support, and networking activities focused on international students.

I am sure you would join me in thanking the One World Festival planning committee and other colleagues who play critical roles in designing and delivering services to Birkbeck’s international students. Thank you one and all.

Once again, welcome to the One World Festival Week and wishing you all the best for a successful academic year.
It is my pleasure to welcome our International Students to Birkbeck. Across the college we combine high quality research with teaching a diverse group of students of a wide range of ages and backgrounds. This is particularly true in the School of Science where we have two Fellows of the Royal Society, two members of the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina and two Fellows of the British Academy. The college is investing in Science heavily. We have just installed a state of the art electron microscope, mostly funded by the Wellcome Trust, but the college had to invest heavily in the room and infrastructure to house it. Similarly, with several generous awards from trusts and individuals we are building the Toddler lab across Torrington Sq. from the main building to extend the work of our famous Baby Lab to the next stage of development. A couple of years ago we constructed a state of the art petrology teaching laboratory for Earth Sciences.

Our current undergraduates range from 18 to over 60 and 41% of students identify as BAME (Black, Asian and minority ethnic). Biological and Psychological Sciences have Bronze Athena SWAN awards for promoting gender equality. We have the Rosalind Franklin lecture for an eminent female scientist each year. Rosalind Franklin spent the last years of her tragically short career at Birkbeck. We also commemorate JD Bernal with an annual Science and Society Lecture and Annette Karmiloff-Smith with the Women in Psychological Sciences lecture.

Bloomsbury is a wonderful place to study as you are in the middle of the highest concentration of Universities in the country. The School of Science has strong links to UCL through the Institute of Structural Molecular Biology (ISMB), the Birkbeck/UCL Centre for Neuroimaging (BUCNI) and the Centre for Earth and Planetary Sciences. We also have research links with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and the Royal Vet College, all within Bloomsbury. Within a few miles there is also Kings College London, Imperial College and Queen Mary. Bloomsbury is a great place for culture too with the British Museum and British Library close, the Wellcome Collection on Euston Rd. All forms of music, dance and theatre are available in London. Do get a free “Time Out” magazine from main stations on Tuesdays to find out what is happening. Not everything is expensive. I am very much looking forward to the first Birkbeck One-World-Festival and the chance for our international students to mix and integrate but also to learn from each other’s cultures. I welcome you all to the vibrant and diverse institution that Birkbeck is.
Your Students’ Union
A Union run by students, for students

Nick Baker, Student Leader

Nick’s priorities for 2018/19:
24 Hour library campaign
Last year Nick secured trials for a 24 hour library, and will continue to campaign to get you a 24 hour study space.
End Outsourcing campaign
Outsourced workers receive less pay and fewer employee rights, like sick pay or pensions. Nick is lobbying to get all University of London workers back in house.

Sara Hurley, Student Leader

Ezimma Chigbo, Black Members Officer

Ez’s priorities for 2018/19:
Black History Month
Ezimma will be hosting a number of events to celebrate and honour black history month, including public lectures, film screenings and a twerkshop.
BME Attainment Gap
Ez is currently working to reduce the black minority ethnic attainment gap within Birkbeck and higher education.

Ryan Auernigg, LGBTQ+ Officer

Sophia Moreau, Womens’ Officers

Sophia’s priorities for 2018/19:
Student parents & carers petition
Sophia is launching a national research-backed petition to implement better rights for student parents and carers in education.
Gender neutral toilets
Lobbying the University to introduce gender neutral toilets around campus

Barney O’Connell, Disabilities Officer
Welcome, welcome, welcome from your Students’ Union

Birkbeck Students’ Union is here for students during their time at the College. We love students and that’s why we’re led by them. We aim to represent the diverse population of students and to support them throughout their time at Birkbeck and we work to build a community for everyone.

We’re here to help you create the community you want to see, through clubs and societies, events, campaigns and a whole heap of extra-curricular fun. Our wonderful liberation officers (Black Members Officer, Women’s Officer, Disabled Students’ Officer, LGBTQ+ Officer) each run campaigns in these with and for the students of those communities and their allies.

By becoming a student at Birkbeck, you are automatically a member of Birkbeck Students’ Union. We want to help you to make the most out of your time at Birkbeck, and we provide the fun and support that props up your university experience. Come and see us on the fourth floor of the Malet Street building.

You can see more on what we’re about and what we’re up to through birkbeckunion.org or search for Birkbeck Students’ Union on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram. You can join a club or society (or both) via our website or Freshers Fayre, or simply come and visit us on the fourth floor of the main Malet Street building to say hi!

Got a question? Drop us an email on studentsunion@bbk.ac.uk
Join the Community
with Birkbeck Students’ Union

The how, when and why of getting involved

DEMOCRACY
Birkbeck Students’ Union is a democratically run organisation, led by Student Leaders and Liberation Officers who are elected each year in our Spring elections. We campaign on issues that will improve the student experience at Birkbeck. And there’s loads of ways for you to get involved, including by submitting motions to Student Council, voting in the elections, standing to be a candidate for an officer role, or simply by filling out the Student Life Survey, so we know what’s important to you.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES
Clubs and societies are a vital part of socialising and getting to know your fellow students. The Students’ Union has numerous clubs and societies for students to join, including Big Band, archery and the ten-pin bowling club to name a few. See the list of clubs and societies on our website.

Getting involved is a great way to meet new people.

Don’t see what you’re looking for? Do you want a society for your course? You can easily start your own! Join or start your own clubs and societies through our website.

STUDENT REPS
Student reps help feedback students’ opinions to lecturers. We want to give students the opportunity to input into courses and help to shape their learning. Any student can be a rep (it could be you!) and they’re elected at the beginning of each term to represent their course mates. Keep your eyes peeled at the beginning of term for details of your course elections.

FRESHERS FAYRE
This year’s Fayre is our biggest one yet! It is taking place in Student Central on Saturday 29th September, and will have over 50 stalls there to showcase the best of what student life at Birkbeck has to offer, including Sports clubs, societies, local businesses and charities and a load of freebies. This event is open to new and returning students!

STUDENT CENTRAL
Student Central is the home for all University of London students and is conveniently located next door to the main Birkbeck building. As a Birkbeck student, you are automatically a Student Central member. Use the gym or swimming pool, join a wide range of pan-London societies and sports clubs, or drink at the bars. www.studentcentral.london

DISCOUNTS
TOTUM, the new name for the NUS extra card, allows you to access over 200 UK student discounts on food, clothes, travel, technology and more! Buy a card from just £12 through the BBKSU website.
I study German BA at Birkbeck and have just finished my summer semester at Potsdam University. My Erasmus destination was partly to blame for my fantastic experience, but the other part has to be the people I met. From friends, to lecturers, to locals! My Erasmus semester was not obligatory, but the main reason I was itching to go was to improve my proficiency in German - hopefully to give it a shot in the arm. I am really pleased to say that I improved leaps and bounds without even realising and will now be able to start my third year confident in my language abilities. Now, I must mention that Erasmus is definitely not easy at the beginning. You are arriving in a new place where everything is new and with the hoards of new people, it feels like speed dating, trying to find new friends. However, this only lasts for a few of hours! The University’s Erasmus network bends over backwards to organise events, so that you can meet friends as quickly as possible. There are so many nationalities who get involved in Erasmus and I have learned so much about, not only Germany, but so many other cultures: my two best friends were from Greece and Hungary. Right now I am staying with my friend’s family in Pécs, Hungary. Her parents only speak Hungarian and German, but because of my Erasmus trip, I am able to communicate perfectly with them. I feel so lucky to have been able to take part in Erasmus and it has opened up my world so much. Everyone has been so kind. My lecturers in Potsdam even said that I could always keep in touch if I had any questions about further education in Germany. I have come away from my semester abroad fizzing with excitement about my subject and I am so ready to start year three!

By Laura Crabtree
## What’s on: One World Week Edition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER</th>
<th>TUESDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ONE WORLD INauguration Ceremony</strong></td>
<td><strong>BEAUTY IN THE BRAIN</strong></td>
<td><strong>ONE WORLD POT LUCK PICNIC, BIRKBECK STUDENTS’ UNION</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refreshments 10am - 11am Gordon Square B03/B04</td>
<td>Public lecture and workshop 10am - 11am Gordon Square B03/B04</td>
<td>11am - 4pm Picnic in Gordon Square</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PLANET EARTH, EARTH SCIENCES</strong></td>
<td><strong>TEA &amp; COFFEE PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCES</strong></td>
<td>A student recipe book will be published to showcase the delicious food people will bring, to be released at Meeting with Masters event on 16 October @ Keynes Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public lecture 11.30am - 12.30pm Gordon Square B03/B04</td>
<td>11.30am - 12.30pm Gordon Square B03/B04</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>INTERNATIONAL FOOD @ BIRKBECK PERCH or TERRACE 5 or FREE GOVINDA’S LUNCH @ TORRINGTON SQUARE</strong></td>
<td><strong>INTERNATIONAL FOOD @ BIRKBECK PERCH or TERRACE 5 or FREE GOVINDA’S LUNCH @ TORRINGTON SQUARE</strong></td>
<td><strong>THE IMPORTANCE OF NETWORKING</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DRUG RESISTANCE IN SUPERBUGS, BIOSCIENCES</strong></td>
<td><strong>LIBRARY ONE WORLD TEA PARTY</strong></td>
<td>Drinks reception 6pm onwards Malet Street B36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public awareness workshop Gordon Square B03/B04</td>
<td>3pm - 5pm Birkbeck Library</td>
<td><strong>INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS’ WELCOME</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LAMP &amp; OWL STUDENT MAGAZINE LAUNCH</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Drinks reception 6pm onwards Malet Street B04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drinks reception 6pm 9pm Gordon Square B03/B04</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**One World Week**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THURSDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER</th>
<th>FRIDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER</th>
<th>SATURDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MINDFULNESS</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>ONE HEALTH &amp; WELLBEING</strong>&lt;br&gt;KEITH RYAN&lt;br&gt;Drinks reception&lt;br&gt;10am - 11am&lt;br&gt;Keynes Library</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>ORIENTATION DAY &amp; SU FRESHERS FAYRE</strong>&lt;br&gt;A series of welcome events&lt;br&gt;10.30am - 4.30pm&lt;br&gt;Student Central</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FARMERS MARKET</strong>&lt;br&gt;All day&lt;br&gt;Torrington Square</td>
<td><strong>INTERNATIONAL FOOD</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>@ BIRKBECK PERCH or TERRACE 5 or FREE GOVINDA’S LUNCH @ TORRINGTON SQUARE</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HISTORIC WALK AROUND BLOOMSBURY</strong>&lt;br&gt;3pm - 5pm&lt;br&gt;Meeting at School of Social Sciences, History and Politics</td>
<td><strong>INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS CULTURE SHOCK EVENT</strong>&lt;br&gt;LA YOUNG&lt;br&gt;Tea and coffee&lt;br&gt;3pm - 5pm&lt;br&gt;Malet Street 153</td>
<td><strong>AROUND THE WORLD IN 45 MINUTES</strong>&lt;br&gt;Drinks and nibbles @ School of Law&lt;br&gt;7pm - 9pm&lt;br.Malet Street B04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>ONE WORLD MUSIC FESTIVAL</strong>&lt;br&gt;Constellations Theatre Company&lt;br&gt;4pm - 6pm&lt;br&gt;Music Theatre @ School of Arts, Gordon Square</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
On Thursday 6th September, I interviewed Sami Lam, a recent Birkbeck alumnus from Macau, China, who studied BA Film and Media at Birkbeck from 2014-2017, to find out how she got on while studying at Birkbeck.

Where did you stay during your 1st year?

I stayed at International Hall, part of the University of London’s Intercollegiate Halls, which was a very convenient place to live for me as it was only a 15 minute walk away from Birkbeck and had many local amenities. It was a single room and was very affordable, especially when you consider London to be one of the most expensive cities to live in in the world.

Did you enjoy staying at International Hall?

Being a University of London student meant that that I was staying with other University of London students from across the UK and the world, which allowed for me to enjoy the various activities that were available to students organised by the accommodation team. There was a time that I even joined a boat party on the River Thames with the people I lived with!

What were your teachers like?

The teachers were incredibly thoughtful and understood the difficulties that an international student like myself experienced and offered many helpful advice to me during my study.

What did you do during the day time?

Because all our classes were held from 6-9pm, that meant that I didn’t have to wait around Birkbeck for lecturers throughout the day. This meant that I could pursue activities like exploring London with friends.

Do you like living in London?

This is an exciting city with many things always going on that you can discover. In addition, I held various internships and jobs during my studies, which meant that being able to study in the evenings allowed me to develop my skills and apply that I’d learnt. I was also a member of Badminton Club, which meant that I had to organise training and competitions for the Club. This was very helpful for me to meet other University of London students and have a reason to travel around London too.

What did you do after Birkbeck?

Currently, I am studying at the London School of Economics, but I still keep in touch with my friends from Birkbeck!
On Sunday 9th September, I interviewed Maria Bermeo, from Ecuador, who studied an MA Developmental Sciences in 2013-14.

Where did you stay during your 1st year?

I chose to stay at International Hall, which was one of the university halls provided by Birkbeck. I chose the university accommodation because it was close to Birkbeck and as it was quite a large accommodation, it gave me the opportunity to meet more people. My only complaint of International Hall was that it was quite old.

What was it like to study at Birkbeck?

I had some day classes amongst my evening classes when I was doing my masters full-time. They were all really interesting and really well structured. I learned a lot from every single lecture. I really liked our lecturers and was taught quite well. I got to use the Birkbeck Psychology Labs and took part in the Baby Labs as well, which was great experience. It was very helpful that I had access to the Psychology Labs and UCL and the good resources from all University of London libraries, which helped during my dissertation writing.

What did you do during the day time?

Because all our classes were held from 6-9pm, that meant that I didn’t have to wait around Birkbeck for lecturers throughout the day. This meant that I could pursue activities like exploring London with friends. I made a lot of really good friends, who I’m still really close to. I met some of them through the international orientation, through my university halls, through getting involved at the SU, through my classes and even through just going to the George Birkbeck Bar.

What was exploring London like?

On the days when I didn’t have classes I would study and explore London with my friends throughout the first term, and slowly began to travel around Europe during the term breaks. It was really good that I was able to fit in weekend trips throughout the year to various parts of England. I also got involved in creating and running events for the International Students’ Society which was a really fun way of engaging with other students. I took part in most SU events as I could, which helped filled my diary up!

Do you like living in London?

I loved London. I always dreamed of living here and loved the opportunity to study here. The city is amazing and there is always new things to explore. Birkbeck helped me feel at home in such a big city!

What did you do after Birkbeck?

After graduating I got a job as a psychotherapist in a private psychiatric hospital here in London, where I worked for two years. I am now entering my second year of my professional doctorate in Counselling Psychology.
“We were going to paint; to write; to have coffee after dinner instead of tea at nine o’ clock. Everything was going to be new; everything was going to be different. Everything was on trial.”

This is what Virginia Woolf wrote about having moved with her brother and sister to Bloomsbury after the death of her parents, a change that completely radicalized their world and of course the history of the beautiful London location as we know it.

Bloomsbury is, in fact, well-known for its association with the Bloomsbury Group, a group of “university mates” that happened to be great intellectuals, writers and artists (including Leonard Woolf, E.M. Forster, Roger Fry, Clive Bell). They came from an upper middle class but wanted to reinvent society: they dreamt of a society with gay rights, women equality and peace (and we’re talking about the 20th century).

Being a Birkbeck student means being well aware of the history of our campus location. We’re taught about it since the induction day and it seems that the majority of us keep it well in mind during our studies. It’s a fact, we are proud of where we study and this adds confidence to our confidence.

Virginia Woolf’s part of the house in 46 Gordon Square was the upper floor. In fact, they had a floor each, where they could completely dedicate to their art. Probably from the memory of that feeling, comes her famous and acclaimed essay A Room of One’s Own, in which she declares how important it is for a woman to be independent, with a room and money of her own, she couldn’t understand how society did not get that genders not only have to be equal but co-operating:

“The normal and comfortable state of being is that when the two [genders] live in harmony together, spiritually co—operating. If one is a man, still the woman part of his brain must have effect; and a woman also must have intercourse with the man in her”.

In A Room of One’s Own Virginia Woolf declares the world had denied great work of art due to the “exclusion and inequality”. Virginia herself saw how being born female made a difference in life and education: even in an intellectual family like hers, girls were expected no more than marrying, which meant her brothers were going to College and she was mainly educated at home. The gender inequality of her past never left her:

“It is when this fusion takes place that the mind is fully fertilized and uses all its faculties. Perhaps a mind that is purely masculine cannot create, any more than a mind that is purely feminine.”

We students of School of Arts know the heritage of our building and are proud of it. Even our cinema was made thinking of Virginia Woolf’s ideas. As confirmed by Andy Macfee, lead architect of the project for Birkbeck Cinema, the biggest inspiration came from Virginia Woolf’s stream of consciousness. In fact, he wanted to create a setting that would move as you walk, a motion that would change shape and colour, a thoughtful process.

Also, Fitzrovia Square, where our department of Geography is situated, was another important home to Virginia and to the Bloomsbury group. When both their group and their ideas were growing, Fitzrovia Square were their new intellectual base, as most of the artists of the group were living just next door and they used to meet every Thursday night and when they could.

That’s right, the places where we spend most of our evenings, most of our days off and long mornings of intense study pre-essays have an history
Run by students, for students
One World Week edition


of intellectuality, dedication and success.

But why should we be even more proud of Virginia Woolf this year? The reason why we should all dedicate a thought, a re-read or maybe a new-read to Virginia today, it is because as soon as you open one of her books you’ll be shocked of how much of what she writes about feels incredibly relevant right now.

2018 is a very busy and meaningful year. While we are celebrating the 100 years from the women’s vote, 2018 will probably remain in history because the fight for women’s equality has fired up the whole world. Of course, every century has its fights and their own battles to be fought with brand new weapons, so while there are still narrow minded Presidents preparing nuclear wars and teasing one another because their “nuclear button is bigger than theirs”, women worldwide have been dealing with new protests and campaigns, which resulted in a new fight for rights, rebelling to all kinds of violence they had been suffering for so long. Internet has given women what was missing in earlier fights, the connection uniting them all together with their own kind of suffering, fights and strengths.

We must remember Virginia now, because what she wrote about a hundred years ago –going against the narrow minded Victorian culture- gives us hope, togetherness and courage in the fight for gender equality, because in as long as a hundred years the need for quality has only strengthened. Hope. Togetherness. Courage. Don’t we need all these today? Where our today is based on important hashtags like #Metoo and #TimesUp, summarizing such an important movement for gender equality, which is so alive today, and so needed as it was a hundred years ago.

This year we are not celebrating a world made of equality –as it is not yet so- we are instead celebrating the women that so long ago lost their freedom and their lives for the fight for a concept which is essential in any democracy and civil country: equality.

100 years. That really is a long time. And, nevertheless, still fighting, against inequality, abuse and indifference, which join the women of every country in the world, of every age and every class together.

I myself come from a country (Italy), which is well-known for being old-fashioned. There, people too often find it very difficult to change their mind and attitudes, because so inner in our “old-fashioned culture”. The result? L’Espresso journal declares every two days in Italy a woman is killed by her boyfriend. That’s right, inequality always results in violence. Virginia Woolf herself was sexually molested by her two acquired brothers, one of which would sneak inside her bed and act as a “little better than a brute’s”. What could she have done, if as still she wrote: “virtually every male member of the Stephen household was engaged in this behaviour.” As many critics affirm and as well Louise de Salvo, the American Woolf scholar, has claimed “sexual abuse was probably the central and most formative feature of her early life”. We are lucky she was a prolific writer and most of her thoughts are on paper, leaving a concrete testament: a desperate need of comprehension, which instead was for long only criticized as “madness”. 80 years since Virginia’s death, all around the world women are fed up of facing, remembering or risking sexual assaults. UK National Statistics says that more than 3 million women have been victims of sexual offences, including rape and unwanted touching. These numbers could scare the bravest woman to even walking the street alone. Instead, here comes the fight. Why? Because so that in another hundred years time women can celebrate not the fight, but the actual equality, equality as end of so much past violence.
In an age where travel and communication across the globe have never been easier, the world is truly in the throes of globalisation. Birkbeck College, University of London is hosting its first ever One World Week festival to celebrate the coming together of cultures in the world, the City of London and Birkbeck itself.

Through Birkbeck’s exceptional international outreach and unique offer to students, Birkbeck College has a positive contribution to local and global communities as well as one of the most diverse and unique student bodies in the UK. The One World Week festival aims to bring together students at Birkbeck from across the globe, to engage in a range of events and to meet and interact with new people and learn about other cultures.

In a time when a small but vocal part of society is feeling threatened by the increased visibility of other cultures, races and faiths, Birkbeck invites all students to come together in harmony and build relationships between different societal groups. By celebrating diversity, our society can become stronger and progress further than it ever has before.

Through inclusion instead of exclusion, our world will become far more vibrant and exciting. Films made by middle-class white men are simply remakes or more of the same; those that break the mould have diverse casts and production teams. A more representative workforce is more likely to pursue questions and problems that go beyond the narrow slice of humanity that much of science (biomedical science in particular) is currently set up to serve. Decades of research by organizational scientists, psychologists, sociologists, economists and demographers show that socially diverse groups are more innovative than homogeneous groups. Research shows that more diversity improves economies and education. Plus, you know, it’s nice to be nice.

Birkbeck believes that no one should be discriminated against and that everyone should be treated equally. One World Week is a way to bring people together, celebrate diversity and demonstrate that peace is possible between different cultures.

For the full list of events in One World Week, take a look at pages 10 - 11.
Located 5th floor main building Malet Street (Lift B)

The restaurant offers breakfast, lunch and dinner with great value food freshly prepared with a wide variety of dishes with international flavours, plus a range of sandwiches, confectionary, snacks and a street food cart outside on the roof terrace on Tuesdays and Thursdays during term time lunchtimes.

Overall Terrace 5 is a great social space to meet.

Opening hours Monday to Friday
Term time 8:15 am – 8:00 pm
Out of term 10.30 am – 4:30 pm

Located ground floor, main building Malet Street (near reception)

Coffee Shop, offering a premium coffee and a wide range of sandwiches, confectionary, snacks and hot food.

Opening hours term time:
Monday to Friday 8:00 am – 10:00 pm
Saturday 8:30 am – 6:30 pm, Sunday 9:00 am- 6:00 pm
Out of term:
Monday to Friday 8:00 am – 6:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am – 5:30 pm, Sunday Closed

Located: Ground floor near reception in both Russell Square and Gordon Square

The Café's at Gordon Square and Russell Square provide coffee from Change please – its good coffee doing good by reducing homelessness one coffee at a time – Change please is a social enterprise staffed by the homeless, to help the homeless, because really good coffee doesn’t just taste good - it does good too.

The café’s also offer a range of sandwiches, confectionary and snacks with Gordon Square also offering soup and hot food at lunchtimes.

Gordon and Russell Square opening hours term time
Monday to Friday 8:30 am – 8:00 pm
Gordon Square: Saturday 10:00 to 4:00 pm, Sunday Closed
Russell Square: Saturday and Sunday Closed
Out of term
Monday to Friday 8:30 am – 4:00 pm
Saturday and Sunday Closed

Go to any of the above outlets, with this cut out, before the end of November 2018 and receive a free coffee upgrade when buying a coffee
Tengku Karmila Kamil or Camy as she is known to her friends and colleagues was born and raised in a small town in Terengganu, Malaysia. As we sit down to a delicious meal of Rendang and ‘Nasi Goreng’ (fried rice) in Bloomsbury, I try to delve deeper into her motivation for choosing a career path that took her so far away from her family for a degree that is as much a test of character and perseverance as that of academic excellence.

Why did you choose to come to the UK for your PhD degree? Why not? I completed my undergraduate (BPharm) studies in Australia prior to this and was working in Malaysia. I have never felt the need to be tied down to one place and for my PhD I wanted to explore a different part of the world and be exposed to different cultures and sensibilities. UK as a nation is committed to funding and pushing cutting-edge research which makes it an attractive destination for students all over the world.

Did you have any difficulties settling in? I come from a tropical country which is hot and humid throughout the year. The cold, gloomy and short days of winter were especially difficult at first. I have spent 4 years in London and I do not think I have still gotten used to it! I completely understand and indulge in the national obsession with the weather!

What are the essential items a new student from a different country should bring along? Their passports (of course!) and an open mind. London is so culturally rich and cosmopolitan—there are very few cities like it in the world. Foreign students should take the opportunity and imbibe as much as they can from this vibrant city. When they’re feeling home-sick, there is always some restaurant which will be serving up a taste of home. No matter where you’re from, your cuisine is being served somewhere in London. And your festivals are being celebrated as well, so get your ethnic costume to wear at these events!

What made you choose your project and why would you recommend Birkbeck? I was trained as a pharmacist so I was more involved at the far end of the rational use of medicines and patient care. However, I have always been interested with the outset of drug discovery, especially with anti-infectives. The growing concern with the current emergence and spread of antibiotic resistance throughout the globe made my resolve to be a part of the solution stronger. The project being offered and the advanced facilities available at the ISMB-Mycobacteria Research Laboratory made Birkbeck a clear choice for me to deepen my knowledge by carrying out research on early-stage anti-infective discovery.

Has that positive opinion held firm? Even more so, if possible. I can see first-hand how Birkbeck transforms lives through the evening classes. Personally, the Institute of Structural and Molecular Biology (ISMB) initiative between Birkbeck and University College London meant that my research could flourish in a collaborative, interdisciplinary environment. Also, the ISMB hosts academic events such as retreats, research symposiums and weekly lectures given by top researchers from across the world. These gave me the opportunity to acquaint myself with the work my peers were doing and also to widen my knowledge and be exposed to several disciplines of science.
Birkbeck to UCL and several other leading institutes definitely helps foster collaborations that are highly successful.

**What do you treasure most from your time at Birkbeck?**
I really cherish the friendships I have made in Birkbeck. We shared many happy and bittersweet moments while I was working in the lab here. Everyone in our department has been extremely supportive throughout my time here and I must express my gratitude to my supervisors, colleagues and lab managers. The International student team at Birkbeck have offered help whenever needed with regards to Visa processing, accommodation and enrolment and that really helped in reducing the stress involved in these administrative tasks.

**How was your accommodation in London?**
During my studies I stayed at Nansen Village in North London. It provides accommodation for international postgraduate students with spouse and children. I found the community very friendly and it felt like a home away from home. It is only 40 minutes by tube from Birkbeck as is most of London in my opinion! Birkbeck has a great central location with so many tube stops within walking distance- it is incredible!

**What are your favourite spots around BBK to get some quiet time?**
We have a stairwell next to our office where I have spent quite a few hours after a day’s work talking to my family. I wrote a majority of my PhD thesis in the library. I have this one spot at the windows facing outside Birkbeck which looks beautiful in every season and helped me through the long, isolated hours of writing. The fifth-floor eatery has also been a place I chose to unwind or just plain cry over experiments that failed to work! I definitely recommend it for the reasonably-priced coffee- every student’s best friend for those long nights!

**Any piece of advice to our new students at the beginning of the school year?**
Birkbeck receives students from all berths of life. I have usually found them to be extremely sincere and hard-working. I have learnt a lot from them in these years so I do not think I have any advice for them. I would only encourage them to keep on the hard work and add to the fantastic community of the college. Birkbeck has allowed me to achieve one of my greatest goals and has opened up many exciting opportunities for me and it can do the same for all of its students.

Camy Karmila (right in picture) will receive her degree of PhD in Molecular Microbiology and Biochemistry from the University of London in 2019 Birkbeck Graduation Ceremony for her research at the ISMB-Mycobacteria Research Laboratory where she worked on validating novel therapeutic targets for treating tuberculosis.
DYSELEXIA AWARENESS WEEK
1st-7th October

Between 10-20% of students in Higher Education could have undiagnosed dyslexia. Why not complete the BDA checklist in your Orientation pack or online (search for Birkbeck Dyslexia.) If you score over 60 it’s worth going for a diagnostic assessment, and you should contact Wellbeing Services at disability@bbk.ac.uk. Students who get diagnosed are often surprised to find they have an above average intelligence. The report tells you about your strengths, as well as opportunities for improvement. If you get diagnosed you can receive support, including computers with dyslexia software, Study Skills from experts in dyslexia, etc., which help harness your strengths so you can improve your grades. In our experience students who have an early diagnosis achieve much higher grades.

FLIGHT OF THE OWLS
26th & 29th September 2018

Get to know the best bars in Bloomsbury, with our first Freshers bar crawl. We’ll be taking 200 Birkbeckians round the best bars for students in the local area. It’s a great opportunity to meet new people, check out your local watering holes and go out in the big city.

Book your space online www.birkbeckunion.org
Music from countries including the UK, Italy, Norway, USA, Mexico, India, France and Russia performed by virtuoso string quartet The Dionysus Ensemble. Recently appointed Ensemble In Residence for the Music arm of the Commonwealth, The Dionysus Ensemble have performed for many corporate events, weddings, drinks receptions and parties in renowned venues nationally, including The Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Palace, The Foreign Office, Lord’s, Villa Park, The South African Embassy and Epsom Race Course. They have appeared on live television and for royalty, as well as being guest artists on many film and pop recordings. They have performed at a wide variety of events including the more intimate venue of the clients’ home (including the home of the Moroccan Ambassador) and recently as guest artists at the Qatar International Boat Show. Let The Dionysus Ensemble take you around the world on a musical adventure to celebrate Birkbeck One World Week.

WHEN?
Saturday 29 September 2018
8pm – 9pm
7.00pm drinks and nibbles reception and sitting from 7.45pm onwards

WHERE?
MAL B04
https://www.thedionysusensemble.com/events.html
Tate Modern in London houses some of the most famous British art and international and modern contemporary art. According to their website: “When the Tate first opened its doors to the public in 1897 it had just one site, displaying a small collection of British artworks. Today it boasts four major sites and a national collection of British art from 1500 to the present day and international modern and contemporary art, which includes nearly 70,000 artworks.”

One artist whose work stands out at the Tate is Bridget Riley. Art critic Robert Melville (the New Statesman, 1971) said: “No painter, dead or alive, has ever made us more aware of our eyes than Bridget Riley.” Her dazzling paintings on display at Tate Gallery are made by hand and brush. She started her career by creating patterns in black and white but shifted towards colour patterns in the 70’s as it was ‘closer to our experience of the real world. Unstable and incalculable, it is also rich and comforting’.

**Nataraja, 1993**

‘Nataraja’ is a diagonal stripe painting comprising an array of colours to create a striking effect, and its remarkable feature is the colours that exist in as many as twenty different shades. ‘Nataraja’ derives from the Hindu folklore, meaning Lord of the Dance. It refers to the Hindu God Shiva whose dance is seen as an important source for all movement in the universe.

“Line, shape and colour are manipulated by Bridget Riley to develop elegantly complex patterns that draw attention to the physical process of perception,” says its display caption at the Tate.

**To a Summer’s Day 2, 1980**

To a Summer’s Day 2 is an acrylic painting on canvas consisting of waves in four colours: blue, violet, pink and ochre with each wave carrying three shades. The assorted waves and moving curves give the viewer an impression of motion.

**Evoë 3, 2003**

Evoë 3 is a large painting with uneven curves in green, blue, and shades of pink – composed on two adjoined canvases by Bridget Riley due to its vast proportions. Its display caption reads: “The title Evoë was a cry associated with the intoxicated rites of the Greek god Bacchus.”

**Fête, 1989**

Although not on display, Fête is a screenprint with colourful and unusual composition within a white border, consisting of twenty vertical bands separated into several coloured sections. It features ‘even, unmodulated colours’, with no visible motif to the arrangement. Fête is a French word meaning ‘celebration’ and Riley may have chosen this title ‘to emphasise the joyful quality of the work’s strong, bright colours or the energetic appearance of its dynamic composition’.

Riley has made more than seventy screenprints since the early 1960s. To find out more about Bridget Riley’s works, visit www.tate.org.uk.
An Unreserved Vacancy

The emptiness extracts sighs and laments
Damp wooden slats; peeling paper accompanies
The slow hiss of heat escaping,
While many molecules desist into balled up cysts of inwardness.

So spiders grace lofty ribs with fine white thread
To display the mummified stars of insect dead
And white atomic glare in radiant squares absorbs all light,

Keeping outside outside the incandescent greasy film.
Feint fingers discover glass pane accumulates prints
And rattling less translucent bars see red neon flashing
Before succumbing to the body’s event horizon:
An unreserved Vacancy so cold it scalds itself.

- By Daniel Pateman

Writer and current MA Contemporary Literature and Culture student

Haiku competition winner

Fail mark for my work.
How low and small the number,
This little mark! Low.

- Anita Garfoot MA Student
Getting to know

What’s on?

The Postal Museum is currently running an underground railroad experience, sending you travelling through long-lost underground tunnels in a return to the past experience. Simply Google postal museum mail rail!

Remember that childhood joy that occurred when there was a new Harry Potter book or film coming out? You can relive that joy by visiting the Harry Potter Studios! See the magic behind the movies right here in London.

Birkbeck Students’ Union presents the Flight of the Owls, a bar crawl aimed to introduce new students to each other and local venues. There are two dates, 26th & 29th September. Go to www.birkbeckunion.org for more info.

Get involved with a year-long programme of female-focused events with Rebel Women at the National Portrait Gallery. Learn about those who fought for gender equality in Votes for Women: Pioneers. Until 13 Jan

Where to eat?

Franco Manco’s does £5 pizza! As in a whole pizza, for just £5. It’s the perfect place for some comfort food on the cheap, or the perfect way to perk up your Monday. It’s so close to campus too, it doesn’t get better than that.

If you buy a TOTUM student discount card, you can get discounts on loads of places for food and drink nearby. The TOTUM app includes a map of all the discounts in your local area. To buy one, go to totum.com

Every Thursday there is a delicious and vibrant Farmers Market in Torrington Square - which means it’s right outside the main University building. You can see our feature on the Farmers Market on page 24.

There are so many places to eat on campus itself. On the ground floor is the Perch, a great spot for a quick lunch, and on the fifth floor is the Eatery for days when a small lunch just won’t do!

What’s near?

The answer? Everything. We’re based in the heart of London, and everything is incredibly well connected by Tube. Download the CityMapper App to help you get around the city to your favourite destinations.

Practically on Birkbeck’s doorstep is a national treasure, the British Museum. Home to the rosetta stone and artifacts from across the globe, the British Museum is a must-see. And the best part? It’s free!

Kings Cross is just a ten minute walk from Birkbeck. Not only does this mean getting the perfect Platform 9 3/4 picture, but near to the station is a wonderful green space called Granary Square, the perfect place to relax.

The best locations for lightning your wallet and hitting the shops are right nearby. Tottenham Court Road is a 5 minute walk away, and Oxford Street is a 20 minute stroll through central London.
Bloomsbury is the intellectual heart of London, with the densest collection of Universities in the country, and so appropriately the area is filled with coffee houses, bars and other spots and shops to embolden and enliven any debate or discussion. It is a place for heresy, scandal and intellectualism if only one knows where to look. Here are a few of our favourite spots.

**Coffee**

**Burr & Co** – This Coffee shop sits within the recently re-opened Principle Hotel and serves an assortment of strange yet delicious pastries, which are sure to challenge your most fundamental aesthetic sensibilities. Come for Coffee, and stay to explore the hotel which is steeped in over 100 years of history.

**Department of Coffee and Social Affairs** – Despite this shops unlawfully early close the coffee (and the name) cannot be ignored! This Coffee shop is designed to promote social responsibility and humanitarian work. This means the team members are volunteers for national and international charities, and information on many causes can be found in the shop.

**TAP Coffee No.114** – Look for the bicycle 10 feet above Tottenham Court Road and you’ll have found TAP Coffee No.114, the best coffee in the area. The favourite spot of the local hipsters, so considering you’ve made it this far you should fit right in.

**Food**

**VQ** – VQ embodies the spirit of Birkbeck, perhaps more than Birkbeck itself. A bar and restaurant open 24 hours, it is often the spot for students working late into the night. VQs food and coffee may see you through your toughest deadlines and your strangest encounters.

**Seoul Bakery** – By far the best bang for your buck in Bloomsbury. Fantastically good Korean food for fanatically low prices.

**Pizza Express** – The Students’ favourite source of that essential pizza hit. Made especially appealing with TOTUM cards offering 30% off Sunday-Thursday.

**Books**

**The Atlantis Bookshop** – London’s oldest independent bookshop. A great place to gain an education in the occult, or to replenish your magicware. Host to many seminars and other mysterious gatherings to leave you spellbound.

**Gay’s the Word** – The UK’s only bookshop dedicated entirely to LGBTQ+ writings. A pillar in the community with a history of supporting many LGBTQ+ campaigns.

**Bars**

**IOE** – The Institute of Education bar – “The Institute” – was once a dungeon bar in the catacombs of the institute of its namesake. Although raised from the dredges, it still carries with it the spirit of the dungeon. A place for cheap drinks, radical ideas, and the occasional plot.

**Curzon Bloomsbury** – Just to the corner of the Brunswick shopping centre is where the Curzon cinema lies. Within these walls is you will find both the very best of independent and mainstream cinema. Each screen has a different name, and a different character. There’s also a bar so I’m putting it under this section.

To find out more about, make sure you come to the Flight of the Owls bar crawl on the 26th and 29th!
Farmer’s Market, Fairtrade and Go Green...
Organic produce, delicious recipes and good value for money – these are just a few reasons why we love our local farmer’s market. It makes us feel more connected to our food. The farmer’s market movement evolved in the UK in the 1990s as a result of low farm-produce prices, many family-farms desperately was in need a viable local route to market their produce before they got swallowed by the gigantic supermarkets. With this concept grown exponentially, today there are several farmers’ market providing thousands of farmers with a real lifeline.

The primary aim of farmer’s markets is to support local farmers and producers, who sell produce they have grown or made to their local community. There are now thought to be up to 750 farmer’s markets in the UK, according to the Farmer’s Retail and Marketing Association (FaRMA). The key reason for the popularity of farmer’s market these days lies in its multi-dimensional characteristics. Directly, it develops a win-win situation between the farmers and consumers. Therefore, it helps the consumers to connect directly to the fair-trade policy without increasing their food budget. It empowers farmers and workers to take control of their lives, businesses and communities through their own trade. This Fairtrade system creates strong relationships, combining direct links between producers and buyers with independent institutions’ assurance. Fairtrade also promotes long-term partnerships which farmers highly value as it encourages financial stability. Last but not the least, people can find that feeling year-round with Fairtrade food – particularly with all those goods that can’t be grown in their own backyard.

These days there are vast emergence of developing farmer’s markets in the UK University campuses to serve the students good food in a great value of price and within easy access. Bloomsbury is London’s is extremely sought-after destination on Thursdays. Everything on this market comes straight from the farm or contains local ingredients. From dahl (lentil soup) to doughnuts and pasta to paella – there is varied choices of globalised food which enables the homesick international students to connect with their homeland and help the student community to settle quicker. At the same time, it supports the university to exercise and promote their “Go Green” initiative without stressing out their own budget on environmental sustainability.

Dr Sanjib Bhakta, Assistant Dean (Strategic) International and Partnership and Chair of Birkbeck One-World Festival Planning Group, School of Science, Birkbeck, University of London
Bloomsbury Farmers’ Market

We grow it. We sell it.
You buy it, you peel it, you mash it, you chop it, you boil it, you fry it, you roast it, you bake it, you steam it, you grill it, you slice it. You eat it.

Bloomsbury Farmers’ Market
Every Thursday
9am – 2pm
Torrington Square/Byng Place,
Behind ULU Building
London WC1E 7JL
www.lfm.org.uk
What is a farmers’ market?
Farmers’ markets exist entirely for growers and producers of food and plant products. They help local farmers, growers and producers to sell their own produce direct to the public. There are no middlemen or wholesalers.

Where do the farmers come from?
All farmers at our markets come from within a radius of 100 miles from the M25. Many have farms close to or even within the M25.

What can I expect to find?
Local, seasonal food. Fruit & vegetables, meat, poultry, wet and shell fish, herbs, fresh juice, honey, eggs, cheese, artisan bread & cakes, plants, garlic and much more. Some of the produce is organic.

For more information
See our website www.lfm.org.uk or e-mail us info@lfm.org.uk
Or send us an SAE for a list of markets to: 11 O’Donnell Court, Brunswick Centre, London WC1N 1NY.
Search for London Farmers Markets on Facebook and follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/londonfarmers.

FARMA independently inspects & certifies our markets for quality to ensure that they are the real thing.

At a London Farmers’ Market, you will only find bona fide farmers and producers. Producers adhere to strict rules that permit only their own produce for sale.

Look for the pea as our guarantee.
SUPER NOVEMBER

Directed by Douglas King
Written by Josie Long
Film review: Super November

Following their collaboration on a couple of short films, director Douglas King and screenwriter Josie Long (widely known for her work as a comedian) paired up again on a much more ambitious project, their first feature film Super November, which premiered on earlier this year at the Glasgow Film Festival.

The film is structured in such a way that is is presented in two distinct halves, that both work together to create a whole, as well as being able to work independently.

The film starts in Scotland, present times. English leftist librarian Josie (played by Long herself) works at Clydebank Library, a few miles out of Glasgow; her fairly happy existence unfolds in and around Glasgow, where she is surrounded by funny and warm Scottish friends and co-workers (well… at work just one is very funny and warm, the other one not so much!). She is blindly in love with Mikey (Sean Biggerstaff), an apparently proper adult, balanced, Green Party sympathising teacher with whom she had no less than three dates. Her close friends Darren (Darren Osborne) and Roddy (James Allenby-Kirk) are not particularly sold on this as the relationship of the century, despite her best attempts to sell Mikey as ‘the one’. On the surface, things still look pretty normal and uneventful on the socio-political front, and although something unsettling is looming behind the corner it is not made obvious, so we are led to focus mainly on what happens in the individual, private spheres. Just like the characters.

Ellipsis. Then we walk into the second part of the film.

We quickly learn that the subtle threat occasionally hinted at in part 1 was much more concrete and imminent than expected: six months later and we are now in a police state with curfews, checkpoints, and citizen cards to move across the country. The previous Glenlivet & jokes dominated environment is gone, and its place has been seized by an oppressive dystopia. New allies and new foes emerge, and the pace picks up a little when Josie & Co. need to get organised for safety reasons, somehow. There seems to be great chemistry in the cast, which becomes ever so important where the micro budget limitations need to be counter-balanced by making a strongly character-driven film. Among the supporting characters the two who particularly shine are Chris Forbes’ Big John, always comically nervous and sometimes so manically prudent he makes you doubt what side he is really on; and the hilarious and opinionated librarian Donna, played by a very inspired Janey Godley. Having previously watched the two short films by Douglas King and Josie Long where the Josie & Darren friends duo formed, I was happy to find them again in the long form, and to recognise some familiar traits like their signature gesture of posh smoking and chatting (you will need to watch the film to fully understand what this is about).

What is sometimes problematic in Super November is the struggle for cohesion, and some seemingly rushed turning points, which under more favourable production circumstances might have probably proved a lesser issue. In terms of story, most of it falls in place, with one single dissonant note in a new romance emerging in the second part of the film, which feels a bit forced and unnecessary, although it does not really disrupt on the whole.

This double film is an interesting experiment in genre shifting, starting as a typically Mumblecore comedy with a good touch of romance, and evolving into a dystopian, political dramedy, which to the filmmakers’ dismay turned out to be shockingly topical. The 30somethings that in the first part are light-heartedly negotiating their place in life, in the second part have to find unexpected resources in themselves, and re-evaluate what was previously taken for granted. Super November is an entertaining wake-up call in such times of international political circus, where we should be paying attention to the clowns and not because they are coming out of a Fiat 500 by the dozen.
Freshers' Fayre is on Saturday 29th of September 2018 at Student Central, London. The area will be transformed into a buzzing hub hosting over 50 stalls, including our student groups, officer campaigns and our active clubs and societies, with a bar and activities to encourage networking. We’re teaming up with Birkbeck’s Orientation Day for new students, which will further increase the number of students attending this year! Fresher’s Fayre marks the beginning of the academic year as an opportunity to meet and welcome new and returning students.

Coming to university opens the door to a world of opportunity, there is no better time for students to discover a new interest (or develop an old one) than our Freshers’ Fayre, and find out what the Birkbeck community has to offer. As well as student activities, we’ll be hosting local businesses, charities and venues to really help you get acquainted with your new home.

Keep in touch with us
Keep up to date with everything that’s going on in the Students’ Union by checking out our website and social media pages!

From 6pm Saturday 29th September
To book your space head to www.birkbeckunion.org

The crawl is for all