

Ask Aberdeen Episode 12 Transcript

Georgie [00:00:07] I'm Georgie.

Michaela [00:00:08] And I'm Michaela.

Georgie [00:00:08] And we're here to tell you about the University of Aberdeen.

Michaela [00:00:11] In each episode, we will discuss frequently asked questions about topics such as applications.

Georgie [00:00:15] Go abroad.

Michaela [00:00:16] Student life.

Georgie [00:00:17] Sports and Societies.

Michaela [00:00:19] Budgeting for Uni.

Georgie [00:00:20] And Life in Aberdeen.

Michaela [00:00:22] We will be speaking to current Aberdeen students, those who really know what it's like to study and live here.

Georgie [00:00:27] And we'll be getting exclusive tips from members of our amazing staff.

Michaela [00:00:31] Join us for this episode of Ask Aberdeen.

Georgie [00:00:35] Hi and welcome to this week's episode of Ask Aberdeen. I'm Georgie, and today I'm joined by two students, Josh and Greg, and they're going to be talking about sports and societies. So would you both like to say hi and just tell the listeners what year you're in and what you're studying a little bit about yourselves? Greg, I'll come to you best, OK?

Greg [00:00:52] Hi, I'm Greg. I just finished third year at the University of Aberdeen studying IR and sociology. I'm also the club captain of the Aberdeen Tennis Club, which has been really fun recently. And I've also just joined the AUSA team as a digital media and communications intern, which I'm working at over the summer.

Josh [00:01:16] hi everyone. My name's Josh. I'm going to second year here at Aberdeen studying politics and theology, and I enjoy doing a lot of different things on campus. I'm a member of the baseball club, also on the Committee of Just Love, which is a really cool kind of social justice organisation that's on campus as well. So, yeah, just a few things are just a lot of stuff. It's a lot of fun.

Georgie [00:01:45] I also have a lot of experience with the university, so I will also be promoting how great that is from my own experiences. So welcome to you guys that you mentioned AUSA and we all know what that means, but what is said to our listeners who don't know what it is?

Greg [00:01:59] Yeah. So basically, it's our student association and their goal is to support all the students at the University of Aberdeen, regardless of their location, whether, you

know, they're an international student or a local one. And basically they're trying to create a student community and a sense of belonging for students, whether that's promoting and through different opportunities in participating through society, sports clubs, forums, groups, you name it. There's a wide range of things. And they also provide students support for mental wellbeing and, you know, like academic issues. They cover such a wide range of topics. But, yeah, they're fantastic.

Georgie [00:02:38] And they are also voted in by students. So they're kind of chosen by you guys, is that right?

Greg [00:02:45] Yeah, absolutely. So we've actually just recently got on our new sabbatical team. So that's when you have the president and you have vice presidents and they cover, again, a wide range of topics whether it's communities, education. And they represent the students and they represent us.

Georgie [00:03:03] Yeah, great. So they kind of organise it like you say, they lead. You want to start a new club or something, which we'll get into later, but you go to them. So basically they'll do a lot of things during freshers, our introduction week, things also are kind of the face of the students and they they organise a lot of events. So I mentioned fresher's, Josh, did you experience freshers fair or were you unable to attend anything, did you manage to get in just before Covid?

Josh [00:03:28] Oh, yeah, it was a little different, obviously, because of covid, but we had our fair online last year and we were able to do a lot of fun activities, you know, over Zoom. I think each club had like their own personalised channel over Microsoft teams. So obviously it's quite different. But it was still handy because I was able to connect with a lot of different groups, even online. Obviously, Greg could probably tell you more maybe about fresher's fair in a normal year, but I will say even so, it was pretty good last year as well.

Greg [00:04:02] I'm going to say, yeah, I feel old now because not a lot of people have actually experienced and I do want to say a normal fresher's, but, you know, before the pandemic, I remember it was great. One thing I remember was the sponsor Dominos, and there's just a constant supply of pizza. I just remember that kept me fed for like an entire week, didn't have to pay any food. Not great for my diet. It was fantastic. And yeah, it's just really exciting. I didn't realise how many societies there were. There was a big massive tent on the Kings pitches. And yeah, you kind of get a bit overwhelmed with just how many opportunities there are. I remember I signed up initially for swing dancing, which was a terrible decision, and my coordination wasn't there, but I was glad that I found tennis. And yeah, the presidents at the time were really welcome. Really helpful professors is just so much fun.

Georgie [00:04:49] Yes, there. Great. Greg, you said of to you had two experiences. My experience at my university was like Greg's. It was a big fair and lots happening. So we're really hoping to get back to that soon. But it's an opportunity to find out what's available in the sports and society. So as we've mentioned, as it stands or online kind of talk chat rooms, and you can speak to people and you can find out about what clubs that are, there will be loads you've never heard of. So Greg does tennis and just does things that you will recognise the names of. But there's also things like underwater hockey. And we have the great British and I get it wrong every time Great Scottish Bake Off Society and loads of things that are just really unique and quirky, that different universities will have different weird, wonderful societies and sports clubs as well. So it's a great way to kind of see

what's available, try things out as well. And lots of people say, how do I know if I like it? Do I have to sign up and pay to join? And then I might not like it. So again, in a kind of pre pandemic and hopefully once we get past it or you'll be able to go along to these trial sessions and things like that where you can meet people and give the sport a go. I did trampolining at university, so we had sessions where people came and had a go. And that's really exciting and quite funny as well. So it's a great, good way to do all of that. So I think we both sort of had a taste of that. In your two different experiences. Some people ask that as well, as I mentioned there. Do I have to pay up front? Is there fees for joining clubs and societies? So, Josh, I don't know if you know from society's point of view, I don't think there are some fees for sports which you'll come to and maybe talk about from his experience of tennis. But for societies, is it the same that the fees for joining?

Josh [00:06:31] In my experience, not as much, I think obviously would depend on the society, but most of the societies are free of charge. I know the ones that I'm in involved like The Gaudie newspaper or like this just love group. Yeah, most of them are free of charge. I think there is like a kind of retainer fee that you would pay every year, something like three pounds or something. But yeah, it's not much at all honestly. So it's pretty good financially.

Georgie [00:06:56] So you can just do it all of them, because it doesn't cost anything.

Josh [00:07:00] That's what you want to do. It might be a little tough on studies, but you know what's college for. Right.

Georgie [00:07:04] Right. Yeah. And Greg, from the sports side, I know generally it is a bit more. Things like insurance mainly. What's your experience from that?

Greg [00:07:13] Yeah, absolutely. So obviously, again, and like Josh says, it varies on the sports and the society and the equipment that you need. Obviously, there's BUCS as well which we can talk about later on. That's maybe why you have to pay a membership to cover those kind of travel costs, et cetera. You also have to get erm I'm pretty sure it's like an AUSA membership itself. And again, that's the insurance policy for if you do get injured. So just remember there will be maybe a few surprises in terms of pricing, for example with tennis as well. Sometimes you have to pay for tennis. So with our services, with our membership, you know, it covers the cost of like the courts, balls, rockets, etc. But if you're part of the team, sometimes you might need to pay for like a tennis top. So just have that into consideration if you're, you know, more competitive and, you know, you're part of like a team you might need to pay for, like, additional costs.

Georgie [00:08:06] Yeah, he has a really good point. I think if you do something like social netball or social football as part of the uni, it's going to be fairly low cost because you're not paying too much. But if you start joining the rowing team or you want to go skiing, then it's going to cost you a little bit more. But generally, my experience of university is it's an awful lot cheaper than when you leave university. I finished university and then was like, great, I'm going to join a club, I'm going to continue. And it was so expensive. So university is really great with doing lots of sports and trying things when it's actually really reasonably priced. So why should people do sports and society? You know, lots people come to university and some of them will only be thinking about their degree. So what would you both say about why someone should join us for society? I'll come to Josh, then I'll get you back.

Josh [00:08:52] Yeah, I mean, there are just so many great reasons. I think the big one, honestly, is meeting people with, like, kind of like minded. And ideas, I mean, I know for me, just like connecting with different people who are interested in the same thing is really positive, especially, you know, obviously being in my first year. Another thing is just pursuing what you enjoy. And maybe obviously that's something that you could use later on in your future careers. You know, like I'm working on the Gaudie, which is the newspaper, and I'm trying to, like, go into journalism in the future. So obviously writing for the newspaper and, you know, that sort of thing would definitely help me gain experience as I seek with you journalism in the future.

Georgie [00:09:34] Yeah, definitely. And Greg, what would you say?

Greg [00:09:37] That's really funny in my little notes, I wrote like minded people. So I won't talk about you obviously know that there, Josh, but for my own personal experience and I'm sure Josh can relate being an international student, when I went up to Aberdeen, only three or four people from my high school and went up to Aberdeen as well. So I didn't have my close friendship group from school when going up to Aberdeen. So I was really forced to network when I was when I first came up. And again, sports and societies are the best way to find people with similar personalities. You know, if you're worried that you do have like a niche interest, I'm sure there'll be lots of people that have the same interests if you go to that society. And again, it's just transferable skills, you know, being part of the committee. And we really had to adapt during the pandemic. I'm thinking about maybe going into digital marketing. So we really have to rely on our social media last year to speak to some of our students. So my skill set went up significantly, trying to figure out, you know, best way to work with teams, best way to have social nights online, best way to communicate with our members through social media as well. And of course, you know, it's a communication within your committee. And, you know, it was being a good role model. You know, there's a lot of people that look up to you in the society and sometimes might need to ask for personal advice, maybe their own mental wellbeing, and they look to you as a role model. So you have to take on that responsibility as well. And yeah, that's something saying it really does boost your confidence as well, going through university. And yeah, that's what I have to say. It's just being in a sports club was the best. It's actually been the best part of my university. See, a Wednesday, I would make sure I would pick my classes like on a Friday or Tuesdays, and then I could enjoy my Wednesdays going out with the boys to play tennis and then going out afterwards in Aberdeen. Best experience.

Georgie [00:11:22] Yes, you mentioned that, Greg, about Wednesdays. And for our listeners who don't know about it, most students won't have any lectures. And it's Wednesday afternoon so that you can go and do sports or societies or go back to bed. If you've had a long day, whatever it is, you don't have to do it. But yeah, 100 percent like my best friends from uni with three my sports clubs rather than necessarily my course. And it's maybe more social some courses as well. They have societies. So there's a medicine society and there's a psychology society. And there's a lot of societies that cover courses as well as completely separate interests. So it's a great way. Both mentioned about careers and how it's helping you kind of think beyond university. Even being a sports club, doing social netball teaches you teamwork if you can go and become part of the committee. So each year they will vote in a committee, you can put yourself up one of those roles that gives you experience as well and gives you something on your CV, because when you finish university, you might have no work experience, necessarily, nothing particularly substantial. You've been studying, so having something that you've done beyond your degree just gives you a bit of an edge as well when you're applying,

because it's difficult when you finish your job for the first time. So we've talked about kind of creating transferable skills. Greg, did you want to add anything to that?

Greg [00:12:40] I just wanted to say, like in terms of mental wellbeing as well, I know that I'm most relaxed and most happy when I'm on the tennis court. And also when you're at university, it's a big change. It can be very stressful. So joining a society is a great way to take your mind off things and just want, you know, just to switch off and just talk to people. So that's what I'm saying. It's really important to have another hobby. And that way you're not constantly thinking about your degree. While it's really important that you focus on your studies, sometimes you just need to switch off as well. So, yeah, I just want to quickly get that out there.

Georgie [00:13:09] Yeah, it's a really good point. And Josh, you've been doing some Zoom calls, haven't you, during or during lockdown? You where can you tell us a bit about that, how you were organising.

Josh [00:13:17] Yeah, yeah. It was super organic actually. I the I've been doing some stuff with some folks from the Christian society that I'm a part of. And, and I was just like, you know, it's, it's a bunch of freshers. We had a group get some reason and I was like, do you guys want to meet up for, you know, Zoom games or or whatever online? I ended up doing it like every week, I think, for the rest of the term. So it's about from November to May in the end. And I mean, I just it was extremely helpful just to have people you could just hang out with. And we you know, obviously we were online the entire time, but by the end we felt like we knew each other. And those relationships you can carry over into your years. So, yeah, it was a lot of. And it was just completely, completely spontaneous and that's the cool thing about university, there's a lot of connections you can make and a lot of friends you can make. And a lot of it is just. You're here. They're here. Let's just we like the same things and let's get together and do something. So, yeah, a lot of fun.

Georgie [00:14:19] That's great. I think your point there about there's lots kinds of people. Greg, you said that you moved up and you didn't have a big school group, and that is quite common at university. I didn't know anyone going to my uni. All my friends, we pretty much went off to different universities because there's so much choice. So you'll be really surprised when you start uni. How can people always make friends and to socialise and to kind of get to know each other, especially with things being more online. And although in September we're hoping people will be more on campus, so that shouldn't be such a problem. People like Josh are doing great things to kind of still create a social environment so that everyone can still chat and meet up. So I'm going to move on to facilities because that's something that people ask us for. The sports side is what the facilities like. So, Greg, I know you use them a lot. Can you explain a little bit about Aberdeen Sports Village and what's available there?

Greg [00:15:09] Yeah, absolutely. So I've actually been a member at the ASV since first year and it's fantastic. I like to go to the gym. I think the gym there is like, you know, it's really, really good. And they've got a lot of racks, a lot of machines and a lot of dumbbells. And yes, like I said, it's a great place just to go to work out. And they've got a really good aquatic swimming pool, like a proper Olympic swimming pool that you can go to as well. That's within the student membership as well. And I really like going to the sauna. If I had a busy night on a Wednesday night, sometimes I would pop into the saw the next day to sweat it all out. And yeah, that is fantastic. So in terms of like gym and sports facilities, wise is really good. And of course, when I'm walking past, I can see the the indoor sprint track. You know, they've got the outdoor running track as well. And yeah, they've got the

squash courts, you know, big gym halls for badminton, you name it. They have so many great things. I do tennis. So tennis is slightly detached from the tennis courts are actually on the accommodation campus. But I've got my ASV membership and it is really, really useful.

Georgie [00:16:12] It's really good value, isn't it? If you because you can use the facilities, obviously, if you're going over to join your sports club, you can use the facilities as part of that membership. But if you just want to go for just fitness and exercise, you want to swim, you want to use the gym or if you want to go and you can hire out the football pitch, it's a fee for approved indoor football pitch, massive. You can do that with your friends as well. I think it's like sixteen pounds a month per student membership. It's really reasonable. So you don't have to join a sports club necessarily to do so and use the facilities.

Greg [00:16:42] And yeah, that's to say, of course, it's the same with any membership, you just to make the most of it, the more you visit, the more value you're going to get for your money. So, yeah, being in first you're at Hillhead is a little bit of a walk. I would say that by the same time, if you're motivated, that shouldn't be a problem. But I moved closer with different accommodation and I was right next to the ASV and it was just so much fun. It was so good just popping over the route and going to the gym in the morning. So, yeah.

Georgie [00:17:06] And it's convenient as well because the Aberdeen Sports Village is directly opposite campus. So if you kind of want to go to the sports this morning, then go to a lecture or you've got a couple of hours in between your lectures, you can pop over to the sports village and do things there as well. So it's really convenient. Josh, you've done is it baseball? You do go back to American roots there, sticking with a baseball. Which do you use for that then? Do you play outside, presumably?

Josh [00:17:30] Of course, yeah. So last year when we had practises and such, we did a lot of training on the field down by Aberdeen beach. There's a little baseball field that was, I guess, made by the city team where we practise and it's really nice. It's right by the beach. And there's like a lot of like, you know, big hills and very, very beautiful. So there's that. Also, during the year, we did practise inside a little bit when it was, you know, obviously cold or dark inside the sports village. We use one of the pitches there as well. Yeah. So it's a little different, obviously, with baseball, because that is an outside sport and it's not as developed in the UK as maybe the US, but yeah. So a lot of fun and yeah, just getting out and being in the fresh air is amazing as well.

Georgie [00:18:24] So yeah, I think for anyone who's not visited the sports village, if you come up for an open day to visit, it's so worth having a look if you're interested in sports and things because it is amazing. It blows my uni sports halls out of water, I won't name and shame, but they're so good and the swimming pool is amazing and yeah, it just is huge. And I don't think it doesn't cater for just for elite athletes as well, that the high performance training area with weights and things as physio as well. And we do have, just a drop in there, a sports scholarship. So if people are really high competitive national level sport, then you can have a look on the website because then you get again, like access or these elite facilities and offering scholarship money and things to help you. So if you are really, really into your sport, a high level, then there's opportunities there. But the you need to support you as well. I believe we've got a gymnast, I think she went to the Olympics. She was an Aberdeen student. And we've got one of our other, Zoe Clark, off to the Olympics in Tokyo. So, yeah, we definitely support our high performance athletes.

Greg [00:19:32] No. Yeah, I know. I'm sorry to interrupt. Just want to say best of luck to Zoe. So if she ever does end up hearing this podcast, who knows?

Georgie [00:19:40] There's something else we talk about. And like competing for sports is the first thing I'd say is you don't have to compete. If you just want to do social sport, then that's absolutely fine. And pretty much every sport caters for that. But if you are like me, I did trampolining before I went to university, I knew I wanted to continue it and I wanted to make sure the university had the facilities and I could compete. And things Greg mentioned earlier, BUCS, which is I think British university and college sport, I think is what it stands for. Yeah. So basically, do you want to explain what is BUCS is.

Greg [00:20:14] Yeah. So basically like you said, it's the British uni college sports and basically it's just the organised the sports leagues for all the universities. Of course it's not just like a sports community as well where they help with like coaching funding. There's lots of different things, but it's mainly just the competitive side of it. You need competitions. So our tennis teams are part of BUCS. We have three teams in the tennis leagues and we have a two women's teams in the women's leagues as well. So we travel across Scotland. We compete against Glasgow Stirling, who always beat us. They're really good at tennis, you name it. And it's just the yeah, the competitive side is honestly, like I say, it's the best part of university. It's really fun going on a way. There's going to be universities meeting new people and just playing competitive sport. And it's just fantastic.

Georgie [00:21:05] I think is for those teams, lots of rugby, netball, things like that, but tends to be spread throughout the years. You have kind of Wednesdays you'll go to matches, like Greg said, your travels. It's very nice to see more of Scotland and more of the UK so you can go and do that. And then for other sports, again, from own experience for trampolining, it's a one massive competition. So you go, it's always in February, we went to Sheffield. You travel there, you say a few nights, you have two days of competition. And it's one big event like you would for a normal trampoline competition. Anyone who does trampolining and knows what I'm talking about. So it varies. But, yeah, it's it's really good fun. And it's a way for you'll be competing for the university and it's just great you love if you love sport and you love competing, then BUCS is really great and we do it pretty much every sport. So there's leagues and things that you can do. Yeah.

Greg [00:21:57] yeah. I just want to say for an international audience, you're part of the BUCS, you're right. It's a great way to travel Scotland. And a lot of my international friends from like Hungary and the US, whenever we get the train from like Aberdeen through Dundee, over to cities like Edinburgh, they're every time always amazed, going over the bridges, going over like the Tay River or like, you know, the Forth Rail bridge or driving. They're just always amazed and they always get their phones out and like, you know, send it to their mums and stuff. Like, look, it's like Scotland is so cool. So I always find that really funny. But yeah, it's a really good way to travel through Scotland for sure.

Georgie [00:22:31] Yes. You might wonder what other sports that we haven't mentioned do we do. If you look on the AUSA websites, if you just Google AUSA, which is A-U-S-A, you'll be able to see a list of all the different sports clubs and societies that are available. We've really just touched on them. That's over hundred and fifty different sports clubs and societies. So there's a huge amount that you can enjoy.

Greg [00:22:55] Yeah. Also, usually there will be their social media as well. If you want to message like individuals within the committee. So you can do that, there should hopefully be like a Facebook page or an Instagram page that you can go and follow a message. And

if not, if you're struggling to find the information before you come to university, you can always email societies@abdn.ac.uk. There's a guy geekier here on there, Kieran, really nice guy, and he'll be able to sort out some information.

Georgie [00:23:21] So the other thing some people say is great, you've got over hundred and fifty plus societies, but not the one that I want to do so. So. So what do they do if they want to start their own club?

Josh [00:23:32] Well, that's a really good question, actually. You know, we just experience this with one of the societies I'm on. Recently, we had been like around in the area for a few years. And we're like, well, let's try to, you know, let's make this official. Let's go now. So we applied and it's easy to apply. Obviously, Kieran, who Greg mentioned, is super helpful. All you really need is about ten people who are like minded and want the same thing as you are, the same kind of club. You kind of an application that's on the website. They talk to you and approve it. And then there's like some obviously some paperwork that needs to be done, but nothing serious. And then you approve and you get a little website like a kind of a page on their website. You can promote stuff or even make up a bank account for you, for your society, if you'd like it. There's grants you can apply for. I mean, it is very super, super involved is super helpful. So I would definitely pitch if there is something you like really passionate about and you will if you can't find it, find some other people who are like minded and definitely apply.

Georgie [00:24:38] Yes, there are so many different ones. I mean, we have students sometimes we speak to prospective students who want to do things like drama. You can't study that Aberdeen. But we have multiple different performing arts type societies, orchestras, loads of things. So, yeah, if you want to start something, you go for it. We'd love to hear about. Did you want to add anything to that, Greg?

Greg [00:24:59] Yeah, no, I think Josh once again absolutely nailed it there. To be honest, I've I should be debating whether to start a TikTok society for the Uni of Aberdeen. I'm obsessed with TikTok right now. I make them and I know a few other people are really interested as well within the local Aberdeen area. So, yeah, maybe in fourth year, who knows, I might have to go through the process and get that started.

Georgie [00:25:21] Oh, brilliant. So so far I think we've covered quite a lot. Kind of what there is to do at university is something that people might be thinking. If we have got listeners who are coming in in September this year and not very long away, what's it going to look like for them? So I just how did you find it? And then maybe, Greg, I think a little bit about what we may be looking to do for this September. So I know you've said that it was still pretty good and you had socials. Did you want to elaborate on that or how kind of it was feeling starting?

Josh [00:25:50] Yeah. So obviously I went to the fresher's fair, which you can sign up for, like different groups via the website. You could sign up to go to certain events. Yeah, just you could go on and chat with people. So I know I chatted with the baseball folks that day. I chatted with some other people. And then obviously beyond that, each individual club in society had their own events throughout the week. So I went to a pub quiz for the Christian Union. I did some other stuff. So obviously with it was since it was online, you know, we couldn't be in person and it was a little difficult, but it was super involved and people were very helpful and they really answered all my questions.

Greg [00:26:30] What we'd say is that I have literally just joined with AUSA, I've only been working for a month right now as we're speaking, we're organising for for September. I don't want to reveal too much just in case I get in trouble. But I think what I can say is that I think we're going to do a blend of it really just depends on what the Scottish government say. You know, we're always adapting to what they're doing and it's looking very positive. It looks like we will be doing on campus stuff, but we will also have online events as well, because like we say, we want to represent all students, all the international students who sadly can make it into the UK and Scotland and study in Aberdeen. So we want to make sure we still have online events as well. But like I said, I can't reveal too much. But so far I'm really excited. I can say it's looking really good and as a team are working really hard right now to make the best possible experience. And I'm really excited as well just to be part of it.

Georgie [00:27:21] Right. Because you can come to fresher's every year that you're a university. Thank you so much, guys. Your experience and your opinions hopefully will help our listeners. I'm going to come to you. One last top tip for each of you. So something about schools and societies, kind of what would be your key message that you would you would give to future students? I'm going to Greg I'm going to put you on the spot first.

Greg [00:27:40] Yeah, I think we've covered these topics, but please do not be afraid to sign up for society. OK, first year for me personally, I found that my studies, you know, they weren't that stressful. I was doing OK and I actually had quite a lot of spare time. So I was able to get the opportunity to sign up to loads of societies, though every society you're probably not going to like, but you will find one like, you know, if I had tennis and honestly, it's the best experience ever. Wednesdays, like we said, when you can play your sports, it's the best day of the week for me. For me, it's my Saturday, Sunday, it's my weekend. And please just sign up to any society and just network and get to know people, OK? You'll really benefit from it. And it's really important to network at university and make as many friends as possible so you don't have any regrets. And at the end of June you go, Oh, I really wish I signed up to this society or I wish I joined this sports club. So just go and do it the first year while you have the opportunity.

Georgie [00:28:37] It's funny you say that actually, because that's my one thing. When I think back to university, I wish I had joined more societies. I did I did my trampolining because that's what I knew and loved. But I didn't join as many things as I should have done. So especially in your first year where you've got a bit more time, Greg. That's right. Go for it. Just doing everything. Just about you.

Josh [00:28:54] Yeah, without a doubt. I agree with Greg, but I think more and more specifically, especially for international students like myself, I think really joining up with these with clubs and different activities is super important because you're not going to know many people. You might not know as much about the Scottish culture. And obviously being in immersed in different clubs, different sports. You can meet Scottish people, you can learn about the culture, and you can actually meet other people from other countries as well. I mean, I can tell you, clubs I've been I've met people from all over the world just in the first year, and it's super cool and it's super fun because you really expand your horizons, you learn new things and meet new people. And I think that's what it's all about. So I definitely would recommend and obviously, if you have any questions, AUSA is super helpful and I'm sure they can, you know, provide with any answers that you need.

Georgie [00:29:47] Brilliant, thank you so much to both of you, and our listeners. Thank you for listening to today's episode, I hope you feel inspired to join a society. I know I want

to go back to university and do all over again. So I hope when you come to Aberdeen, you will join us. If you've missed any of the other episodes that we've had, please check them out on our website or wherever it is you listen to your podcasts. We've got a whole section on different topics, including this one with sports and societies. And you come back next week, Michaela will be talking about budgeting for uni. So maybe you can think about how you're going to include the cost of your sports membership with the rest of your university. So we will finish up there and say thank you very much to you, Greg and Josh, for joining us today.

Voiceover [00:30:33] Thank you for joining us for this episode of the Ask Aberdeen podcast, if you would like to suggest the topic we should cover, please email us at ukteam@abdn.ac.uk. We would love to hear from you. To be alerted about new episodes, subscribe wherever you get your podcasts.