

Handy Hints for Raisin Weekend



Why you really really really need to read this booklet!

The last thing the Students' Association and the University want to do this Raisin Weekend is put a dampener on your fun.

Raisin Weekend is one of the highlights of the St Andrews calendar, and it is a tradition that we're proud of, and want to protect. For that reason, we produce this booklet every year to tell you everything you need to know about the weekend- what to expect if you're new to it, and all the tasks you need to perform if you are an academic parent!

We also produce this booklet to make sure you know how to stay safe, and how to stay out of trouble- as much as it is about fun, it isn't fun to get really ill, to be disciplined by the University or to end up in the police station for the night or with a criminal record.

If we want Raisin Weekend to continue, we all have to make the effort to ensure that this year's is a success.

The suggestions from the University that the format of the weekend changes or that there be a new location for the foam fight have all been fought against by the Students' Association- but in return you need to prove us right that you can be responsible.

If you're not, next year could see the University pull all of its support, close its buildings and Raisin Weekend would never be the same again. Don't be the generation of students who killed it. Please take the time to read this booklet, and have a really great Raisin Weekend.

A Guide For Parents

Although we do want to push the point that you should be responsible for those you are looking after, and that forcing people to drink is far from clever, we also want you to know we want you to have a great time, and have included here all the practical stuff you will need to get you through the weekend.

Mothers

If you are an academic mother, you have the task of making your kids Raisin strings. These can be purchased from BESS- the Students' Association shop, or if you're feeling adventurous, you could make your own! Just remember-

3rd year mothers- use ONLY THREE strings, red, blue and yellow. 4th year mothers- use all four strings.

Twist the strings together rather than weaving them- Raisin strings should be decorated with fun items that represent your children, and you should be rewarded with a gift (customarily a bottle of wine, that has come to replace the

traditional pound of raisins!)

The Sunday afternoon is yours, and the tradition is to throw your children a 'tea' party, the tea often being replaced by alcohol. Some mothers do still throw traditional tea parties, but whether it's tea or something stronger, most parties will include party games and are a good opportunity to ply your kids with party food, making sure they have eaten something before their father's evening party.

On the Monday morning, you should dress your kids up in something inventive before they go to their father's to pick up their Raisin receipt and head to the foam fight.

Fathers

If you are a father, your main responsibilities are taking your children to parties (or throwing your own!) and looking after them as they partake in the Sunday night festivities. It is important to ensure that your kids are ok if they have already been drinking during their afternoon tea party. Ensure that they have a Raisin Weekend to remember- for the right reasons!

Your children should reward you for your efforts with a bottle of wine, and in turn you should provide them with a receipt. The receipt can take any form you choose- from an abandoned piece of furniture to a stuffed animal, but remember to ensure that what you are using for a receipt isn't anybody's property- what you might view as a prank, the police will view as theft or vandalism. You also need to remember to put the Latin message on the receipt, which we have provided for you here in a simplified form (for your convenience!) Where two endings are given, -us/o is for a man, and -a for a woman.

Ego (name of parent), tertianus/a (if you're a third year) or magistrandus/a (fourth year) or alumnus/a (if you're a graduate) huius celeberrimae universitatis Sancti Andreae, qui (subject you study) studeo, a te, meo/a bejanto/ina carissimo/a qui (subject child studies) student, unam libram uvarum siccarum accepisse affirmo pro qua multas gratias tibi ago.

AUC (2009 minus the number of years from the founding of the University in 1411)

Kids

If this is your first Raisin Weekend, your academic parents will probably tell you of some of their own exploits when they were enjoying their first Raisin Weekend- but remember that the University are far more keen on ensuring safety and preventing anti social behaviour in 2009, and that this year there will be more police around St Andrews. Don't get involved in anything dodgy, even if your parents tell you that it's ok- you don't want to leave here with a record (other than an academic one!) and spending your first Raisin Weekend in hospital or throwing up over Student Support Services staff is well embarrassing, and means you will miss out on the Monday morning festivities.

Things to remember..

- At your mother's tea party, your academic mother will give you a Raisin string, and you should give her a gift (usually a bottle of wine) in return.
- You should give your academic father a bottle of wine, and in return you will get a Raisin receipt.
- Your mother will dress you up in a scary outfit for the foam fight- St Andrews is freezing at this time of year, so make sure you are warm enough!
- Your father's Raisin receipt, which you will pick up from his house and have to take to the quad before the foam fight on the Monday morning will probably be large and cumbersome- this is all in the spirit of things, but remember, don't get involved if anyone's property has been nicked or vandalised. It isn't very clever, and you will get into trouble.
- Have a great time- but know your limits! Don't end up too sick to enjoy the rest of the weekend, and don't end up in a position where you or your academic parents are disciplined by the University or have to spend the night at the police station.

Don't be an idiot

We need you to take responsibility for yourself and for others in your academic family this Raisin Weekend- common sense should tell you that it is a bad idea to drink until you are sick, or to make someone else drink until they are sick. Student Support Services and the Students' Association will be providing support for those who do get ill, and we want you to call us if you need help, but we also want to make it clear that we're not there so that you can get as drunk as you possibly can.

The emphasis from the University this year is on discipline, and ensuring that anti social behaviour and actions that bring the University into disrepute are dealt with. The police are also taking a different approach- drinking in the streets, damaging property and running riot through the local community will not be dismissed as 'high spirits' and there will be a much larger police presence on the streets of St Andrews this year. We want you to leave with a degree, not a degree and a criminal record, so don't be an idiot.

Remember

- Know your limit. It may seem like a good laugh at the time, but it won't be funny when you end up in hospital. It will be pretty embarrassing, too.
- Look after those you are supposed to be taking care of. Not everyone can drink, and Raisin Weekend is not about making your academic children ill. It's dangerous and really stupid to put anyone else at risk like that.
- Don't break the law, or any of the by laws of the town. You wouldn't do it on any other night, and if anything, it's more stupid to do it on Raisin Weekend when there will be a large police presence.
- Don't give the student community a bad name- no one is asking you to act like an angel, but if the Students' Association and the University get complaints, then it's you that will suffer when our late license is revoked and the University stops us using the estate for events like the foam fight.



Emergency Contacts:

Main contact number:
(01334 46) 2720

The front desk of the Students' Association building will be manned by Student Support staff should you require assistance

