

THE TOMBO

OITA'S · ENGLISH · NEWSLETTER

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Japan's Flying Doctor

Recently the term “medical travel” or “medical tourism” (医療観光) has been gaining attention in Japan as many travelers from overseas, particularly China, have been coming to Japan in demand of particular medical services. With the health benefits that Oita's hot springs have to offer, there is a potential market for both domestic and international “medical travelers” in Oita. The Japanese Society of Travel Medicine helps support patients in their efforts to manage their health while travelling domestically and internationally. A Society of Travel Medicine councilor and English-speaking doctor, coining the name “Flying Doctor”, provides a special service by attending patients during overseas travel. This month THE TOMBO features an article on the Flying Doctor to shed light on the new path he is forging in the fields of international travel and medicine.

THE TOMBO: Please tell readers a little bit about yourself and how you learned to speak English.

FLYING DOCTOR: Hello. My name is Yasuki Sakamoto, and I currently live in Fukuoka Prefecture. When I was a high school student, I had the chance to live in upstate New York for a year as a participant on the AFS High School Exchange program. Then, as part of my research on reproduction immunology, I studied at the University of New Mexico for 15 months, and the University of Cincinnati for 8 months.

TOMBO: How did you become Japan's “Flying Doctor”?

DOCTOR: From my experiences overseas I came to love travelling, and I have travelled to 48 different countries in my life. As a matter of fact, I work as an independent doctor, sometimes specializing in urology and sometimes as a general physician, because not being tied down to one hospital or clinic gives me the freedom to travel. Combining my travel experience with my specialty in medicine, I recognized the possibility of helping patients also realize their dreams to travel to a special destination, even if it may be their last trip. This is especially relevant in the context of Japan's aging population and globalization. While there are a lot of travel doctors registered with the Japanese Society of Travel Medicine, I am the only flying doctor, who attends groups and patients on international travel.

TOMBO: What was a memorable international destination you went to with a patient?

DOCTOR: A patient, who was terminally ill with esophagus cancer, had been a die-hard Elvis fan his whole life. He had made plans once to see Elvis perform live in Hawaii, but in Japan taking time off for an international concert was unthinkable in those days. When he was

diagnosed with cancer at age 65 and his condition was deteriorating, his younger sister was determined to make his life-long dream a reality. She decided to take him to Memphis, Tennessee to visit Graceland, Elvis' home and grave, and that's when I came into the picture.



Taking off for Graceland

I was able to be there in case anything went wrong medically and I was also able to help with language and logistical details, such as renting a car and driving. It was a really challenging trip but it was amazing to see the smile on the patient's face when experiencing Graceland. We were able to make it back to Japan safely, however the patient passed away just ten days after

returning to Japan.

TOMBO: Do you think the international trip placed an extra burden on him that led to his death?

DOCTOR: That is very possible, but as my goal is to help patients realize their dreams before passing away, to make that one last trip a possibility, I would like to think that after returning from Graceland he was satisfied at having accomplished his dream and therefore passed away peacefully.



Viva Elvis!

TOMBO: What kind of service can you provide to international travelers to Japan?

DOCTOR: Although I am not a professional interpreter, using my language abilities I can attend English-speaking patients who are travelling in Japan and I can help them with

the ins and outs of travelling Japan while maintaining their health. I usually attend groups of elderly Japanese going on tours abroad, but I would be happy to work with non-Japanese travelers who want to experience Japan.

For more information visit the Flying Doctor's website at <http://www.kanoya-travelmedica.com>

EDUCATING PANGKOY

"SON, WHAT DID HE SAY?"

By Eljoma

It takes a village to raise a child, but to educate one takes a whole city! My wife and I witness how Japanese educators and co-parents help our second son, Pangkoy, in his continuing journey through the linguistic and cultural challenges of being a Filipino at the Asahi Elementary School in Beppu City. We receive valuable public resources that enable our son's Japanese education, one that will undoubtedly form a key competitive advantage in his future. Last week, as I struggled to speak to a bus attendant to ask for directions, Pangkoy suddenly spoke up and, talking in confident Japanese, got the information we needed. As I asked, "Son, what did he say?" it suddenly dawned on me how much his school, and this wonderful city of Beppu, have impacted his life, and ours.

Speaking in very able English, officers of the Beppu Education Department computed birthdates and concluded that Iel, our 4-year old, would enter the nursery and that Pangkoy, our 5-year old (turning six in January 2010), would enter kindergarten. A Japanese friend advised us that in families where both parents work, 5-year old kids can go to a nursery where they can stay from 6am to 6pm. Placing Pangkoy in the nursery allowed him a context of light learning, cushioning his Japanese culture shock in an environment of play and fun.

In April 2010 Pangkoy entered 1st grade at Asahi Elementary School. As the first and only foreign student in that school, Principal Yamamura made sure they were well prepared. At the parents' orientation, we were assisted by a very gracious and helpful Nakayama Sensei, who took it upon herself to make sure that Pangkoy attended day 1 fully prepared. She translated the orientation brochure into English and painstakingly explained all the documents and procedures that were necessary. Particularly memorable to me, was when she even identified where needed items could be purchased at cheaper prices. Then, when we couldn't find the places she listed, or found the item prices beyond our purchasing power, she surprised us completely one day when she showed up at our home bringing with her a *landoseru* (leather bag), Cray-Pas oil pastels and many other items on our to-buy list. Nakayama Sensei had personally tracked down graduating 6th grade students and collected all their unneeded school paraphernalia for us.

Pangkoy's teacher, Suga Sensei, is in my opinion, the epitome of dedication, a true educator at the core. When Pangkoy is sick, she stops by our house and brings the assignments and worksheets for the day, even giving Pangkoy some make up sessions to ensure that he is kept up-to-date on the lessons despite his illness. Suga Sensei takes the extra step of jotting down in English little notes on Pangkoy's Japanese language book, emphasizing difficult points and highlighting new words. She is virtually at our beck and call 24-7 when we need some translation help with Pangkoy's assignments, responding to SMS and email messages with unbelievable consistency. Suga Sensei even researched and gave each of us our very own, specially-coined Japanese names.

During the summer break, Suga Sensei and Nakayama Sensei – together with another equally passionate educator, Ono Sensei – collaborated to further hone

Pangkoy's Japanese skills. In full force the three would descend upon our home to visit Pangkoy to help him with his Japanese reading and brush up on his Japanese grammar. Three professional, intensely dedicated, Japanese *Senseis* surrounding one 6-year-old Filipino student, and one 4-year-old small brother listening quietly at the side - boy, was it a sight for sore eyes!

The confluence of forces that conspire to educate our son go beyond Asahi Elementary.

The Education Department provides and pays for an interpreter to sit down with Pangkoy in class, hand-holding him through the nitty-gritty rudiments of day-to-day Japanese.

The costs of Pangkoy's Japanese education are covered by generous Japanese public monies. The ¥13,000 monthly child subsidy from Beppu City Hall covers Pangkoy's school lunch cost (¥4,300), after-school club cost (¥5,490), where he stays after his class until we can fetch him after work, the printing cost of miscellaneous class materials (approximately ¥1,000), health insurance and PTA fees, leaving him some money for ice cream, pizza, and his all-time favorite, origami paper!

Co-parents who have become our good friends through numerous PTA meetings and after-school club gatherings also provide an invaluable source of day-to-day support. Very thoughtful and generous is Inage-san who calls us up to remind us of school activities and what to bring, or how Pangkoy should prepare for it, thinking that maybe we could've missed the announcement written in Japanese. Not a few times has Pangkoy been driven home by the parents of his after-school club classmates when he was too tired to walk home after a full-day of catching crickets and grasshoppers and dragonflies, or when he wounded his leg and couldn't walk home.

If it takes a village to raise a child, and a whole city to educate one, I must say now that it takes nothing less than heroes to do both in a foreign language. To Pangkoy's heroes, my wife and I say, "Maraming Salamat Po!" ("Thank you very much" in the Filipino vernacular.)



Pangkoy's Family and His Heroes.

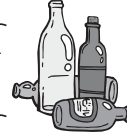
Pangkoy's Father also writes about Filipino Irregular Migrants in Japan at <http://www.irregularmigration.info/>



Pangkoy and His Inherited Landoseru



SEPARATING TRASH IN JAPAN



Separating trash in Japan can be a daunting process, especially for people coming from countries that don't practice advanced recycling methods. However, with such a detailed recycling system in place it is imperative that people living in Japan take advantage of the system and separate waste and recyclable items specifically according to the system in their town. Students of the seminar class "Sustainable Development Issues in the Asia Pacific" at Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University have submitted another article on one of their class field trips, this time to a waste management center in Beppu. Understanding how all of our waste is managed after we separate it can help us understand the importance of how we dispose of our household waste.

Located on a hilly area in the Northern part of Beppu City and circled by wisteria or "Fuji" in Japanese, is a waste disposal center accordingly called "Fujigatani". Fujigatani was established in 1978 in partnership with Beppu City, Kitsuki City, and Hayami-Gun to reduce costs and to manage waste more efficiently. The city of Beppu has the largest population among the three cities, and produces about 80% of the total amount of waste.

Compared to other cities in Japan, the waste separation method here is simpler. In some smaller cities, waste is separated into thirty to forty categories! Waste in the Beppu area is separated into burnable, unburnable, bulky refuse, resource waste, cans, glasses and plastic (PET) bottles. Burnable waste is thrown into an incinerator and burned, but unburnable waste and bulky refuse go to land fill sites. Resource waste, cans, bins and PET bottles are managed separately by recycling companies. Residents must pay a fee for the collection of bulky refuse, such as broken household appliances like televisions and air conditioners, so bulky refuse cannot be thrown away with regular street collection.

Mr. Mizobe, the manager of Fujigatani Disposal Center, told us interesting statistics about waste in recent years. Due to the Home Appliance Recycling Law, that increased the fee for disposing bulky waste starting in 2001, the amount of bulky waste suddenly increased in 2000 and then dropped sharply. Right before the law was implemented, many people threw away bulky waste to avoid the charge. The amount of both burnable and unburnable waste is also decreasing due to the decreasing population and the effectiveness of different laws. Although the amount of waste generated is decreasing, the manager of Fujigatani Disposal Center said that their incinerators are working at full capacity every day and

that it costs about ¥100,000 to dispose of just one ton of waste.

To lighten the negative impact of waste on the surrounding environment, odors are eliminated, and drainage is cleaned (by microbes, gravity and chemicals) and reused. Combustion gas is also burned in the incinerators to reduce the amount of gas emissions. The center also conducts pollution measurements four times a year to ensure that the environment around and near the waste center is not negatively impacted. Improper and inadequate waste management can adversely effect the environment and public health, and it can create many other social problems that make our society unsustainable.

For example, if Beppu residents throw away unburnable waste with burnable trash, then the incinerators can become damaged and dangerous chemicals can be released into the environment. Even though effective laws can help reduce waste and carbon emissions, if residents don't dispose of waste properly, the work of the government and the disposal centers is in vain. As different disposal centers have different machinery and methods of managing waste, it is important for residents to strictly follow the guidelines set out by their locality. To make waste management system work effectively, it is necessary for the government, waste management centers, and each individual in the community to work together, hand in hand.

To find out more about how to dispose of bulky refuse, other disposal methods, or to get a calendar of trash disposal days in your locality inquire with the Environmental Department of your local city hall.



RECYCLING USED CLOTHING



In many countries there are collection bins for used but wearable clothing, so that recycling clothes is quite an easy process. However, in Japan clothes that are put out on the street on collection days are not necessarily reused or given to families who cannot afford to buy new clothes at market price. Furthermore, there are no Red Cross or Salvation Army collection services in Oita, so up until now it has been easier for us to throw away our clothes rather than to find someone else who can use them.

However, one Saiki resident is starting a used clothing service that will work similar to the above-mentioned charity services. This service will make it easier to dispose of used clothing, and also to buy used clothes at an affordable cost. If you would like to donate lightly used clothing, shoes, or accessories please contact Tomo at:

k-tomo@dwmail.jp

or

090-3192-9918

Festivals & Events

Date	Event Description	Location	Contact #
Nov. 3 rd	21st Shonai Kagura Festival - At the Kagura Hall of the Sports Park in Shonai Town, 12 different <i>kagura</i> groups will perform the traditional stage art of <i>kagura</i> dance and music.	Yufu City Shonai-Machi	☎097-582-1111
Nov. 7 th ~ Nov. 8 th	Bamboo Light Festival "Usuki Takeyoi" - Approximately 20,000 bamboo shoots are lit up with candles all over town, and a parade enacting an old legend about a princess takes place.	Usuki City Nioza	☎0972-64-7130
Nov. 5 th ~ Nov. 6 th	Hita's 70th Anniversary - To celebrate the formation of Hita City, various events will be held with elements of history, culture, and cuisine.	Hita City	☎0973-22-8210
Nov. 6 th ~ Nov. 7 th	Wind Surfing Baiken Cup 2010 - Professional and amateur and domestic and foreign surfers will gather for this combined Kyushu and All Japan Pro Competition.	Kunisaki Shioya Beach	☎0978-72-2677
Nov. 7 th	Nanase Country Market - A market where visitors can taste and experience the town of Notsuharu, through agricultural products, workshops, and a pot of soup serving 1000 people!	Oita City Midori Milk Co.	☎097-588-0101
Nov. 12 th ~ Nov. 14 th	Bamboo Light Festival "Sennen Akari" - Festival of lights in Hita City. Bamboo shoots will be lit up with candles throughout town, and there will be concerts, food stalls, and more!	Hita City Mameda-Machi	☎0973-23-3111
Nov. 13 th & Dec. 11 th	Yufu Hot Spring Kagura - Monthly event showcasing different <i>kagura</i> performances.	Yufuin Town Community Ctr.	☎0977-85-4464
Nov. 13 th ~ Nov. 14 th	Hita Tenryo Festival - This festival works to recreate Edo period Japan with a samurai parade and various acts of local performing arts around Tsuki-kuma Park.	Hita City Mameda-Machi	☎0973-23-3111
Nov. 13 th ~ Nov. 14 th	Katanoura Festival - <i>kagura</i> , lion dances, and sword and stick fighting are all a part of this festival which is designated as a culturally important folk property by the prefecture.	Tsukumi City Katanoura	☎0972-82-9527
Nov. 14 th	21st Tomikuji Marathon - This full marathon starts at the Kunisaki race track. There is a prize drawing to win an invitation to the famous Honolulu Marathon.	Kunisaki-Machi Hamasaki	☎0978-72-5168
Nov. 14 th	Choru Choru Festival - This is Kunimi's biggest event, where various festivities including local <i>kabuki</i> performances will be held at the Kunimi Government Office.	Kunisaki City Kunimi-Machi	☎0978-82-1113
Nov. 14 th	Oita International Wheelchair Marathon - Cheer on athletes in wheelchairs as they display amazing strength racing from the Prefectural Government Building to the City Race Track.	Oita City	☎097-533-6006
Nov. 20 th ~ Nov. 22 nd	Bamboo Light Festival "Taketa Chikuraku" - To accompany the bamboo lights throughout the castle town there will be three days of concerts and festivities.	Taketa City Jouka-Machi	☎0974-63-2638
Nov. 19 th ~ Nov. 21 st	Wakamiya Hachiman Naked Festival - In a 900-year-old tradition half-naked men carry Japan's biggest torch and a portable shrine across Katsura River.	Bungo Takada City Hall	☎0978-22-3311
Nov. 20 th & Dec. 18 th	Kimono Appreciation Day - Kimonos to try on for free, rental kimonos, photo shoot by professional photographer, food stands and more! (Held on the 3 rd Saturday of every month.)	Kitsuki City Jouka-Machi	☎0978-62-3131
Nov. 20 th ~ Nov. 21 st	Ogata Kawagoshi Festival - Come see the sight of young men in loincloths carrying a shrine and torch across a river from 18:00 on the 20 th and 14:00 on the 21 st .	Bungo-Ono City Harajiri Waterfall	☎0974-42-2111
Nov. 26 th ~ Nov. 27 th	Human Festa 2010 - Event sponsored by the prefectural government to raise awareness of human rights issues. Fair trade booths and exhibition booths to raise awareness on discrimination issues foreigners in Japan face. Friday (10am~5pm) Saturday (9am~4pm)	Oita City Oasis Tower 1F B1F Plaza	☎097-533-4021
Nov. 28 th	Hula Festa - Hula master Michael De La Cruz will give a special hula lesson to attendees at the Kamae Community Center.	Saiki City	☎0972-42-1112
Nov. 28 th	Uki Uki Flea Market - Come meet locals and get deals on goods from 11:30am~3pm!	Oita City Oasis Tower 1F	☎097-538-7411
Dec. 2 nd	Tsurumi Morning Market - Morning fish market serving up the fresh catch of the day. Fresh fish tempura and free samples available! (Held on 2 nd Sunday of the month)	Saiki City Tsurumi Mkt.	☎0972-33-1111
Dec. 2 nd	Yayoi Morning Market - Fresh produce and local goods will be on sale at the Yayoi Rest Stop. First come first serve at this bustling market! (Held on 2 nd Sunday of the month)	Saiki City Yayoi Rest Stop	☎0972-46-5951
Dec. 5 th	Honjo Marathon - Runners will race on prefectural road Rte. 10 along the Seiryu-Banjo River, starting from Honjo Elementary School in Saiki City.	Saiki City Honjo Elementary	☎0972-56-5115
Dec. 5 th	Hyotan Festival - A tradition passed on for 800 years, and designated as an intangible cultural property by Oita Prefecture, takes place at Shibayama Hachiman Shrine.	Bungo-Ono City Chitose-Machi	☎0974-37-2111
Dec. 12 th	Rope Replacing Ceremony - Sacred rope at Bungo Futamigaura that connects two boulders in the sea, representing a man and a woman, to be replaced in this ceremony	Saiki City Kamiura	☎0972-32-3111
Dec. 12 th	Fukushima Kagura - Designated as a culturally important folk property by the prefecture Fukushima Kagura will be performed from 3pm to midnight at Sugawara Shrine.	Nakatsu City Fukushima	☎0979-22-1111
Dec. 23 rd ~ Dec. 24 th	Beppu Christmas Hanabi Festa - Fireworks are coordinated to music at this beach-side event. A pot of <i>bungo fugu</i> to feed 10,000, Asian food vendors and more!	Beppu City Kitahama	☎0977-24-2828
Dec. 23 rd	Astronomical Observatory Christmas Celebration - Christmas concert and viewing the winter sky at the astronomical observatory (Sekizaki Kaiseikan).	Oita City Saganoseki	☎097-574-0100
Dec. 31 st	Usa Shrine Festival - The last celebration of the year. Visitors come to pray for help from the gods in everything from school entrance exams to protection while driving.	Usa City Usa Shrine	☎0978-32-1111
Dec. 31 st	New Year Ice Skating - From 10pm to 1am ice skating, DJ requests, bingo competition, fireworks and New Year countdown to take place at Core Yamakuni.	Nakatsu City Yamakuni	☎0979-62-2140
Dec. 31 st	Usuki New Year Celebration - The Usuki Stone Buddahs will be lit up at night and free sake will be distributed to bring in the New Year.	Usuki City Stone Buddahs	☎0972-64-7130
Dec. 31 st	Hello Kitty Countdown - Hello Kitty characters will do a New Year's performance and countdown show at Harmonyland.	Hiji-Machi Harmonyland	☎0977-73-1111
Dec. 31 st	Ueno Kagura - Traditional festive Japanese dance <i>kagura</i> , which is designated as an intangible cultural property by the prefecture, to be performed at Wakahata Shrine.	Nakatsu City Ueno	☎0979-22-1111

★ Stage & Music Events ★

Nov.	Time	Artist/Event	Venue	Cost	Contact #
9 th	19:00	Slovak Radio Symphony Orchestra- Classical music	iichiko Grand Theater	¥5,000	☎0985-20-7111
14 th	14:30	Guitar Concert- Performance by Yoshino Guitar School	iichiko Otonoizumi	FREE	☎097-536-3287
14 th	9:00	Piano Concur- Andie Music piano concur from 9am to 6pm	Nakatsu Culture Center	FREE	☎0979-24-1155
16 th	18:30	Chorus Line- Famous musical "Chorus Line" in Oita City!	iichiko Grand Theater	¥3,000~	☎0120-660-442
18 th	19:00	Russian Folk Performance- Traditional Russian song and dance	iichiko Grand Theater	¥4,000~	☎097-553-5990
18 th	21:00	Bluegrass Night- Local bluegrass bands jam out in Oita City!	CantalloopII	¥1,000w/drink	☎097-548-5363
18 th	19:30	Christopher Willits Japan Tour- San Francisco guitarist	AT HALL	¥2,300	☎097-535-2567
19 th	21:00	Friday Bossa Nova Night- Regular event at Oita City bar	CantalloopII	¥500+drink	☎097-548-5363
20 th & 21 st	9:00~ 18:30	Do You Love Musicals? Experience the art of musicals and actually perform "Chorus Line" (adults) or "Lion King" (children). Now accepting applicants! (Instruction in Japanese)	iichiko Cultural Center Space Be Rehearsal Room	¥3,000	☎097-533-4004
21 th	14:00	Ballet- 50 year anniversary performance	iichiko Grand Theater	¥1,000~	☎097-543-0732
22 nd	19:00	Stand-up Comedy- Japanese stand-up comics in Oita City!	iichiko Otonoizumi	¥5,000	☎097-537-5515
22 nd	19:00	MONKEY MAJIK- Famous Japanese/Canadian pop-rock band	iichiko Grand Theater	¥5,500~	☎0985-20-7111
23 rd	16:30	Ladies Music Festival- Female performers	CantalloopII	¥1,000+drink	☎097-548-5363
23 rd	13:00	Beijing Music Group- Chinese music performance	Saiki Culture Center	¥3,500	☎090-5728-2715
27 th	22:00	DJ Event- Regular event on the 4 th Saturday of every month	Beppu ROOTS	¥1,000+drink	☎0977-25-7292
27 th	21:00	HAZE- ¥1,000 to enter or ¥2,500 for all-you-can drink til 1am	PEI PUB	¥1,000 or 2,500	☎080-6454-9350
27 th	20:00	Beatles Tribute- Jam session covering Beatles songs	CantalloopII	¥1,500w/2drinks	☎097-548-5363
27 th	17:30	Tokyo Meijin- Famous comedians, raku-go, magicians & music	Usuki Citizens' Hall	¥1,000~2,000	☎0972-63-7977
Dec.	Time	Artist/Event	Venue	Cost	Contact#
5 th	16:30	Disney on Classic- Orchestra and vocalists perform classics	iichiko Grand Theater	¥6,500	☎097-553-2509
7 th	19:00	Dustbox- Japanese punk band 2010-2011 tour	Oita T.O.P.S	¥3,000	☎097-533-4067
11 th	18:30	TAO Japanese Drum Performance- Must-see drummers!	iichiko Grand Theater	¥4,000~¥6,000	☎097-537-5515
19 th	18:30	Gospel Choir Joy Live- Come hear vocalists sing gospel	iichiko Grand Theater	¥1,000	☎090-7381-0494
25 th	22:00	DJ Event- Regular event on the 4 th Saturday of every month	Beppu ROOTS	¥1,000+drink	☎0977-25-7292
25 th	21:00	HAZE- ¥1,000 to enter or ¥2,500 for all-you-can drink til 1am	PEI PUB	¥1000 or ¥2500	☎080-6454-9350

Other Music/Stage Event Information

Beppu Tower Nightly Events- On the 3rd floor of Beppu Tower there is a DJ's Music Lounge where nightly music events are held. Entrance is FREE with the purchase of 1 drink, and the crowd is young and international! Doors open at 7pm and the fun starts at 9pm. Monday is jazz/bossa nova night. Tuesday is rock/blues night. Wednesday is techno/house night. Thursday is hip hop/R&B/reggae night. Friday and Saturday are ALL GENRE nights! Come join the fun! For event info contact beppu.tower@yahoo.com or call 080-5642-7781.

Ticket prices range from student to most expensive general admission. Prices shown otherwise indicate price for purchase on the day of the event, they may be cheaper if purchased in advance. "w/ drink" prices include 1 drink, "+drink" prices require the additional purchase of a drink. Times shown indicate start times, doors usually open 30 minutes beforehand.

Venues

AT HALL= 2-6-4 Chou-Machi, Ichii-Kaihatsu Bldg. 3F Oita City	Cantalloop II=3-2-30 Miyako-Machi Nakayama Dai 5 Building 6F Oita City	Oita T.O.P.S= 2-13-20 Kaneike-Machi, Oita City
BeppuROOTS= 1-9-19 Kitahama, Kitahama Night Center 4F Beppu City	iichiko Grand Theater= Oasis Tower 1F Oita City	Nakatsu Culture Center=14-38 Hoda-Machi, Nakatsu City
Beppu Tower= 25-5 Kitahama 10-chome, Beppu City	iichiko Otonoizumi Hall= Oasis Tower 4F Oita City	Usuki Citizen's Hall= 72-83 Oaza Usuki
	PEI Pub= 2-5-13 Miyako-Machi, Shirogane Bldg. 3F Oita City	Saiki Culture Center= 1-1-1 Ohte-Machi, Saiki City



Exhibitions & Screenings

Date	Description	Place	Admission	Contact #
Nov. 3 rd	Global Nuclear Disarmament Fund Documentary "GATE" - True story on the journey of monks showing at 10:30am, 1:30, 4:30 and 7:30pm	iichiko Culture Center B1F	¥1,200	☎097-542-1185
Dec. 5 th	50 Years Since Vietnam- Academy-award winning documentary on Vietnam War "Hearts and Minds" showing at 10:30am, 1:30, 4:30 and 7:30pm	iichiko Culture Center B1F	¥1,200	☎097-542-1185
Until Dec. 26 th	Season and Bamboo- Exhibition of bamboo crafts. Oita is the #1 producer of madake bamboo and this craft has flourished in Beppu City.	Oita Art Museum Oita City	¥300	☎097-554-5800
Until Dec. 12 th	Surrealism Exhibition- Exhibition of works that came out of the French surrealist movement in the 1920s. Come see work by Dali and other surrealists!	Oita Art Museum Oita City	¥800	☎097-554-5800

Most Museums and Centers are closed on Monday, or Tuesday if Monday is a public holiday. Student admissions vary, highest cost shown.

Japanese Lessons

What's Going On?

Community

Himawari Japanese Volunteers

Support for people learning Japanese in order to help them enjoy their lives in Oita, now at three different locations.

Wasada Public Hall Wed. 10:00~12:00

Meiji Akeno Public Hall Wed. 14:00~16:00

Tsurusaki Public Hall Sat. 10:00~12:00

For more information contact Fukata Miharu TEL: 097-527-2614

E-MAIL: nihongo_himawari_oita@yahoo.co.jp

Asian Culture Exchange Center

Free Japanese lessons near Oita River on the 2nd floor of the Yutaka Building in Yutaka-Machi, Oita City. Wednesday from 10:10~11:40. Asian Culture Exchange Center TEL: 097-537-0122 CELL: 090-4580-9550 (Ms. Noda)

Nihongo Rakuraku-talk

Beppu City Hall offers free Japanese lessons every Tuesday from 14:00~15:30. For more information contact Beppu International Affairs Division TEL: 097-721-6133

E-MAIL: int-ma@city.beppu.oita.jp

Sakura Japanese Class

Come study Japanese with friendly volunteers and teachers in a pleasant atmosphere. Sakura Japanese Class is held every Monday from 10:30~12:30 at the Oita University International House in Nishiki-Machi, Oita City. Classes cost ¥500 per 3 month term. For more information call Ohashi-san CELL: 090-7866-2486

AIUEO Japanese Lessons

Volunteers offer free Japanese lessons on Tuesday and Friday from 10:20~11:50 at I-NESS near Oasis Tower as well as Thursday nights at Compal Hall from 18:30~20:00. Lessons are also offered in Beppu at the Oita International House on Tuesday mornings 10:30~12:00. For more information contact:

Ms. Miyase 090-8353-2485 (day lessons)

Ms. Kato 097-532-5940 (night lessons)

From the Plaza

Free Legal Consultations

The Oita International Plaza holds legal consultations on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. **Consultations on Nov. 17th and Dec. 15th from 13:00~16:00.**

The Oita Emigration/Immigration Affairs Council also organizes free consultations on the 1st Sunday of the month at the Oita International Plaza. Emigration/Immigration specialists are available to offer advice on a variety of topics from Immigration Bureau paperwork and procedures, to daily life matters. **Consultations on Nov. 7th and Dec. 5th from 13:00~16:00.** English interpretation available, other languages may be available with reservation two days in advance. OIP 097-533-4021

Free Tagalog Consultations

Date: Saturday **Nov. 6th and Dec. 4th**

Time: 13:00~16:00

Place: Oita International Plaza

Consultant: Rhodora Yoshitake

Free Chinese Consultations

Date/Time: Every Thursday 10:00~13:00 and the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month from 13:00~16:00. Place: Oita International Plaza. Consultant: Cui Wenyu (*Dates and times are subject to change. Please contact the Oita International Plaza before coming.)

TEL: 097-533-4021

Anti-discrimination Exhibition

The Oita International Plaza is having an exhibition to expose discrimination issues that foreigners face in Japan as part of the prefectural Human Rights Education Program. November 26th and 27th at Oita International Plaza.

Oita International Christian Fellowship

You're welcome to join us for worship and fellowship! Check our website at: www.oicf3712.webs.com

Place: Compal Hall

Time: Every Sunday 10:00am~12:00pm

Check the lobby board for the room number under "O.I.C.F."

International Kempo (Self-Defence Classes)

Ever thought about being able to defend yourself? Join us to keep in shape and to learn martial art-based self-defense techniques and *bo-jyutsu* (stick fighting).

Place: Souda Dojo (Near Oita University)

Time: Every Friday 19:00~21:00

For more information on times and places, please contact Katsunori Tsujita at 097-583-0959.

"Tomare" Meditation

~Stop and find your center~

Would you like to learn more about or participate in individual or group meditation sessions, classes, or the Japanese healing art of Reiki?

Thursday Evening Monthly Meditation at Organic Cafe Hana: Explore meditation one Thursday a month from 7PM to 8PM. ¥1500 includes tea and sweets. Meditation and English: Monday mornings, Nakajima Ko-minkan. For information, schedule or questions please contact Joanne at 097-573-8053 or joannegyoshida@yahoo.com

Intensive Zen Retreat

Tetsugyuji International Zen Temple in Oita Prefecture will hold an intensive beginners' meditation retreat from November 19th to 23rd. The Head Abbot of Tetsugyuji, Reverend Paul Tesshin Silverman, will be returning to Oita from New York to hold this special retreat in English. Prior to his relocation to New York ten years ago, Rev. Silverman held these very popular retreats on a regular basis. Participants for this powerful, intensive Zen training will be limited to the first 25 applicants. For more information and details about the retreat (sesshin) go to: www.tetsugyuji.com

Spanish Club

Join our Spanish club at the College of Arts and Culture (Geitan) in Oita City. This club is open to the public and participation is free! Every Monday from 19:00 to 20:30. Contact Ambre for more information anburu1984@gmail.com

Word Lover's Group Anyone?

We have started a small group of writers in Oita. We meet once a month in Oita City to discuss writing, share texts that we are working on, and encourage and support each other's writing projects and ideas. We would like to continue to meet on this basis, as well as facilitate readings and literary events in cafes and other spaces in Oita or Beppu. For exact times, and other information, please contact Joanne.

E-MAIL: joannegyoshida@yahoo.com

Oita JALT Event

Oita JALT (Japanese Association of Language Teachers) is pleased to have Richard Hodson, a lecturer in the Faculty of Global Communication at the University of Nagasaki Siebold, come to Oita to give a special lecture about how to use humour in the classroom. He will explore the key pedagogical and cultural issues that need to be considered when introducing humorous materials in the EFL classroom and in the second half of the presentation he will describe, and report results from, two recent research projects. This is a useful presentation for any English teacher in the area. **Location:** Beppu International House, first floor main hall **Date:** Sunday November 14th 1:00-2:45 **Fee:** 500 yen for non Oita JALT members, free for Oita JALT members. **More details:** including a map for the location can be found at <http://jalt.org/groups/oita>

Lunch With Us?

Japanese home cooking club for international families living in Beppu, takes place on Friday Nov. 19th at Women's Center Fujin Kaikan "Nadeshiko" from 11:00~14:00. 500yen to participate. For more information contact Beppu International Affairs Division TEL: 097-721-6133

E-MAIL: int-ma@city.beppu.oita.jp

LANGUAGE LEARNING PAGE



Kanji of the Month



This section aims to teach new kanji characters to beginner or intermediate learners of Japanese and to give advanced learners deeper understanding of different characters. This month's character set is:

海外

The character 「海」, read ^{KAI} カイ or ^{UMI} うみ, combines the radical for *water* 「氵」 with the character meaning *every* or *always* 「毎」. This suggests the place where *water always* returns:

OCEAN 「海」

The kanji 「外」 which is read ^{GAI} がい or ^{SOTO} そと, is composed of characters that originally meant moon 「夕」 and turtle shell 「卜」, two objects that suggest outside or external. It thus takes on the meaning:

OUTSIDE 「外」

Combining the characters for “ocean” and “outside” creates a character meaning “across the ocean” or:

OVERSEAS 「海外」

The above characters are used in one sentence below to exemplify their different readings and usages:

海外に行った時、飛行機の外にある海がとてもきれいだった。

On my way **overseas**, the **ocean outside** of the airplane (window) was extremely beautiful.

Foreign Movies Showing in Oita

Cinema	Movie	Showing Date
Cinema5 Central Oita (on 5 th Ave) ☎097-536-4512	Sin Nombre (Spanish)	Until Nov. 12 th
	Torocco (Mandarin, Taiwanese)	Until Nov. 12 th
	Zombieland	Until Nov. 19 th
	In the City of Sylvia (French, Spanish)	Until Nov. 19 th
	The Men Who Stare at Goats	Until Nov. 19 th
	The Class (French, Bambara, Spanish)	Nov. 27 th ~ Dec. 3 rd
	The Secret in their Eyes (Spanish)	Dec. 4 th ~ 17 th
	The Girl Who Played With Fire (Swedish, Italian, French)	Dec. 11 th ~ 17 th
	The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest (Swedish, Italian, French)	Dec. 11 th ~ 17 th
	A Single Man (English, Spanish)	Dec. 18 th ~
Toho Cinemas Wasada Town ☎097-548-7878	Micmacs (French)	Dec. 18 th ~
	The Twilight Saga: Eclipse	Nov. 13 th ~
	Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows 3D	Nov. 19 th ~
	Gamer	Dec. 3 rd ~
	Killers	Dec. 3 rd ~
	Robin Hood	Dec. 10 th ~
	Tron Legacy 3D	Dec. 17 th ~
	Burlesque	Dec. 18 th ~
	Shrek Forever After 3D	Dec. 18 th ~

Only foreign films are listed. Changes may occur without notice.

Unless otherwise noted films are shown in English, with Japanese subtitles.

Admission Standard ¥1,800 **Pre-release** ¥1,500 **Pair** ¥2,800

Seniors ¥1,000 **Students** ¥1,000 ~ 1,500

Special Discounts

The first day of the month ¥1,000 Ladies' Day (Wednesdays) ¥1,000

Men's Day is ¥1,000 (Thursday at Toho Cinemas and Cinema5 Late Night Show (Sun-Fri) ¥1,200 (Toho Cinemas)

The Animated Adventures of Oita Ben 大分弁講座

Stumped and stupefied Oita-Ben and his sidekicks, Hyo Jun Go and Guy Jean, sulked as they realized their stagnant status as semi-retired superheroes was uncertain to change any time soon. They had just been duped and dumbfounded by the deceitful and desultory destroyer of modern language, JAPANESE JARGON!

This wasn't the first time the not-so-up-to-par sub-standard super-heroes had botched a chance to claim their desired fame as the world's most adept, agile, and able advocates of prepositions and adjectives. In an attempt to cheer up the three language lovers, Oita Ben's cousin, Hakata Ben, encouraged them to take a few days off from the mission to catch JARGON and live it up in Fukuoka. As Hakata Ben put it, “November is a perfect time to be in Fukuoka, to chow down on a steaming bowl of Hakata Ramen, to buy new threads for winter in Tenjin, or to catch the once-a-year sumo competition in Kyushu.” Quickly forgetting their self-pity and ready to take on some new adventures, the three replied:

Guy Jean: **In that case**, let's go watch sumo!

Hyo Jun Go: **それなら**、相撲を見に行こう!

Oita Ben: **ほんなら**、相撲を見に行こう!

それなら = ほんなら

In standard Japanese 「それなら」 can be used as a response meaning “if that's the case”. In Oita dialect this becomes 「ほんなら」 or 「ほなら」. Below is a combination of previously introduced Oita dialectal expressions to show an exchange using 「ほんなら」 as a response:

Oita Ben (Oita Dialect)

A: 日曜日だけんお店が閉まっちゃう。

B: ほんなら、明日行こう。

Hyo Jun Go (Standard Japanese)

A: 日曜日だからお店が閉まっている。

B: それなら、明日に行こう。

English

A: It's Sunday so the store is closed.

B: In that case, let's go tomorrow.

Making Submissions

THE TOMBO is always looking for articles and event information. Please send your submissions to the Oita International Plaza by E-mail (melissa@emo.or.jp) based on the submission deadline listed in the publication schedule below. The Oita Prefecture Cultural and Sports Foundation reserves all copyright to articles printed in THE TOMBO.

Issue	Publication Date	Submission Deadline
July/August	July 1 st	June 1 st
September/October	September 1 st	August 1 st
November/December	November 1 st	October 1 st
January/February	January 1 st	December 1 st
March/April	March 1 st	February 1 st
May/June	May 1 st	April 1 st

Receiving THE TOMBO

The Oita International Plaza mails THE TOMBO, free of charge, to all foreigners living in Oita prefecture. If you would like to start receiving THE TOMBO by mail, or you would like to cancel your subscription, or change your address, please send your name and address to the Oita International Plaza by mail, phone, fax, or E-mail (melissa@emo.or.jp)

Map of Oita City showing the location of Oita International Plaza and OASIS Tower. The map includes major roads like Route 210 and the Nippou Line, and various landmarks such as JR Oita Station, Oita City Hall, and the Oita Prefectural Office. A callout box indicates that the Omichi Bypass is closed for construction from January 2011 to August 2011.