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Announcement:

The National Federation of Australia-Japan Societies Biennial Conference

Australia-Japan Societies around Australia are organisations aiming to bring together Australian and Japanese people to explore mutual interests.

This year, on October 19-20, AJS-NSW will host the National Federation of Australia-Japan Societies Conference in Sydney.

The National Conference is held biennially in a different Australian city and is expected to attract people from all over Australia and from Japan-Australia Societies in Japan.

A Sister Cities session is scheduled for Day 2, October 20, at the UTS Aerial Function Centre. CLAIR will make a presentation about sister cities, followed by a Sister Cities Panel Discussion with guest speakers from the Sydney-Nagoya Sister Cities Committee, Campbelltown-Koshigaya Sister Cities Association, and Hawkesbury (-Kyotamba), which is sure to be informative.

For more information and registration, visit the AJS-NSW website: www.ajsnsw.org.au

REGISTER AT www.ajsnsw.org.au OR FILL OUT AND POST FORM BELOW

DAY 1: BUSINESS
 \$110 AJS & JAS members
 \$100 students
 \$150 others

DAY 2: PEOPLE TO PEOPLE
 \$55 AJS & JAS members
 \$45 student/concession
 \$65 others

GALA DINNER
 \$145 per person
 \$1450 tables of 10

CONFERENCE PACKAGE
 Day 1, Reception, Day 2, Gala Dinner
 \$ 310 MEMBER (AJS or JAS)
 \$ 360 NON-MEMBER

Title: Mr / Mrs / MS / DR (Please circle)
 NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 PHONE: _____
 EMAIL: _____
 SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: _____

CREDIT CARD:
 Visa / Mastercard / AMEX/JCB (circle)
 Card Name: _____
 Card Number: _____
 Expiry: ____/____ CVC: ____ (3 digits back of card)
 Signature: _____

DIRECT DEPOSIT:
 Bank: Commonwealth Bank of Australia.
 BSB: 062 009
 Account: 1098-1545
 SWIFT: CTBAU233. Please use your name as an identifier when making a direct deposit.
 Overseas payments: Please pay all fees.

CHEQUE
 Make cheques payable to: Australia Japan Society of NSW Inc.
 Post to: P.O. Box 8937 Royal Exchange, NSW 1225

The National Federation of Australia Japan Societies Conference, a 2-day program exploring the Australia-Japan relationship. Hosted by The Australia-Japan Society of NSW Inc.

AJS
www.ajsnsw.org.au

National Conference of Australia-Japan Societies
 Sydney, Oct 19-20 2018

Australia-Japan Business
 Conference sessions:
 Latest developments in the Australia-Japan relationship
 Innovation
 Business success stories
 Sport
 Tourism
 Welcome reception
 Included:
 Morning and Afternoon Tea and Lunch
 Cocktail reception at close of day
 Bus transport to/from Reception
Friday Oct 19
 10am-5pm
 Teachers Federation Conference Centre
 37 Reservoir Street, Surry Hills, NSW, 2010
 MAP

Communities and Culture
 Hands on Workshops: Anime, Taiko, Japanese poetry, Ikebana, Kimono
 Cultural performances, including traditional knife ceremony
 Conference sessions:
 Sister cities
 Education
 Using Japanese in my career
 AJS and JAS Societies
 Included:
 Conference sessions for the day
 Morning and Afternoon Tea and Lunch
Saturday Oct 20
 10am-4.30pm
 Aerial UTS Function Centre
 Building 10, Level 7/235 Jones St, Ultimo NSW 2007
 MAP

Gala Dinner
 Enjoy a fabulous Gala Dinner on the Darling Harbour waterfront. The price includes 5-course meal, unlimited wine and beer, with only-in-Sydney entertainment from world-renowned Taiko, and Goshu Karyushikai.
Saturday Oct 20
 6pm - 10pm
 National Maritime Museum
 Lighthouse Gallery,
 Darling Harbour
 MAP

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Local Cuisine around Japan: Vol.22

Written by Kagawa prefectural government

“Oidemai” means “welcome” in the local Sanuki dialect of Kagawa. All of Kagawa’s local produce, including ‘Oidemai’, are rich bounty from Kagawa’s beautiful nature.

Local rice that holds its own against Japan’s best

Kagawa would like to welcome many people to enjoy a new variety of rice- hence the name, Oidemai! This rice is specially grown to be resistant to heat damage that can occur in the cultivation process, and the finished raw product has great shape and consistency when compared to other locally produced varieties. When cooked, the rice has a vivid white color and a delicate sweetness. This rice is also characteristically easy to cultivate, growing sturdy and tall where other varieties often don’t reach full height. Kagawa has high hopes for Oidemai rice as a quality product that matures well.

Kagawa and Udon: a perfect match!

No other dish says Kagawa quite like the local favourite, Sanuki Udon. The prominence of udon in the Kagawa diet is said to be due to the prefecture's climate and soil, both ideal for growing wheat. Here, salt and soy sauce production also have long histories, as do the dried sardines from which udon broth is made. Kagawa now boasts over 700 udon restaurants, serving hosts of locals who cannot imagine life without it. Kagawa is Japan’s biggest producer of all forms of udon whether boiled, fresh, or dried.



Olive Beef

Japanese Black Beef, a fusion of two histories, exclusive in Kagawa!

Olive Beef is a type of Japanese Black Beef produced in Kagawa from Sanuki cattle that are reared for at least two months on feed containing 100g or more of olives, as defined by the Sanuki Beef Brand Promotion Association.

The history of beef in Kagawa goes back 700 years to cattle grazing, and in 1882 Shodoshima became one of the first locations in Japan to implement fattening of cattle. Towards the beginning of the Taisho Period, Sanuki Beef established itself as a respected brand in the Kyoto-Osaka-Kobe region. High quality Sanuki Beef was produced as a result of untiring efforts, a beneficial climate, and local fattening techniques. The olive tree is the prefectural tree of Kagawa, and Shodoshima, the birthplace of olive cultivation in Japan, boasts over 100 years of history. With the combination of these two legacies, and the success of local cattle farmers on Shodoshima using the leftover olives from olive oil production in feed, the premium Japanese Black Beef variety Olive Beef was born.

For more information check out our website:

https://www.kensanpin.org/foodki/img/foodki_en.pdf



30-year anniversary of the Sister City relationship between Wollongong and Kawasaki



The Sister City relationship between Wollongong (NSW) and Kawasaki City (Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan) was established in 1988. A welcome dinner was held at the Wollongong Art Gallery to celebrate the 30-year anniversary of this relationship, and both a delegation from Kawasaki and staff from CLAIR Sydney attended at the kind invitation of the Wollongong City Council.

The Mayor of Kawasaki City, Mr. Norihiko Fukuda, and a delegation from Kawasaki City toured local sites and enjoyed meeting and talking with Wollongong locals.

During the dinner, the Lord Mayor Councillor Gordon Bradbery warmly welcomed the Kawasaki City delegation, and Mayor Fukuda expressed gratitude for the kindness and hospitality extended by the people of Wollongong, and appreciation for the many people who have made positive contributions over 30 years to the sister city relationship.

Some art pictures that were drawn by Kawasaki City's children and had been awarded the Kawasaki Culture prize winners were exhibited in the venue.

We hope the relationship between the two cities will continue to strengthen in the future.



Fukuoka Prefectural Government visited Sydney

On 13 July, Mr Yamaki, Director of the Fukuoka Prefectural Government's Hong Kong office, visited our office in Sydney. Fukuoka Prefectural Government is focusing on increasing tourists from Australia for the upcoming Rugby World Cup (RWC) in Japan in 2019. Several World Cup matches will be held in Fukuoka, Oita and Kumamoto, so the local governments are cooperating to expand the promotion of their regional tourism content to the market overseas. They have already made similar visits to France and Hong Kong this year with this in mind.



The Fukuoka Prefectural Government aren't just limiting their efforts to sports fans, though- they are working hard to establish Fukuoka as the perfect destination for enthusiasts of Japanese pop culture, such as anime and manga. They have provided information about pop culture hotspots, activities and more through their prefectural-run website "asianbeat FUKUOKA" for more than 10 years (made in 2005). Mr Yamaki attended SMASH! (Sydney Manga and Anime Show) to scope the event for future tourism promotion activities. CLAIR Sydney looks forward to working closely with the Fukuoka Prefectural Government in future to support their activities and raise awareness of Fukuoka as a fantastic tourist destination for Australians.

SMASH! 2018

SMASH! 2018 (Sydney Manga and Anime Show) was held at ICC Sydney on the 14 and 15 of July. SMASH! is Sydney's biggest Japan-focused pop culture event and attracts many enthusiastic cosplayers of animation and video game characters etc. CLAIR Sydney exhibited at this event and distributed tourism information from municipalities that are advertising as great travel destinations for fans of all things anime and manga. The local preliminary contest for the World Cosplay Summit 2019 was also held, and the event attracted 22,000 people over two days.



JET Programme receptions

Farewell receptions were held across Australia for the new JET Programme participants over the second half of July. CLAIR Sydney was invited to receptions held in Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, Canberra, and Brisbane, and offered words of congratulations, encouragement and advice in regards to life in Japan to the new JETs. Our Director, Mr Akaiwa, made a speech at the beginning of some receptions. In his speech, he made note of the recent heavy rain damage to parts of Western Japan, and praised each JET community's resilience against natural disasters. He also mentioned that he hoped they would have a wonderful time in Japan. A lot of guests were invited from JETAA, governments, universities and relevant organisations, and we all celebrated their new start together. We wish them great success in Japan!



Sydney



Perth



Melbourne



Brisbane



Canberra

The Victorian Sister City Forum in Melbourne



On Wednesday 18 July, the Victorian Sister City Forum, organised by Sister Cities Australia (SCA), was held at Parliament House of Victoria. The CLAIR Sydney Director and an assistant director attended the event at the SCA's kind invitation.

In this event, we talked about exchange activities with people who work to support many sister city relationships between Australia and Japan. Over 100 delegates attended this event and various presentation was made. We also ran a booth to promote a range of tourism destinations in Japan. It

was a great opportunity for us and we'd like to extend our thanks to everyone involved in this wonderful event.

We will continue to actively support and cherish the sister city relationships between Australia and Japanese local governments.

If your council or state is looking to establish a new sister city relationship with Japan, CLAIR Sydney can help! Please email us at mailbox@jlgc.org.au.

Students from Shiroishi City, Miyagi Prefecture visited CLAIR Sydney



A delegation of friendship of junior high school students from Shiroishi City visited the CLAIR Sydney office on 31 July. They explored the Blue Mountains and experienced a homestay. One of our CLAIR Sydney staff gave a presentation on an overview of Australia, CLAIR's mission, the staff member's career and what she has experienced so far in Australia. Students asked questions in regards to Australia's industries, natural disasters and more. It was apparent that they had studied well beforehand as they were full of great questions.

Everything was a real eye-opener for them from meals at their host family to people with different cultural backgrounds living in harmony. We hope that the students' experience in Australia becomes a great memory and encourages them to pursue their goals in life to the best of their abilities.



Support activities for students from Toda City

On 24 July, 15 junior high school students from Toda City in Saitama Prefecture came to our office. Mr Sugawara, Assistant Director of CLAIR Sydney gave a presentation on an outline of Australia, the country's history, and multiculturalism policy. The students visited Liverpool, the sister city of Toda, to deepen their understanding of other cultures and to study English. The students attended a high school in Liverpool to experience school in Australia and interacted with local students, whilst also partaking in a homestay programme.



CLAIR is honoured to have played a key role in the revitalisation of this exchange. The Toda City Mayor, Friendship City committee members and Councillors visited their sister city, Liverpool City to celebrate the 25th sister city anniversary from 19 to 21 October 2017. Along with attending the anniversary events, the Toda City Councillor delegation met with representatives from the NSW Department of Education and Liverpool City Council. They exchanged ideas about how to resume their student exchange programme, which had been suspended since 2011. CLAIR Sydney supported them by giving them an overview of Australia with information on sister-city relationships between Japan and Australia, making the necessary appointments and accompanying them on their visits. We are pleased to see that our efforts have positively contributed to the renewal of the exchange programme.

Nagasaki Prefectural Assembly delegation visited our office

On 21 July, a Nagasaki Prefectural Assembly delegation paid a visit to CLAIR Sydney. Our Director Akaiwa gave a thorough overview of Australia to the delegation and they had a fruitful discussion.



JETAA Auckland

Escape Room and Karaoke Night!



Our April activity had a good turnout with the escape room activity, dinner, and karaoke all wrapped into one evening. We had enough people to be able to split off into two groups at the escape room, which proved a very popular activity. It was great to have such a diverse group all work together (in English and Japanese) toward a shared goal. Afterward we headed for a delicious feast nearby at Japanese restaurant Daikoku. As always, part of the evening involved reminiscing about our JET days in Japan. We finished off with some of us heading to karaoke where we sang our hearts out over a mixture of

Western and Japanese ballads. It was an evening thoroughly enjoyed by all, and definitely a line-up of activities that we would like to plan again.

Board Games Afternoon

One cool afternoon in May we gathered to play board games together. Some members of the group formed their own Mah Jong corner (gambling not included) and everyone else enjoyed games like Settlers of Catan, Pandemic and the Game of Life. While we played we ate lots of yummy snacks, especially a home-made cake. It was nice to be able to chat to other members and get to know one another better while playing together.

Yum Cha Appreciation

In Early June, JETAA went for a casual yum cha lunch at a local favourite, Pearl Garden located in Newmarket, Auckland. Mr Hayasaka, the Vice-Consul of the Consulate-General of Japan Auckland, his wife Yasue and their two children also joined us, to enjoy some tasty dim sum together. The selection of dim sum was wide and varied and we managed to persuade Yasue to try some marinated chicken feet. Meanwhile the children tried

some of the red bean and black sesame treats and compared it to the Japanese dango versions they were familiar with. We left with our stomachs fit to burst. The majority of us continued on to a meeting to discuss the agenda and events for the upcoming month. Surprisingly, we managed to get through it without slipping into a food coma.

Q+A Session and Nomikai for 2018 Departing JETs



Later in June, the 2018 departing JETs attended their first of two Q+A sessions to get them kick-started for their upcoming adventure. A mixture of older JETAA members and recent returnees volunteered their time to run sessions throughout the day to try and provide practical, informative and relevant insight to what they might encounter while on JET. The departing JETs had so much crammed into their heads and they responded with

enthusiasm and stay engaged throughout the day. We finished it off with some happy hour drinks at the Empire Tavern on Victoria St and got into the nomikai spirit. It was a very productive and successful day with many of the new ALTs feeling excited for their JET journey.



Volunteer Baking Day



In order to warm our souls during the cold winter in July, we decided to get together and have a volunteer baking day. The baking day was organised alongside the Good Bitches Baking organisation who regularly bake for charities around the city. A big group of JETAA members turned up to help make a selection of delicious treats, including muffins, brownies, cookies and the classic Kiwi lolly cake. A lot of taste testing was done and we

produced around eight boxes worth of baked goods for the families at Starship Hospitals Ronald McDonald House.

<http://goodbitchesbaking.co.nz/>

From the Director

-New JET Programme participants-

Last month, we attended the JET (Japan Exchange and Teaching) Programme send-off receptions held in several cities. This year, 130 new JET Programme participants from Australia and 109 new JET Programme participants from New Zealand are embarking to localities all across Japan. In terms of participants, these numbers are the 4th and 5th largest after the U.S., Canada, and the U.K. respectively. JET Programme participants work in Japanese local governments as ALTs (Assistant Language Teacher), CIRs (Coordinator for International Relations) or SEAs (Sports Exchange Advisor). They will not only have many opportunities to teach the people in their community about their home country, but they will also be able to learn about Japan, its culture, language, people and more. They are expected to promote international exchange on a grassroots level throughout Japan, through their work and social involvement with the local residents.

A JET alumnus compared her experience as a JET participant in a rural town to being “a little celebrity” in her send-off speech to the new JET Programme participants. Her comment rings very true. There are many local municipalities that have very few non-Japanese residents. People sincerely welcome and show a lot of interest in the JET Programme participants in such places. In other words, while they are expected to fulfil their work duties in a professional manner, their role will also be similar to that of an ambassador. How they conduct themselves on a professional and private level will reflect upon their country.

Thanks to over three decades of excellent work and behaviour exhibited by participants since the Programme’s establishment, the JET Programme has grown to become one of the world’s largest international exchange programs, and has an excellent reputation both in Japan as well as overseas. We are confident that the new JET participants will continue this positive contribution and uphold the reputation of the Programme.

We wish the new JET participants every success and a wonderful time in each locality in Japan. We also hope that they maintain contact with Japan and help to further good relations between Japan, Australia and New Zealand after the completion of their terms of appointment.
