



This issue includes:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 Local Cuisine around Japan | 5 Runners representing Nagoya paid a courtesy call to Sydney |
| 2 CLAIR staff visited Chatswood High School to learn about the NSW education system | 5 CLAIR staff visited Coffs Harbour for upcoming CLAIR Forum |
| 2 Mr. Horii, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs visited CLAIR Sydney | 6 Sake Appreciation and Tasting Night |
| 3 Nagomi-Fukushikai visited Sydney | 7 Visit to Father Paul Glynn - A Benefactor of the Australia-Japan Friendship |
| 3 Japan-Northern Territory Trade and Investment Forum | 7 JETAA Wellington – the year so far... |
| 4 The Blackmores Sydney Running Festival | 8 Our new intern |
| | 9 From the Director |

Local Cuisine around Japan: Vol. 12 Saitama

Saitama Prefecture, located just north of Tokyo, is an ideal place to live, featuring both abundant nature and a well-developed, highly advanced transportation network, including railways and highways. Food culture in Saitama Prefecture boasts an extensive variety of tantalizing specialties. From Urawa Ward, where the Saitama Prefectural Government can be found, to all regions throughout the prefecture, stores serving unagi (eel) are plentiful, with famous long-standing stores, unchanged for generations, lining the streets. Also, Saitama's love for pork has led to the thriving popularity of a range of mouth-watering delicacies, including Chichibu's grilled miso pork and pork-don (rice bowl) and Higashimatsuyama's yakiton (kebab skewers made with pork instead of chicken). It's no surprise that Saiboku



Ham, a meat mega-store with a focus on healthy eating, attracts around 4 million visitors each year!

But what staple could the food-loving people of Saitama never live without? Udon noodles! Even the Governor of Saitama Prefecture has given his personal seal of approval to Saitama's udon noodles, declaring them "the noodles that never let you down!" With an enormous variety to choose from, including Kazo, Kumagaya, Musashino, and Kawahaba Udon, Suttate Noodles, Fukaya Nibōtō Thick Noodles, as well as a range of others, delicious noodles with distinctive tastes can be found all over Saitama Prefecture. Saitama Prefecture even ranks second for udon production throughout the whole of Japan!

In November, 2017 the Udon Summit will be held in Saitama Prefecture's own Kumagaya City, where 30 store representatives will gather to showcase the distinctive qualities of their local specialty noodles. This exciting event will take place three times, once every year leading up to the 2019 Rugby World Cup, when Kumagaya will host multiple matches. So why not visit Saitama Prefecture, compare our noodles with the rest of Japan's, and put your taste buds to the test!



CLAIR staff visited Chatswood High School to learn about the NSW education system

On 28 August, CLAIR staff visited Chatswood High School to learn more about the New South Wales (NSW) education system. Deputy Principal Mr. Ashton gave an overview on how education works in NSW and participants had the opportunity to also observe some classes and discuss school life in Australia with local students. During the Q&A session, many participants asked questions regarding further education and the transition process. CLAIR Sydney would like to learn more about multiculturalism, challenges and best practices in the NSW education space.



Mr. Horii, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs visited CLAIR Sydney



On 5 September, Mr Iwao Horii, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs visited CLAIR Sydney. He is currently visiting Australia to have meetings with the Australian Olympic Committee and Football Federation Australia.

Mr Horii encouraged CLAIR staff members to continue the important work of promoting grassroots and internationalisation activities such as the JET Programme and to further improve sister city relations between Japan and Australia, collaborating with the

Nagomi-Fukushikai visited Sydney

On 8 September, a group of caregivers and receivers from Nagomi-Fukushikai, a Japanese social welfare foundation, visited Sydney on a study tour to learn about public facility access for people with disabilities and to participate in an exchange programme. CLAIR Sydney assisted Nagomi-Fukushikai during their visit to the Museum of Contemporary Art where they learned about how the museum caters to all their visitors and joined in on an art workshop to demonstrate accessibility. The delegation also visited St. Lucy's school to participate in an exchange activity with students involving calligraphy and art workshops.

Japan-Northern Territory Trade and Investment Forum

On Tuesday 12 September, the Japan-Northern Territory Trade and Investment Forum was hosted by the Northern Territory Government at The Westin Sydney.

The Hon. Michael Gunner, Chief Minister of the Northern Territory and Mr. Keizo Takewaka, Consul-General of Japan (Sydney) made opening addresses.

Officials at the Department of Primary Industry and Resources gave a presentation on minerals and energy, agribusiness, international education and training/study tours.



Some private projects about lithium battery facilities and the prawn industry were also introduced.

The participants listened enthusiastically when they heard about the geographical advantages of the Northern Territory and its attractive business opportunities for trade and investment.

There was a very special door prize donated by the famous pearl jewellers, Paspaley. The winner of this prize was very happy to receive it.

The forum was full of the charms of the Northern Territory and we anticipate that the good relationship between Japan and the Northern Territory will be further enhanced thanks to this forum.

The Blackmores Sydney Running Festival

The Blackmores Sydney Running Festival was held on 17 September 2017.

Nagoya City, which has been a sister city of Sydney since 1980, had a booth to promote the Nagoya City Marathon, which is the sister marathon of the Sydney Running Festival. CLAIR SYDNEY helped to promote this event and on top of that, two runners representing Nagoya participated in the marathon as well.

A staff member from CLAIR SYDNEY volunteered on the day and assisted runners as an interpreter and a few other members of our staff participated in the marathon. A staff member from Aomori Prefecture took part in the Family Fun Run to promote the Aomori Nebuta festival which is one of the best festivals in Japan. They wore a special costume for the festival and scored a



prize in the fancy dress competition.

The festival included running events ranging the full 42.195 km Sydney Marathon, 21.0975 km Half Marathon, 10.0 km Bridge Run and 3.5 km Family Fun Run. More than 33,000 people took part in the event, including almost 2,000 people from 66 overseas countries. Marathon runners enjoyed one of the world's most picturesque courses - from Milsons Point, over the Sydney Harbour Bridge, through Circular Quay to the Sydney Opera House.



Runners representing Nagoya paid a courtesy call to Sydney

On 18 September 2017, runners representing the City of Nagoya paid a courtesy call to Sydney Town Hall. The runners achieved distinguished results at the Nagoya City Marathon this year and were dispatched to the Blackmores Sydney Running Festival. Councillor Jess Scully warmly welcomed them.

The Nagoya runners had a pleasant talk with her and mentioned how they truly enjoyed running at the festival.

Cr Jess Scully also talked about Vivid Sydney, one of the city's most successful art projects, and her key role in this event – the delegates listened eagerly and were very impressed. Cr Jess Scully was glad to hear that the Sydney Running Festival and the Nagoya Marathon are sister marathons and that over 500 runners from Japan came to participate in this year's Sydney Running Festival. She affirmed the breadth and depth of the relationship between Nagoya and Sydney and encouraged stakeholders in both cities to continue fostering the relationship.

CLAIR Sydney will continue to do whatever it can to strengthen this sister city relationship.



CLAIR staff visited Coffs Harbour for upcoming CLAIR Forum

On 21-22 September, we visited Coffs Harbour, located in the north-eastern part of NSW, on a fact-finding mission for our upcoming CLAIR Forum and a meet-and-greet with Coffs Harbour City Council staff. We talked about our event with Mr. Steve McGrath, General



Manager and Ms. Nikki Greenwood, Group Leader City Prosperity at Coffs Harbour City Council.



Coffs Harbour's population is forecasted to increase, particularly its elderly population. We were able to learn about projects related to city planning and measures for the elderly population. We would like to thank everyone we met during this trip.

The CLAIR Forum is organized and run by CLAIR Sydney (in collaboration with UTS:IPPG) and is scheduled to be held in early February 2018.

Sake Appreciation and Tasting Night



On 8 September, a Sake Appreciation and Tasting Night was held at the Sake Shop by JETAA NSW and CLAIR Sydney was in attendance.

Sake Shop, which opened last July is the first sake shop in Sydney. Participants enjoyed tasting five different kinds of Japanese sake from different prefectures, carefully selected by Mr Leigh Hudson, the owner of Sake Shop, while listening to his talk on each sake.

By chance, some JETAA members in attendance happened to work in the same prefectures where some of the sake are brewed.

While tasting sake from Oita, a JETAA member who used to work for Oita prefecture talked about local



sightseeing places in the region. Similarly a JETAA member who worked in Akita introduced us to a unique festival in Akita whilst we enjoyed sake from that prefecture. It was a great event and we were happy to be able to attend.

Visit to Father Paul Glynn – A Benefactor of the Australia-Japan Friendship

On 29 September, our Director, Mr Katsunori Kamibo, visited Father Paul Glynn at the Church of the Holy Name of Mary, Hunters Hill with the Consul-General of Japan in Sydney, Mr Keizo Takewaka. In 1963, while the wounds and hatred of WW2 still remained, Father Glynn who at that time was serving in Yamatotakada, Nara, devoted himself to linking Yamatotakada and his hometown, Lismore, NSW together to form the first Australia-Japan sister city relationship.

We heard that he strived to strengthen the relationship under the belief that the ultimate goal of sister city relationships is to achieve world peace. During our visit, we also talked about Japanese culture and history, such as Manyo-shu (the first Japanese poetry collection) that featured many female poets, much earlier than the West. Overall, the visit was very fruitful and interesting.

We now have 108 sister city relationships between our two countries. Learning about Father Glynn's efforts, we would like to strengthen these relationships even more.

JETAA Wellington – the year so far...

JETAA Wellington is in a great city for arts, culture, food, and more! We've had many opportunities to connect our members back with Japan, and to bring a bit of Japanese culture to the Wellington community.

Since our relationship as JETAA members begins and ends with the JET Programme, JETAA Wellington works with the Embassy of Japan to help prepare new JETs for going to Japan. We also welcome back returning JETs. This year, our chapter was honoured to meet and talk with the group departing Wellington- several times in the lead up to their Japan adventure. This included JETAA members



hosting workshops and Q&A panels over two days at the Embassy's Japan Information and Cultural Centre in downtown Wellington, after which we invited the soon-to-be JETs to a big welcome dinner. Earlier this year, we joined embassy staff at the Ambassador's residence to welcome back returning JETs with a more casual nijikai afterwards. We are excited to be visiting the residence again this month to welcome back those who returned this year, as well!

Outside of the JET cycle, we've introduced Japanese culture to Wellingtonians with annual events. A favourite is celebrating Children's Day at Te Papa, the National Museum of New Zealand. We invite local children to color and construct their own mini koi-nobori (carp) streamers. We also recently hosted a bento-making class on a Saturday afternoon at the central library in conjunction with the Wellington's sister city group, the Sakai Association. The class was taught by a JETAA member who runs a bento-making business, and was well attended and enjoyed!

JETAA also continues to sponsor a monthly “JKaiWa” Japanese conversation class, organises dinners following Japanese concerts. We also helped kick off Wellington’s 2017 Japan Film Festival, with several members attending in yukata. Every two years, JETAA Wellington also joins the Japan Festival, which features Japanese food, cultural performances, music, martial arts demonstrations, and more. At the most recent event, we rolled out our trusty taiyaki machine, serving the traditional sweet to hundreds of guests! The machine was also lent to a nearby school, where the students learned how to make taiyaki themselves.



Down the track we are planning for our annual networking event to connect returned JETs with alumni and those involved in the Japanese community, as well as an okonomiyaki-making party, a Japan photography contest, and a Japan-focused pub quiz night (one of Wellington’s favorite activities!). Like our new Facebook Page for our chapter updates: <https://www.facebook.com/JETAAWellington/>

Our new intern



Hello, my name is Hiro Kubota. I am a Seinan Gakuin university student in Japan majoring in intercultural studies. Specifically, my focus is on American culture.

At the moment, I’m on holiday in Sydney in order to improve my English language proficiency and expand my understanding of different cultures. Although I mainly study American culture at university, I chose Australia because I don’t want to concentrate too much on American culture and I found it meaningful to compare America with Australia. Both countries have multicultural societies so I figured they would have some things in common for sure. Last year, I spent one month in the Gold Coast in Queensland, which showed me just how attractive Australia really is.

The reason why I decided to do an internship at CLAIR is because CLAIR is also interested in conducting research on multiculturalism. Through this internship, I would like to know how Australia handles all these different nationalities and what brought all these people to Australia.

In my free time, I often play the drums in my band and I also like watching movies. I'm feeling very honored to be able to work at CLAIR as an intern. I look forward to learning lots of things through this internship and talking with every person working at CLAIR.

From the Director

24 – Internationalisation in regions - A Year of Local Governments in Japan

We are going to organise an official multiculturalism study tour in Victoria from 23rd to 28th October. Up until last year, the study tour was always held in Sydney, so we are really looking forward to learning about multicultural policies in Victoria. The purpose of this visit is to conduct research on multiculturalism and to view first-hand services for migrants from various ethnic and cultural backgrounds in Australia. I really appreciate all the government and not-for-profit organisations who have agreed to participate and provide the delegates from Japanese local governments with useful information.

Why do Japanese local governments have to learn about multicultural policies? Because we should promote internationalisation in every region of Japan.

The backdrop is as follows. Japan's society is becoming more culturally diverse as the number of foreign residents increases. The foreign population living in Japan exceeded two million people in 2013. Among the so-called "newcomers" who came to Japan during and after the 1990s, there are some who do not understand the Japanese language and various problems arise as a result of having difficulties communicating in Japanese.

CLAIR was established in 1988 and one of the main aims of CLAIR is promoting internal internationalisation. To achieve this, we have invited many young English speakers as JET Programme participants to teach English and foreign culture and set up overseas offices to better understand the circumstances and government policies in other countries. The advanced multicultural policies in Australia are of particular interest to us at CLAIR.