

What's New?

Niihama City

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Have You Ever Thought About a Visit Australia?

Pam Howard

I was the first Australian ALT based in Niihama from 1987-1989. I visited 11 senior high schools from Kawano to Komatsu. I was an assistant English teacher but I often found myself teaching most of the lesson. I loved the job and I think I had an advantage as I could speak Japanese which really helped as I could use humour and drama to encourage English language learning.

Each Monday I was based at Nishi and I still have friends from the time I taught there. I am also still in contact with Cody who was the ALT in the junior high schools from the area.

I really loved the interaction that I had with the students both inside the class and outside the class. Both Cody and I encouraged the students to come and speak with us in the street or shops too.

I used to think one big advantage of teaching at a different school each day meant that I could wear the same clothes for most of the week.

At that time there was only about 12 Westerners in Niihama. I always found it amazing that out of those 12 people, two girls had the same birthday but were born in a different year another teacher and me had the same birthday and were also born in the same year.

As I visited schools around the area, I thought that Japanese people learning English would like a similar opportunity and have the chance to come and visit Australia.

To be able to do an English learning program with tours, I realised I needed to be a teacher. So I returned to University after Niihama and did my teaching course majoring in English as a second language together with Japanese.

I taught Japanese in high school for 6 years to get a name for myself and then started a Japanese culture program to introduce culture in school. I believe to be able to learn Japanese language well you need to understand the culture. I travelled 4 days a week to different schools travelling all over the state -this time I had a uniform.

I now run a number of programs which include group visits from Japanese University students who study English at the University of Wollongong while doing homestays in

the local, surrounding areas of Wollongong and sister school visits with a number of local schools in the area, a “mothers with kids” program where the Japanese children have the opportunity to play and learn English with local children in Wollongong and we also have an Adults program which we tailor to the interests of the Adults who come and visit. If they are interested in photography for example, we take them to a number of different places where they can take a variety of photos. Or if they are interested in golf, we arrange for them to have the opportunity to try out some of the golf courses in the surrounding areas. If they want an English language program, we can arrange something to suit their needs along with a range of different activities such as horse riding, visiting an organic farm, watching a sheep shearing demonstration, feeding kangaroos, bush walking, visits to Sydney to see the sites, visits to the Blue Mountains, introduce Japanese culture in a local school to name a few. Groups have the option of staying together and being catered for in a B&B called Niki-kai (the 2nd storey of my house) being in homestay with local families or the more expensive option of staying in local hotels. Tours are arranged for short visits for as little as 4 days up to a one month tour.

My time in Niihama encouraged my love of Japan to continue and I feel I am returning home each time I visit.

Pam Howard was the first ALT in and around Niihama. She lives in Wollongong, Australia. Now she runs a number of programs at her place.

Information in English & Chinese on the Web

***What's New?**

***How to sort garbage and trash**

***Information on living in Niihama**

Click  <http://www.city.niihama.lg.jp/english/>

Clair:*Multilingual Living Information

<http://www.clair.or.jp/tagengorev/en/index.html>

MOVIES

TOHO CINEMAS Niihama (AEON Mall)

- December 13 ~ The Hobbit :
The Battle of the Five Armies 2D English
- December 20 ~ BIG HERO 6 2D Dubbed
- January 9 ~ Taken 3 2D English
- January 10 ~ SIN CITY 2D English
- January 23 ~ ANNIE 2D English /Dubbed
- January 30 ~ EXODUS : Gods and Kings
2D English/3D Dubbed
- February 6 ~ MORTDECAI 2D English
- February 13 ~ Fifty Shades of Grey 2D English
- February 13 ~ MOOMINS on the RIVIERA 2D Dubbed

Information Service

Internet: <http://niihama-aeonmall.com>

Tape (24 hrs): 050-6868-5019(in Japanese)

Movies might be changed without notice. Please check.

Foundation "SUGAO Air Fit CC Cream"

(from Ehime Shimbun, October 20)

"SUGAO Air Fit CC Cream" is a foundation produced by ROHTO pharmaceutical Co.,Ltd.

It feels light and airy as if you aren't wearing any makeup at all. It contains both foundation primer and sunscreen Ingredients. So it is easy to use and has become popular among women from their 20's to 40's.

Sales of the cream started last March and in 4 months since then yearly sales targets have been exceeded by more than 6 billion yen.

The use of special compounds in the ingredients enables your skin to breath better and lessens the damage to your skin. It reflects the light like a reflector board and makes your skin looks prettier by adjusting the color of your skin pores or spots even if you have put on foundation lightly. Less oil also provides a softer and smoother feeling.

About 60 samples were made and tested by women working for the company and the best one was selected. Pouch packing, which is rarely used for cosmetics, was adopted and the explanation on the packaging looks hand written to give it a higher quality image and make it more understandable.

Woman who have tried it say, "I'd like to keep using this foundation because it is comfortable for me.

Spreading News of Ehime's Cyclist Paradise all over the world

(from Ehime Shimbun, October 24)

On October 23, Iyo Bank (Matsuyama City) posted the video "Cycling Paradise Ehime-Shimanami Kaido on the video sharing site "You Tube".

Many people are shown cycling along the Shimanami Kaido in the video. The bank's purpose is to introduce the charm of cycling in Ehime to the rest of the world.

The route between Kurushima-Kaikyou-Ohashi and Tatara-oashi is one of the most popular courses for cyclists.

The 10-minute film shot by radio controlled helicopter shows scenes of cycling and the beautiful scenery of the Seto Inland Sea which is dotted with many islands.

You can see the video in the lobby of any branch of the Iyo Bank and both the Ehime Prefectural Government and Imabari City are planning to use the video to promote tourism related to cycling.

The Public Relations Section of Iyo Bank has this to say, "We want to stimulate the local economy by attracting tourists not only from outside Ehime but also from abroad using word of mouth sparked by the video sharing website.

Rest Stations for Cyclists Open at 88 Convenience Stores

(from Ehime Shimbun, November 6)

In order to improve convenience for the growing cycling population, Ehime prefecture has established "Cycle Oasis", rest stations where cyclists can use air pumps and a rest room, and drink water free of charge. These oases have been opened with the cooperation of Circle K Sunks, FamilyMart and Lawson at a total of 88 stores located around the prefecture and along the Setouchi Shimanami Kaido to Onomichi-city in Hiroshima prefecture.

The oases established at this time can be sorted by region, with 83 located in Ehime ~ 44 in Toyo district, 25 in Chuuyo district, and 14 in Nanyo district, with the remaining 5 in Onomichi-city.

The relevant convenience stores can be identified by their Cycle Oasis flags or stickers.

Ehime Kanko Bussan-ka, the Prefectural Government's Department for Promoting Tourism and Business for Local Ehime Products hopes that "Cycle Oasis" will be able to sell tire tubes and repair flat tires in the future.

There are already 46 existing Cycle Oases in Ehime besides these newly opened ones at convenience stores.

February Event

The 25th Niihama Global Party

Join us for an afternoon of fun performances including harmonica music by Mr. Yokoyama, the third place championship winner, and a Japanese Naginata (long spear) performance, delicious treats and friendly conversation!

Date: 2/15(Sun.)

Time: 1:00~3:30 p.m.

Venue: Niihama Women's Plaza

4-4-19, Shonai-cho, Niihama-shi

Admission: 500 yen/person

Free for children age 6 and younger

Organizers: The Global Party Association & SGG Niihama

Sponsored by: Niihama City Office & Niihama Board of Education

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* The first program on the stage will be harmonica music..

3/1 (Sun.) A fire fighting training undertaken by fire fighters

Time: 9:00 ~ 12:00

Place: Yamane Park Ground

(If it rains, it will be held at Niihama Bunka Center at 10:30.)

Notification from City Office

Before recycling PET bottles, remove caps and label wrappings and rinse out the pet bottle.

Recycle caps and label wrappings with plastic containers and packages.

SGG would welcome any suggestions, questions or ideas for monthly articles. email: yukiko-m@shikoku.ne.jp

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*The editors for this month are K. Kumata & T. Oishi

ONE POINT JAPANESE

インフルエンザ/風邪

A : インフルエンザが流行っていますね。

Infuruenza ga hayatte imasu ne.

(Influenza is going around, isn't it?)

B : ええ、今年は特に多いです。Ee, kotoshi wa tokuni ōi desu ne.

(Yes. This year there is quite a lot!)

A : うちの受験生がいるので、家族全員予防注射をしたんですが…。

Uchi wa jukensei ga iru node, kazoku zenin yobō chuusha o shitan desu ga. (One of my children will take entrance examinations this year, so everyone in the family got a flu shot.)

B : 試験が終わるまで心配ですね。

Shiken ga owaru made shinpai desu ne.

(It is worrisome until the examination is over.)

C : こんにちは～。みんな元気でしたか。

Konnichiwa～. Minna genki deshita ka.

(Hello! Is everyone well?)

B : 風邪(を)ひいたんですか、マスクして。

Kaze o hitan, desu ka, masuku shite.

(Have you caught cold? You are wearing a mask.)

C : 予防のためです。口の中が乾燥しないので、いいですよ。

Yobō no tame desu. Kuchi no naka ga kansō shinai node i desu yo. (It's for prevention. It keeps your mouth from drying out, so it's good.)

A : あれ? Dさん、大きなマスクですね。

Are? D-san, ōki na masuku desu ne.

(Eh? D-san, that's a big mask!)

D : お化粧が面倒なので、顔を隠しています。

Okeshō ga mendō nanode, kao o kakushiteirun desu.

(It's a pain to put on make-up, so I'm hiding my face.)

A : そういう使い方もあるんですね。

Sō iu tsukaikata mo arun desu ne.

(You can use it for that, too!)

A : あれ? Eさんは? Are? E-san wa? (Oh! Where is E?)

C : 風邪をこじらせて、入院しているそうですよ。

Kaze o kojirasete nyūin shiteiru sō desu yo.

(I heard that his cold got worse and he is in the hospital now!)

★ 風邪を引く (catch a cold)

★ 風邪をこじらせる (one's cold gets worse.)

★ インフルエンザになる/かかる (get/catch influenza)

★ 風邪/インフルエンザが流行る (The flu is epidemic.)

< by Niihama Nihongo no Kai >

NNK also provides Japanese lessons for foreigners living in Niihama.

Feel free to contact us at: Tel 0897-34-3025 (Manami Miki).

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