

MOVIES

TOHO CINEMAS Niihama (AEON Mall)

June 1 ~	DEADPOOL 2	2D English / Dubbed
June 15 ~	Maze Runner : The Death Cure	2D English
June 20 ~	Wonder	2D English
June 29 ~	SOLO A STAR WARS STORY	2D English
July 13 ~	Jurassic World Fallen Kingdom	2D English

Information Service

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

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

Movies might be changed without notice. Please check.

Information in English & Chinese on the Web

*What's New?

*How to sort garbage and trash

Visit



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

Clair:*Multilingual Living Information

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

This newsletter is published by SGG, a volunteer group that helps foreigners living in Niihama. If you need any advice, information, or support, please contact, SGG. SGG would welcome any suggestions, questions or ideas for monthly articles.

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*The editors for this month are T. Nakaya & K.Takahashi.

ONE POINT JAPANESE

- A** : 7月8日に、外国人の日本語スピーチコンテストがあるよ。
Shitigatsu yoka ni, gaikokujin no nihongo supichi kontesuto ga aru yo.
(The Foreigners' Japanese Speech Contest is on July 8th.)
- B** : ポスターで見たよ。今年の会場は、あかがねミュージアムだって。
Posuta de mita yo. Kotoshi no kaijō wa akagane myūjiamu datte.
(I saw it on a poster. It said that this year it's at Akagane Museum.)
- C** : 上手な人ばかりのスピーチでしょ?聞いてもわからないかも。
Jōzu na hito bakari no supichi desho? Kiitemo wakaranai ka mo.
(The participants are all good, right? I probably won't be able to understand.)
- B** : 初級から上級まで、レベル別のコンテストだから、大丈夫。
Shokyū kara jokyū made, reberu betsu no kontesuto dakara daijōbu.
(The contest has separate levels from beginner to advanced, so no problem.)
- C** : 面白そう。Omoshirosō. (Sounds interesting!)
- A** : 実は、私の友達も出るんです。
Jitsu wa watashi no tomodachi mo derun desu.
(In fact, one of my friends will take part in it.)
- B** : じゃあ、みんなで応援に行こうよ。Ja, minna de ōen ni iko yo.
(Well then, let's all go cheer for him!)

(スピーチ後のインタビューで) (At the interview after the speech)

- ★ スピーチコンテストは どうでしたか。
Supichi kontesuto wa dō deshita ka. (How was the speech contest?)
- A** : 緊張して、あまり覚えていません。
Kinchō shite, amari oboete imasen.
(I was so nervous that I don't remember much.)
- B** : 最初はドキドキしましたが、途中から落ち着いて話せました。
Saisho wa dokidoki shimashita ga, tochu kara ochitsuite hanasemashita.
(At first my heart was pounding, but part-way through I calmed down and was able to talk.)
- C** : 一生懸命練習したのに、大事なところを飛ばしてしまいました。
Isshōkenmē renshū shita no ni daiji na tokoro o tobashite shimaimashita.
(Even though I practiced hard, I skipped an important part.)
- D** : 練習したとおりに上手く話すことができました。
Renshū shita tori ni umaku hanasu koto ga dekimashita.
(I was able to talk well like I did in practice.)
- E** : 友達がたくさん応援に来てくれて、心強かったです。
Tomodachi ga takusan ōen ni kite kurete, kokorozuyokatta desu.
(A lot of my friends came to cheer for me, so I felt brave.)
- ★ いい経験になりましたね。Ii kēken ni narimasita ne.
(It was a very good experience for you.)

<by Niihama Nihongo no Kai>

NNK also provides Japanese lessons for foreigners living in Niihama.

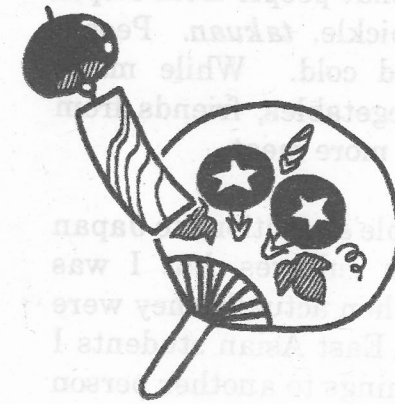
Feel free to contact us at: Tel 0897-34-3025 (Manami Miki).

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What's New?

Niihama City

No.275 July 2018
Published by SGG Niihama



Not exactly about Japan Ruth Vergin

An unexpected benefit of living in a foreign country is not just learning about that country and its people. As a foreigner you tend to meet other foreigners, more so than you might in your own country. This opportunity to meet all kinds of people has made life in Japan an even more broadening experience for me.

For many years my circle of foreign friends included mostly Westerners: language teachers and missionaries. Yes, missionaries! (I first lived in Sendai and there was a well-established group of missionaries there. It was fascinating hearing their tails of Japan before and just after WWII.) Our responses to Japanese culture were much the same; in awe of Japanese craftsmanship and the beauty of its gardens, enjoying the food (except for *natto*), irritated at what to us seemed unnecessary formalities, etc. So I assumed that all foreigners had similar reactions to Japan.

This belief was shattered when I started working as an international student advisor meeting students from China, Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia, Nepal, Brazil, Ghana and many other countries. Where my Western, mostly U.S., friends and I had bemoaned the strict study regime of Japanese high schools, I found that people from Iran and China thought schools were way too lenient here. I was surprised that many Asians were surprised at how older

women were quite active – going out on their own, and participating in many different activities. In their countries older women stayed at home, and if they did go out, they were accompanied by a member of the family, usually male. But coming from the U.S., these active Japanese grandmas seemed natural.

Food is another cultural divide. While *natto* is pretty much rejected by all nationalities, I found that people from Nepal like the pungent, Japanese daikon pickle, *takuan*. People from China do not like rice served cold. While many Westerners like the abundance of vegetables, friends from Uzbekistan and other countries crave more meat.

It should have been obvious that people's reactions to Japan would differ according to their own cultures, but I was lumping 'foreigners' into one group when actually they were not. I cringe when I think of all the East Asian students I have 'taught' that you should hand things to another person with both hands. It was a new concept to me when I came to Japan, but it was quite awhile before I realized that this was recognized as polite behavior throughout East Asia.

The people I have met have given me the chance to experience Japan through their eyes, enabling me to appreciate it in new ways. Several students from Africa have expressed surprise and gratitude that they experience no prejudice here. Unfortunately, I don't believe that Japan is without prejudice, but the politeness of the Japanese the students encountered made them feel welcome and accepted.

Several Muslim students have wondered why, while the Japanese are not really a religious people, it is safe and there is a comparatively low incidence of crime, such as theft or murder. It caused me and them to think about the relation of religion and morals. They wanted to know where they learn morals. In school? At home? This is not a question I would have asked on my own.

I think that this essay is supposed to be more about 'Japanese' experiences, but when I thought about it, my encounters with non-Japanese have also been a valuable part of my life here. So thank you Japan!

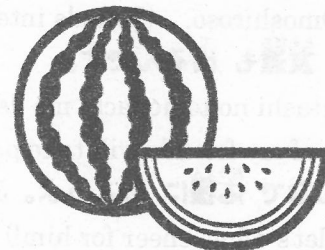
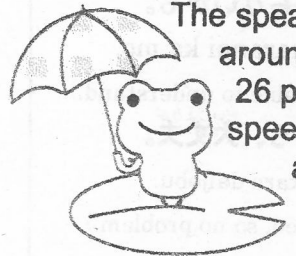
Ruth Vergin has lived in Japan for about 44 years. She worked as an English teacher until getting a job as an international student advisor at Ehime University.

Japanese Speech Contest

Date: July 8th, 13:30 – 16:00

Place: Akagane Museum, Tamokuteki Hall

Please come and enjoy listening to the contest. The speakers are all non-Japanese living in and around Niihama and learning Japanese. 26 participants from 10 countries will give speeches about their experiences, opinions, and thoughts this year.



July Events

★ July 1(Sun) – August 31(Fri)

Swimming at "Marine Park"

Location : Marine Park Niihama

Phone : 46-4100

-The Marine Park Beach is officially open for two months.

★ July 21, and 28 (Sat)

6:00p.m.~8:30p.m. Akagane-Doyou-Yo-ichi, Market on Saturday evenings

Location : Showa-dori, Noborimichi-Sunroad shopping arcade and Dome Niihama

Phone : 37-1666

-Visitors can enjoy foods available at various food stands and children can play a variety of games.

★ August 4 (Sat) J. League Division 2 Soccer Game

7:00p.m.~

Location : Ninjinia Stadium (next to Tobe Zoo)

Phone : 0897-65-1303 (the sports promotion division, Niihama City office)

-Ehime FC will play against Renofa Yamaguchi FC. Discount tickets for adults, and free tickets for senior high school students and under are available at the sports promotion division, Niihama City office, so please contact the number above if you are interested.

★ August 4 (Sat) – Sep. 2 (Sun)

9:30a.m.~5:00p.m. Eiichiro Oda, ONE PIECE's Picture Exhibition

Location : Akagane Museum

Admission fee : ¥1,100

¥700 (senior and junior high school students)

¥500 (elementary students)

¥900/600/400 (advance ticket)

¥200 (VR experience of creating an illustration)

Free Admission : preschoolers

Phone : 31-0305

-Pictures illustrated by Eiichiro Oda from "ONE PIECE", and the desk on which the manga artist creates it will be on display during this one-month exhibition. <https://hello.one-piece.com>

Fireworks festivals

★ Niihama

July 27(Fri) 7:30p.m.~9:00p.m.

Location : Kokuryou-gawa, riverbed

Phone : 0897-65-1261 / 33-5581

★ Imabari Onmaku Festival

August 5 (Sun) 8:00p.m.~

Location : Imabari Port Phone : 0898-23-3939

Reserved seats are available for a fee.

A Hint for Your Life

Two summer foods that make a bad combination

(from Ehime Shimbun May 18, 2018)

We should be careful about which foods we combine in the summer season. The combination of eel and umeboshi, pickled ume, is known to be bad by many in Japan. There are no medical grounds for this assessment, but it has long been believed that eating them together does you harm. Eel provides rich nourishment, and pickled ume increases your appetite and prevents you from food poisoning, making them ideal foods in summer if you do not eat them too much.

However there is an another bad combination, which can be very dangerous. Beer and watermelon both have a diuretic effect, so having too much may cause you to be dehydrated. In the worst case, you may suffer acute alcohol intoxication because of rapid water loss from your body. We often see people on the beach in summer enjoying a game of "split-the-watermelon" with a can of beer. Please be careful.

