

What's New?

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Pushing to the Limit

Eric Jansen

Hello, my name is Eric Jansen and I live in Iyo-Saijo. I've been living in Japan for a year now and well... I love Saijo and Nihama. These two cities combined make living so far from home a pleasure. I have made many friends and continue to push my body to the limit climbing mountains and cycling for hours on end (all the time). When I first arrived in Saijo I was so tired from the flight over that I just wanted to go to sleep but I went to Fuji Grand and "WOW" it was amazing and terrifying at the same time. I felt so small being one of three foreigners in the supermarket but I was quickly accepted by so many people that it didn't matter that I was a white guy from Detroit, Michigan. It wasn't long before I wanted to venture out and see what the cities had to offer. Since I have moved here I have participated in Saijo Matsuri, climbed Mount Ishizuchi and cycled the Shimanami Kaido. All these things have changed my life.

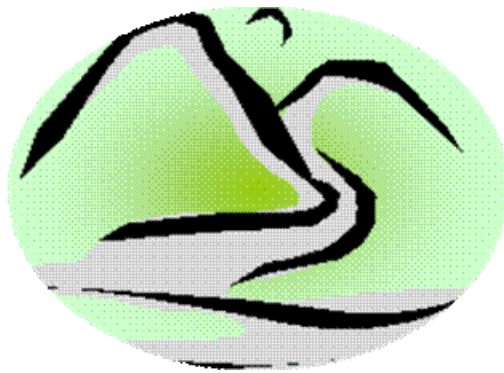
Matsuri is the most insane festival I have ever attended. I couldn't believe and still can't believe how intense the streets got. Saijo went from a ghost town to something out of a movie overnight. The danjiri took to the streets and for weeks the beat of the drums could be heard all over town. And then in a blink of an eye it was over and everything returned to normal as if the festival never happened. This year I hope to participate in the festival.

Climbing Mount Ishizuchi was something that pushed me physically but also moved me emotionally. The climb to the top was one of the most difficult things I have done. Not only was it one of the longest hikes I have done but about

10 minutes into the hike I hurt my ankle. I sat for a while and my friends asked me if I wanted to go back home. This was something that I had wanted to do since before moving to Japan and we continued to the top of the mountain. I'll tell you one thing the view was breathtaking and completely worth the pain to get there.

Biking the Shimanami Kaido was probably harder than climbing the mountain. Physically and mentally it was a grueling task. Not only the heat of July pounded on us that day but also a thunderstorm swept across during the trek across the second bridge. But there was a prize halfway through, the creamiest ice cream I have ever tasted. My friends decided to continue on for a little while as I stayed on the beach and lapped up two cones of this sweet treasure. I had died and gone to heaven. Then realized I had to get back to our start point. Had I dropped into hell? Making our way across the first bridge for the second time I was sun burnt, tired and sweaty. But I continued to push myself and was rewarded again with the most beautiful sunset I had ever seen.

Every day this area amazes me with its balance between nature and luxuries of our civilized world. I hope to do so much more with the time I have here. Also if you have enjoyed this article please check out my blog site at www.adventuresuntold.com



Eric Jansen has been working as an English instructor. He has lived in Saijo for about a year. He is from Detroit, Michigan.

August Events

8/3 (Sat) Niihama Summer Festival Eve 16:00—

Noborimichi Street

Dozens of street stalls open.

8/4 (Sun) Niihama Summer Festival 15:00—21:00

Showa Street & Noborimichi Street

7 Taiko floats performance.

8/4 - 8/11 Sunday Market 7:30-12:00

Chuo Koen, north of City Hall

8/6-8/11 American Handmade Quilt Exhibition 9:30-17:30

Kyodo Museum Admission free

8/23 (Sun) Summer Concert 18:30-

Bunka Center Admission ¥500

Classic concert anyone can enjoy.

8/24 (Sat) - 9/14 (Sat) Cooking Class for Nursing Care Food

Sogo Fukushi Center ¥500/day

Reservation required, call 0897-65-1009

8/25 (Sun) 100 yen Sun-sun Market 9:00-15:00

Noborimichi Sun Road

--9/16 Antarctica Expedition Exhibit

Ehime Prefectural Science Museum

Reports, rare pictures and gear from an expedition to Antarctica last year.

¥600/adult ¥300/child & senior



Note “Special Warning” for Mega Natural Disaster

The Meteorological Agency’s “Special Warning” system will begin on August 30 this year. Please be alert and evacuate to a safe place if you hear the “Special Warning” siren/TV etc. warning because it signals immediate danger.

MOVIE

TOHO CINEMAS Niihama (AEON Shopping Center)

July 6 ~	MONSTERS UNIVERSITY	2D • 3D Dubbed
July 6 ~	EURO MISSION	English / Dubbed
July 12 ~	SILENT HILL: REVELATION	2D • 3D English
July 27 ~	EMPEROR	English
August 2 ~	THE LONE RANGER	English / Dubbed
August 9 ~	PACIFIC RIM	2D • 3D Dubbed
August 10 ~	WORLD WAR Z	2D • 3D English
August 16 ~	WHITE HOUSE DOWN	English / Dubbed
August 23 ~	STAR TREK INTO DARKNESS	2D • 3D English
August 30 ~	MAN OF STEEL	2D • 3D English

Information Service

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

Tape (24 hrs): 0897-35-3322 (in Japanese)

Movies might be changed without notice, so please check beforehand.



<Contributed by Adam Shartup>

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 M. Shimamura & Y. Amano.

The Cosmetics for Teenagers Can be Harmful

(from the City Letter, May Issue)

In recent years we sometimes see junior high students wearing makeup, dying their hair or wearing earrings. However there aren't any special regulations for children's cosmetics.

In addition, they tend to buy cheap cosmetics which may contain substances that could do them harm, without getting any advice from their parents or adults around them.

Often when they have trouble caused by the cosmetics they use, they don't realize what the cause is, which can make matters worse.

Furthermore, children are more likely than adults to have skin problems caused by using cosmetics.

One of the reasons is that their skin is dermatologically immature and subject to contact dermatitis. If immature skin contacts cosmetics that are made from chemicals or certain metals, those substances can get into their skin or go further into their bodies.

In the future those substances may cause rashes on their skin. Therefore, when they are young and their skin is immature, it is important that they avoid wearing cosmetics for as long as possible. Hair dye, cosmetics, varnish on their nails, earrings, false eyelashes or eyelash perms can all cause problems.

The people around them have to be careful.



You can read on the Web.

***What's New?**

***Garbage and trash Collection Calendar**

***Information living in Niihama**

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

Clair:*Multilingual Living Information

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

ONE POINT JAPANESE

“わかる”

A : すみません、この ^{かんじ}漢字、わかりますか。

Sumimasen, kono kanji wakarimasu ka.

(Excuse me, can you read this *kanji*?)

B : ええと、意味は わかるんですが、読み方は ちょっと・・・。

Eeto, imi wa wakarundesu ga, yomikata wa chotto...

(Let me see...I know the meaning, but I can't quite read it.)

^{はなびたいかい}(花火大会で) (At a fireworks display)

A : うわあ、きれいですね。Uwā, kirēdesu ne. (Wow, beautiful, isn't it?)

B : あっ、^{こんど}今度は、ハート形の ^{がた}花火！

Ah, kondo wa hātogata no hanabi!

(Ah! This time was a heart-shaped firework!!)

A : ^{ぜんぶ}全部で、^{ぼつ}8000発も ^あ上がるそうですよ。

Zenbu de hassen-patsu mo agarusōdesu yo.

(I hear eight thousand fireworks are to be set off in all!)

B : へえ、すごいですね。He, sugoidesu ne.

(Wow! That's amazing!)

^{つぎ}次の ^{はなび}花火が ^{なに}何か、わかりますか。

Tsugi no hanabi ga nanika, wakarimasu ka.

(Do you know what the next firework is?)

A : プログラムには、“ナイヤガラの ^{たき}滝”と ^か書いてありますよ。

Puroguramu niwa “Naiyagara no taki” to kaite arimasu yo.

(The program says it's Niagara Falls.)

A : この ^{あいだ}間の ^{にほんご}日本語の ^{しけん}試験、^{けっか}結果は、いつ わかりますか。

Konoaida no nihongo no shaken, kekka wa itsu wakarimasu ka.

(When can I get the result of the Japanese examination from the other day?)

B : ^{らいげつ}来月の ^{とおか}10日前後には わかると ^{おも}思います。

Raigetsu no tōka zengo niwa wakaru to omoimasu.

(I think you'll get it around the tenth of next month.)

にい は まへん
(新居浜弁) (in Niihama dialect)

A : もう ぜったい 絶対に やくそく 約束を やぶ 破ったら いかんよ。 わかった?

Mō zettai ni yakusoku o yabuttara ikan yo. Wakkatta?

(You never break a promise, never! Understand?)

B : うん、 わかった。 Un, wakatta.

(Yes. I understand.)

< 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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