

wander-ful tabi: a bug's light

lance kita

Bridging the gap between spring flowers and rainy season blues is a precious period of two weeks when Japan heralds the coming of summer with...glowing bugs. Firefly (hotaru 蛍) watching makes the list of seasonal phenomena that Japanese people flock to view.

First, here are some things you may not know about hotaru:

1. They ain't flies! Fireflies belong to the beetle family.

2. It's a family affair. The adults take center stage in June as they blink to their heart's content (literally, it's for attracting mates), but the eggs and larvae also glow.

3. They're all wet. Unlike most species which lay their eggs in moist soil on forest floors, the major Japanese species start their life in freshwater. Adults lay their eggs in rivers, and the larvae



misato hotaru festival, yoshinogawa city
(photo courtesy of tokushima prefectural government)

feed on indigenous kawanina snails.

4. Not just June. Most of the fireflies in Tokushima are Genji-botaru (Luciola cruciata). However, the

Ryukyu Archipelago boasts a high diversity of several dozen species, and one type on Iriomote Island blinks in mid-winter.

5. Way before Edison.

wander-ful tabi: a bug's light ...continued on pages 4 & 5

inside awa life this month

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Download a PDF file of awa life or view the
online version by going to TOPIA's website!

show tokushima some love: awaglot

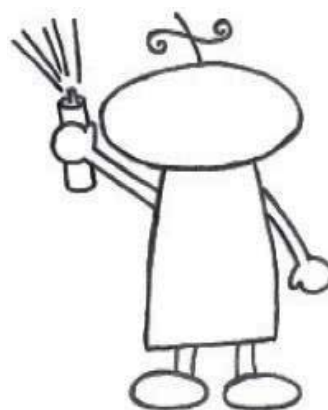
The literary corner of Awa Life, Awaglot, is a combination of the words "awa" and "polyglot", which means multilingual. Be it fiction, non-fiction, prose or poetry; funny, sad, long or short, we want your submissions! If you like to write, then express yourself!

There is also a classifieds section for you, our readers, to post ads in, but a few rules do apply!

The following will not be posted: Religious, political, or commercial activities, businesses searching for clients or employees, things the Awa Life editors deem inappropriate.

BUT, you can totally submit this stuff: concerts, lectures, and other event information, cultural, sporting, and other community group information, etcetera.

If you have something you would like to share with the Tokushima community, email the editors at **awalife@gmail.com!**



love locks at kamiyama shinrin park (photo by brandon bollom)

travel the globe with international teas

世界のお茶をのみながら、ゆっくり地球を歩こう！

Do you want to walk the world but can't find the time or money? Perhaps you're looking for a new, interactive way to study foreign cultures? If you can relate to either or both of the above, the JICA international teas series could be just the event for you. Now in its 3rd session, each 6 month series is made up of 6 meetings, each hosted by an experienced JICA volunteer and focusing on the country where they passed their respective 2 years.

May's speaker was Maki Kawano, who introduced participants to Oyugis, the town in Kenya where she passed her two years as a public health nurse. Maki's photographs and personal anecdotes took the audience on a tour through the town's education, health, and cultural characteristics. Chai tea (a typical refreshment in Kenya) and snacks were served with tales of local customs, as Maki explained how in Kenya, the amount of sugar served to a visitor can dictate how welcome they are in the home. She recalled that the drink what she initially considered as sickly sweet (imagine chai tea but with at least 3 sugar cubes) soon came to be the drink she longed to be served, taking anything less sweet as the equivalent of being told "Get out of my house!".



In June, Kumi Takahashi will be taking participants on an informative journey through Nepal - don't miss out!

Note: Meetings are conducted entirely in Japanese. Refreshments are served. Please contact Awa Kanko Hotel for details

「世界のお茶シリーズ」第3弾 6回

「ナマステ！ヒマラヤだけじゃないネパールの魅力」

日時： 6月19日（水）14:00 - 16:00
教師： 高橋 久美さん（ネパール）
場所： 阿波観光ホテル ティーラウンジ
予約： なるべく予約を入れてください

参加費が必要です。
申込先・問合せ： 阿波観光ホテル
088-622-5161

徳島から世界へつながる&イギリスの生徒が学ぶ国際理解教育

日時： 6月23日（日）13:30 - 16:30
講師： 森本美鶴さん（ヨルダン派遣）
JICAシニア海外ボランティア（OV）
エマ・ボードマンさん
（イギリス出身、徳島県国際交流員）

場所： シビックセンター活動室3
徳島駅前アミコビル4階
申込先・問合せ： JICA徳島デスク
TEL： 088-656-3303
参加費： 無料

let's speak queen's english

クイーンズイングリッシュの会

イギリスに留学経験のある方、または興味ある方、なつかしいイギリスの思い出話、文化、文学をイギリス人と一緒にクイーンズイングリッシュで話しませんか？

For those who have studied in the United Kingdom, have an interest in or are missing Great Britain, or just want to talk about culture and literature, why not speak Queen's English with British people?

日時： 6月22日（土）10:30-12.00
場所： 小松島中央公民館
TEL： 090-9555-7776

When: 22. June (Sat) 10.30-12.00
Where: Komatsushima
Central Community Center
TEL: 090-9555-7776

Japanese poets and writers have made references to fireflies in books as far back as the Nihon Shoki (720 A.D.) and Manyoshu (circa 760 A.D.).

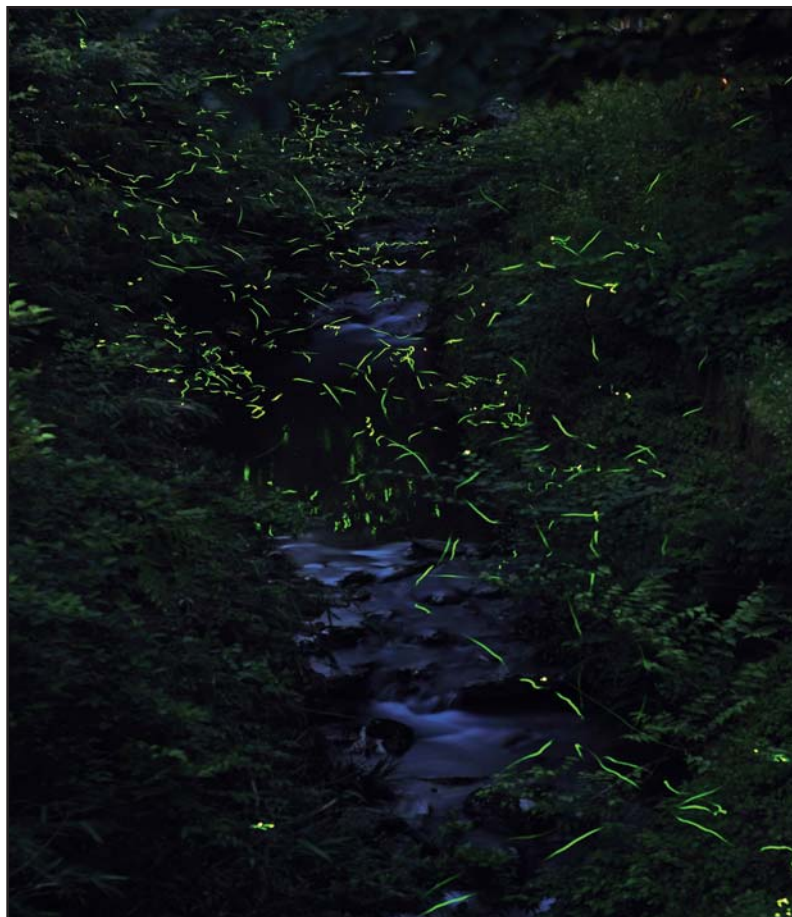
Because fireflies need abundant numbers of kawanina snails and pristine river water to flourish, the famous spots are often tucked away in rural areas. The love of fireflies has led to a nationwide campaign to keep rivers clean, and many communities are reintroducing these twinkling insects back to their waterways. Here are three spots to view fireflies:

Looks Popular:

Misato Hotaru Museum 美郷
ほたる館 (Yoshinogawa City
吉野川市)

With several kilometers of firefly-laden riverside along Route 193, this valley is the most well-known spot for fireflies in the prefecture. Since 1970, the fireflies and their habitat here have been designated a national natural treasure 天然記念物. The Museum exhibits info on the lifecycle and habitat of the insects, as well as the local history. There's even an artificial river where river fish and fireflies are raised for observation.

This year's festival runs until June 20 (the Museum extends its hours during this time). Shuttle buses run from JR Yamakawa Station 山川駅 to the Yoshinogawa City Yamakawa Branch Office 吉



misato hotaru festival, yoshinogawa city
(photo courtesy of tokushima prefectural government)

野川市山川序舎 (temp. parking lot) and the Museum between 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. (10:00 p.m. on weekends). To ease traffic congestion and protect the environment, using public transportation is highly recommended.

Blog with event map link (Japanese):
<http://ameblo.jp/hotarukan/>

Look Down:

Yogawauchi 与川内
(Katsuura Town 勝浦町)

Most firefly spots are often localized and set in rural areas. Yokawauchi is a perfect example of a quiet, community-centered spot.

Park at one of three lots along Route 16 and stroll along the road overlooking the Sakamoto River. The dark location and high mountains make for optimal viewing, and large numbers of fireflies can consistently be seen throughout the season. Near the Numatani River, you can climb down and see fireflies at river level, and the local association will be selling food and giving out ame-yu from May 31 to June 2, though viewing is still possible on your own in the first week of June.

Download a map (in Japanese) at:
<http://www.geocities.jp/awakatuura/hataru2.html>

Look Up:

Haha River 母川 (Kaiyo Town 海陽町)

Wanna be surrounded by twinkling lights? See fireflies from a flat-bottom pole boat (takasebune 高瀬舟) as local guides take you along a stretch of the Haha River. As you glide quietly over the water, flickering lines of light dance among the riverbank grass and into the sky. With no city lights and dark mountains along one side, you can experience the full Ghibli-esque mood of this early summer event. Hint: Flash photography cannot capture the dim bioluminescence and ruins everyone's night vision, so just relax and let your eyes be the camera for one evening.

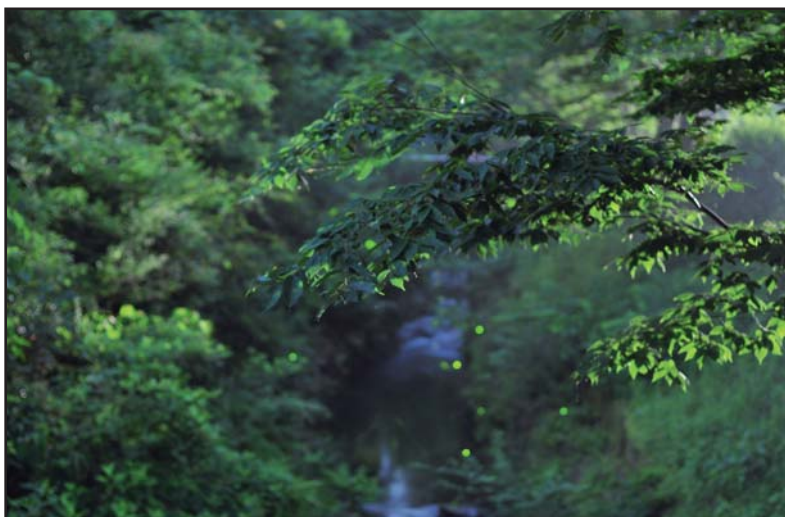
The boat rides run from June 8-15, 8:00-9:30 p.m. Admission for the boat ride is 500 yen. On the first night, there will be food booths. Last year, local residents taught kids (and kids-at-heart) how to make toy boats from sasa bamboo leaves. Bring a small flashlight when you walk from the parking lot to the boat dock.

Event info (Japanese):
<http://www.kaiyo-kankou.jp/index.php/event2/hotaru-week>

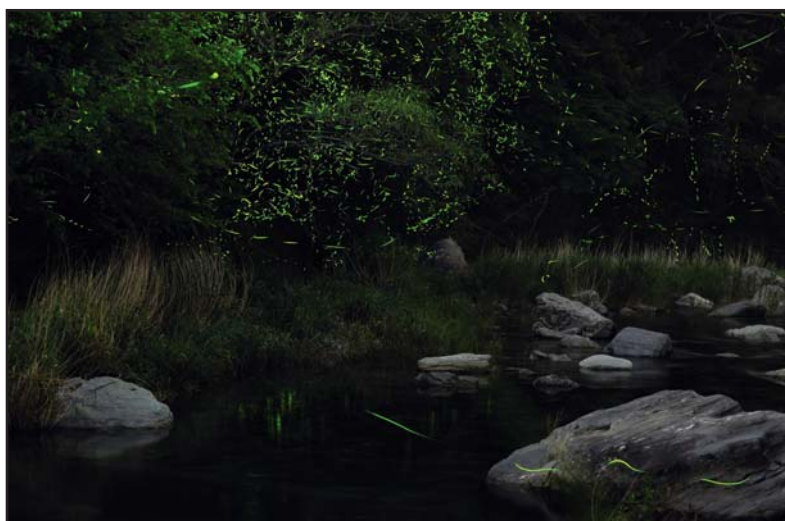
(Note: The number of fireflies and level of activity vary due to weather conditions and/or environmental factors. The information above is based on past experiences.)



streamside starlight - ride boats on the haha river in kaifu-cho for an immersive firefly viewing experience (photo by lance kita)



misato hotaru festival, yoshinogawa city
(photo courtesy of tokushima prefectural government)



misato hotaru festival, yoshinogawa city
(photo courtesy of tokushima prefectural government)



setouchi beat festival

the many faces of shikoku

gregory paul chindemi

Advertised as an "Open Air Day Festival", and promoting art, nature, culture, and technology, the Setouchi Beat Festival, otherwise known as Seto 4, proved to be the perfect destination for my weekend holiday. The festival was located at the top of a scenic and winding road in Sanuki City, a 1 hour drive from Tokushima City. As I pulled up to the front gates, I was welcomed by smiling faces, live music, and a friendly staff, who helped me park and carry my camping supplies.

Pictures on the website could not accurately express the breath-taking vista that greeted my eye upon pulling my car through the gate into to the festival grounds; the blue-green serenity of Northeastern Shikoku's Seto Inland Sea, and the uninhabited Awaku islands were awe-inspiring in and of themselves. However, the coliseum-like Sanuki Outdoor Theatre was almost as impressive. The enormous outdoor stadium, which had tiered stone steps and a circular stone stage, looked simultaneously both Shakespearean and modern. This theatre had a grandiose presence, and against the peaceful oceanic backdrop, I knew that this particular music and camping festival was going to be a special event even before the music began.

You may be wondering, "what kind of music would be playing at a weekend camping festival on Shikoku"? If you guessed traditional Enka music, than you would be mistaken. The sound that filled the air at Seto 4 was the heavy, rhythmic pulse of the bass from a state of the art speaker system provided by Hamastar and the locally owned Dynacord Cobra/L-acoustics.



the stunning sanuki outdoor theatre

A variety of electronic music genres were presented at Seto. Defined by distinct alterations in pitch, bass, rhythmic pattern, or drum expression, each explicit genre provides a different audio entertainment for the listener. For instance, Goa trance, which originated in Goa, India, uses traditional Indian instruments to create tribesque musical signatures and distinctly Eastern melodies. Often run in a loop of sound with expansive beat patterns, the music creates a mystic soundscape that some might define as spiritual. In addition, different types of House music, Dub, Drum & Bass, and Dub-step were also highlighted during the two day event. Using records, turntables, and computer technology to compose the music in front of an energetic audience, the DJ(disc jockey) creates an atmosphere in which the crowd can have a transformative, and uninhibited dancing experience.

First held in abandoned warehouses in the mid-1980's in places such as: Westbourne, Grove in West London,

Camden & King's Cross, Manchester, Rotherhithe, Aldgate, and Brixton, electronic dance parties spawned from a new British youth movement. The British had coined the term "rave party" in the late 1950's, but it wasn't until technology and instrumentation had shifted in the 1980's that this music began to take hold and systematically spread throughout the world.

In fact, after the Berlin Wall fell in 1989, the popularity of electronic dance parties was credited in helping to re-establish social connections between East and West Germany during the reunification period. These "Rave parties" continued to spread throughout Europe, and have become a vibrant, unique music subculture in America from the 1990's until the present day.

Ethnographic researcher, Joanna Denner, conducted an experiential study on the dramatic rise in the popularity of technology, precision, and rhythmic dancing in the youth culture of Japan. By following

the trend of Konami's video game, Dance Dance Revolution, and its fame in Japan and worldwide, correlations in her data showed a definitive "electronic dance music scene" blossoming from the games late 1990's release.

Southern Japan's Seto 4 electronic music scene, whether partially fueled by video game dance music or not, was certainly vibrant. The attendees wore bright, eccentric clothing, had artfully applied face-paint, and were enthusiastic, fun, and positive.

The family friendly environment was also interesting for visitors who appreciate delicious food, visual art, and unconventional performance. From Bubble Tea vendors and Chinese food kitchens to Vegetarian specialty cafes, the campground had a wide array of foods to enjoy. I especially loved one local vendor who served dishes of the colloquial specialty, Sanuki Udon!

The spacious campground also had candle art exhibits, many clothing and craft shops, and one of my favorite events, live fire spinning by the Sola fire dance company. Seeing people twirling fire above their heads and around their bodies in perfect sync with the music was a thrilling sight.

In preparation for my first "Golden Week" in Japan, and in anticipation of the frenetic pace at which people often travel during this busy period of time, this provocative and unique event in Kagawa truly grabbed my attention. The weather, the location, and the people were all beautiful. It was well worth the price of the ticket, and if you are looking



the festival provided more than just musical entertainment

for something different to do for next year's Golden week, Seto 4 will not leave you disappointed.



Sources:

1 Emanuelle, Loubet. "The Beginnings of Electronic Music in Japan, with a Focus on the NHK Studio: the 1950's and 1960's. Computer Music Journal, February 1997, accessed May 13th, 2013, <http://Jstor.org>.

2 Fujii, Koichi. "Chronology of Early Electronic Music in Japan: What Types of Materials are Available?" Organized Sound, April 2004, accessed May 13th, 2013, <http://Jstor.org>.

3 Denmers, Joanna. "Dancing Machines: 'Dance Dance Revolution', Cybernetic Dance, And Musical Taste". Popular Music, October 2006, accessed May 13th, 2013, <http://Jstor.org>.



author gregory paul chindemi (right)

photos courtesy of the setouchi 4 beat festival facebook page

BBQ season is upon us, and there's nothing like a sweet dessert to bring it all together.

These French cakes are just little sponge cakes with a lemon twist. They are baked in shell shaped pans, hence their scalloped appearance. Nuts can also be incorporated for a crunchy taste.

For lighter airy madeleines, baking powder is usually used. If you prefer the traditional dense madeleines, skip the baking powder.

The main ingredients are: flour, sugar, eggs and butter.

Ingredients

200g of flour
150g of sugar
100-120g of unsalted butter
3 eggs (medium to large)
7-8g of baking powder
Zest of 1 lemon
40ml of milk (optional)
1 tsp of vanilla essence



madeleines

Preparation (makes 3 dozen)

1. Bring the eggs to room temperature.
2. Melt the butter and let cool.
3. Sift the flour and baking powder.
4. Zest the lemon.
5. Grease and dust the baking pans if not silicone.
6. In a medium bowl, beat the sugar and egg mixture until thick and pale in colour. About 5 minutes.
7. Beat in the lemon zest and the vanilla.
8. Add the sifted flour and

fold in 3 parts. Don't over mix.

9. Add the butter. (Take a $\frac{1}{4}$ of the batter mixture and add to the butter. mix well, then add it all together to the rest.)

10. Chill the batter for at least 1 hour. (Can be kept refrigerated for up to 2 days).

11. Spoon a spoonful into the molds. Bake at 180 degrees for 10-12 minutes depending on mold size.

12. Cool on wire rack, scalloped side up.

Bon appétit!!!



june swallows (photo by junko kimura)

The Tokushima Nutritional Education Research Committee, comprised of in-Prefecture registered dietitians and doctors, has released a educational nutrition DVD focused on oral nutrition. The DVD, "Fun Nutrition Education! Exercising your mouth & dancing the HoneHone", allows viewers to learn about nutritionally imperative oral health, important nutrients, and well balanced diets through moving their bodies. The DVD makes the 5 elements of a balanced diet easy to understand by assigning a food group to each finger on the human hand.

In recent years, over half of deaths caused by lifestyle disease are borne of irregular eating habits from infancy. This has led to a review of the important at-home eating habits. Please be sure to lead a healthy, balanced nutritional lifestyle, covering all 5 food groups.



the five fingers of health!

1. Thumb: Bread; Rice, Noodles -> Eat for power!

2. Index Finger: Vegetables -> Eat for general health!

3. Middle Finger: Meat, fish, eggs, beans -> Eat to grow big!

4. Ring Finger: Fruit-> Eat for smooth skin!

5. Little Finger: Milk, yoghurt, cheese -> Eat plenty of calcium to strengthen your bones and teeth!

this month's craft: home bowling set

materials:

- cardboard tubes (from toilet roll/cling film etc)
- coloured pens
- wrapping paper
- newspaper
- tape
- plastic bag

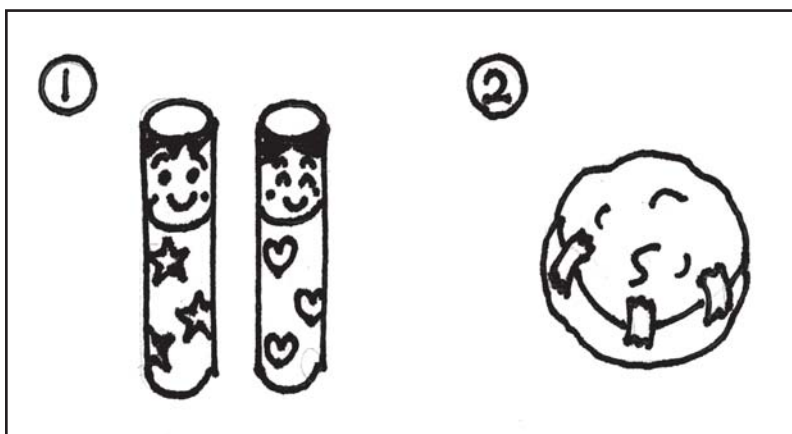
instructions

1. Wrap the wrapper paper around the tube, and decorate it using your pens.
(These are your bowling pins.)

2. Scrunch up your newspaper into a ball, a ball of newspaper, and wrap it in a plastic bag. Wrap tape around this to make it sturdy
(This is your bowling ball.)

how to play:

Line up your pins (#1), and try to knock them over by rolling your bowling ball (#2)



The right phrase at the right time

Have you ever found that there are times when even though you understand what's being said, and you know that your grammar and vocabulary is correct, you can't seem to converse well? In Japanese, if your choice of phrasing isn't appropriate for the scenario in which you use it, even perfect grammar and vocabulary may not save you from offending the listener, or making them feel uncomfortable. This lesson will look at a few appropriate phrases for using when conversing with elders or superiors,

Examine the following dialogue.

Mrs. A has brought some homemade desserts to class, and is sharing them with friends in the lobby outside her classroom. Her teacher passes by...

先生 : あら、皆さん、何をしていますか。

A : お菓子を作って持ってきたので、みんなでいっしょに食べています。

先生 も 食べてもいいですよ。

先生 : え、ああ、はい。ありがとう・・・。



What do you think? Was Mrs. A's phrasing appropriate? No, it wasn't. 「食べてもいいですよ」 is a phrase used to give direct permission. It is considered rude to use phrasing which suggests "allowing permission" to an elder or superior. 「先生もどうぞ。」 or 「先生も召し上がってください。」 (using formal "keigo" Japanese) would be appropriate in this situation.

How about here? Mrs. A says the following to her teacher after class...

A : 先生、今日の授業、とても良かったですよ。ありがとうございました。

What do you think? At first glance, it seems like Mrs. A has expressed her thoughts and her gratitude well. However, in 「良かったですよ」 the speaker is passing judgment on the listener's action. This is not considered appropriate when the listener is an elder or superior. Similarly, 「上手です」「よくできています」 are not appropriate in this situation. At times when you wish to express your thoughts on something you have been taught, or a tale to which you have listened 「とても勉強になりました」 is a phrase worth remembering.

【Exercise】

Change the underlining phrasing to something more appropriate. There can be more than 1 correct answer.

- Mrs. A has invited her teacher to her house. Their conversation takes place as her teacher enters her home.

先生 : おじゃまします。

A : どうぞ。(Pointing to the sofa) そちらに (座ってもいいですよ。
→)

japanese lesson



2. 上司 : Aさん、今日のミーティング、明日に変更してもいいかな。
A : はい、(いいですよ。→)

3. 先輩 : この資料、作ってみたんだけど、どうかな。
A : (After looking through the materials) とても(よくできている
→) と思います。

4. Post-meeting, to a superior who spoke at the meeting.
A : 先輩、さっきの会議での先輩のお話、とても(上手でした。
→)

【Answers】

1. おかけください。／お座りください。2. わかりました。3. わかりやすい。4. 勉強
になりました。／よくわかりました。

参考書籍：日本語文法演習 敬語を中心とした対人関係の表現－待遇表現－



We would like to apologise for a misprint in last month's Japanese lesson. The lesson was contributed by Michi Mori.

先月号の日本語レッスン担当者は杜美智さんでした。修正しお詫びいたします。



free parking!

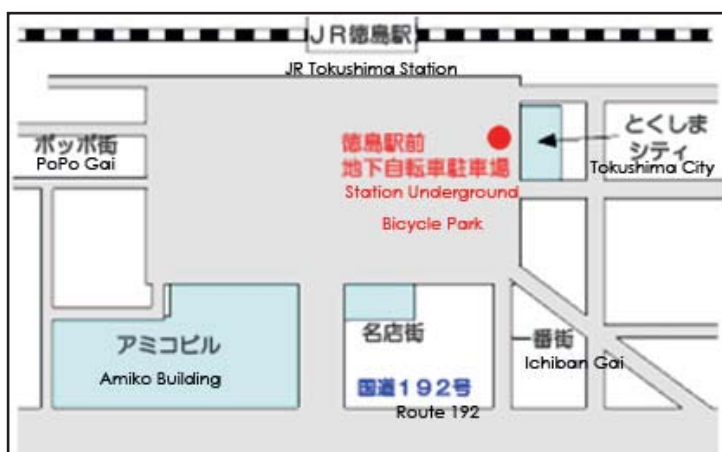
As of April 1 2013, parking at Tokushima Station Underground Bicycle Park is free for up to 2 hours!

無料の自転車駐輪場！

徳島駅前地下自転車駐輪場が、平成25年4月1日から、2時間未満の駐輪が無料となっています！

Parking bicycles around the Tokushima station area is prohibited. Specifically, the area spanning 500m east and west, and 200m south and north was deemed a Prohibited Zone subject to daily checks and removals throughout the working week. **Visitors to TOPIA are asked to make use of the underground bicycle parking facility.**

徳島駅前周辺は、条例に基づき、徳島駅前の東西500m南北200mの範囲を「自転車放置禁止区域」と定め、平日の毎日放置自転車の指導及び撤去を実施しています。日本語教室等で、自転車を駐輪する場合は、地下駐輪場を利用してください。



german house railroad festival

ドイツ館の鉄道会

From young to old, this is a railroad event that can be enjoyed by all!

The first floor hall will host to a model railway conductors convention, and locomotives for children mean they are able not only watch the fun, but join in too! Between June 8th (Sat) and 17th (Mon), a German Railroad Exhibition will be held in the 2nd floor exhibition space. A 2metre C62 locomotive, and a to scale 5:1 replica of the Koppel Type C steam engine will be amongst the items on display. Don't miss out!

Where: Naruto German House

When: June 8th (Sat) – 9th (Sun) 10:00 – 16:00

Info: Naruto German House

TEL: 088-689-0099

1st floor convention: Free

2nd floor exhibition: Adults ¥400

Elementary & JHS students ¥100

子どもから大人まで、みんなで鉄道を楽しめるイベントです！

1 階ホールでは鉄道模型の運転会が行われます ♪ 子ども用機関車もやってきて、見るだけではなく、乗って楽しむこともできます！ 2 階企画展では 6 月 8 日(土)～17 日(月)まで『ドイツ鉄道展』も開催。大きさ 2m の C62 型機関車や、5 分の 1 スケール コッペル社製 C 型蒸気機関車が登場します。皆さま是非お越し下さい。

日時： 2013/6/8(土)・9(日)10:00～16:00

場所： 鳴門市ドイツ館1階ホール

問合せ： 鳴門市ドイツ館

TEL： 088-689-0099

1F 「ドイツ館の鉄道会」入場料：無料

2F 「ドイツ鉄道展」入館料： 大人:400 円

小中学生:100 円

otani river firefly festival

大谷川ホタル祭り

From late May to early June, *Luciola cruciata* fireflies (Naruto City's designated natural treasure), can be taken seen around the Otani River area. Discover the best firefly viewing points and enjoy refreshments by coming along to the Otani River Firefly Festival.

When: June 8th (Sat) – 9th (Sun) 19:00 – 21:00

Where: Naruto City, Ouasa, Otani, Otani River (Close to the Mitake shrine)

Info: Hotie Kominkan

TEL: 090-8975-4307

Cost: Free

大谷川周辺では、5 月下旬から 6 月上旬にかけて鳴門市指定天然記念物のゲンジホタルが鑑賞できる。大谷川ホタル祭りでは、模擬店の出展やホタルの鑑賞ポイントも教えてもらえる。

日時： 2013/6/8(土)・9(日) 19:00 – 21:00

場所： 鳴門市大麻町大谷

大谷川(御嶽神社付近)

問合せ: 堀江公民館

TEL: 090-8975-4307

料金： 無料！

counselling service at TOPIA

トピアの相談窓口

TOPIA offers a counselling and advisory service to all foreign residents to help with issues involving accidents, working conditions, housing, visas, international marriage, and more. Counselling is available in English and Japanese. Please note that although every effort will be made, we may not be able to deal with all cases.

Everyday, 10:00 - 18:00 Tel. 088-656-3303 or 088-656-3320 (allows three-way conversations with an interpreter)

正しい知識で差別解消