



# Tomodachi

Newsletter of the AJSNSW

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

JUNE 2008

## HIGHLIGHTS:

- EGM June 18 to vote on **AJSNSW** change of status and new constitution.
- National Conference to be held in Coffs Harbour in July

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## Tomodachi Returns!

Tomodachi, our previous communication publication with members, has not been produced for some years, being supplanted instead by our **E-invite** email notifications. But as we expand our activities, we have decided to reintroduce a publication especially for the benefit of members.

Selected by the Australia-Japan Society (**AJSNSW**) years ago, as the masthead name for our communication with members, Tomodachi (友達) means "friend." Tomodachi will help our

## 友達

"... continuing our long history"

members keep in touch with what is going on in the Australia-Japan scene. However, members will still be notified of up coming events through our **E-invite** emails.

The **AJSNSW** has some great events coming up. In July we are holding what has become a signature event, our Sumo night. Come along

## Annual Dues

**AJSNSW Membership subscriptions are payable by July 1.**

**Have you received your renewal?**

**If not please email us: [infonsw@austjapanfed.org.au](mailto:infonsw@austjapanfed.org.au)**

and join us for a live satellite feed of the third last night of the Nagoya basho full details [inside](#).

Following on our successful first Shaberanaito!, we will again join with the Japanese Society of Sydney to hold another one in July. See our report on

Shaberanaito! [Inside](#).

Shortly we will notify members of our next **AJSNSW** business functions, including our Twilight Seminar program in collaboration with the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry Sydney.

Also in July, Coffs Harbour will host the National Conference of Australia-Japan Societies. Full details [inside](#).

Don't also forget to catch the Taisho Chic exhibition at NSW Art Gallery.

June is a busy month. Australia's Prime Minister Rudd visits Japan and a number of young Australians will also visit under a Japanese Government initiative called the **Invitation Programme for Future Business Counterparts from Australia**. The aim of this unique programme is to invite young professionals from Australia to increase their understanding of Japan, through lectures on Japan's business trends, its major industries, the bilateral business, and through discussions with young Japanese professionals. Countermeasures against global warming taken by Japanese corporations will be covered in a cross-sectoral manner as well.

## Support Your Society!

David H Jacobs, President of the **AJSNSW** explains about current changes to your Society.

On Wednesday June 18th, members will be asked to vote at an Extraordinary Meeting of the **AJSNSW**, on the change of status of the Society. At the same time, members will be asked to approve a new Constitu-

tion which will update our current one, largely untouched since 1975. All members have been mailed a notice of meeting together with the copy of the proposed new Constitution. In addition, the sub-committee set up to oversee this process has provided an explanation as to why the current course of action is being pursued. My thanks to all

sub committee members and especially to Ian Stewart, our Treasurer and Secretary and to fellow Director, Philip Mitchell from [TressCox](#) who generously gave of their time to bring this task to fruition. I urge all members to vote in favour of the proposals on Wednesday June 18th.



# Sumo Night! Thursday July 24th

Those of us who have seen Sumo live in Japan, know just what an incredible spectacle it can be. Lots of vibrant colour, stylized ceremony, noise and heightened anticipation. Well, you might not be able to fly to Nagoya to the Aichi Gymnasium on Thursday 24th July in time for the final days of the *basho* (tournament) but the **AJSNSW** can give you the next best thing!

Come along to join with other **AJSNSW** members at Harts Pub in

the city and see a live satellite feed of the Sumo. Full details and booking forms will be sent out shortly by our **E-invite** email. Why not also bring your friends? But register

Then here are a couple of good links:

**English:**

[www.sumo.or.jp/eng/index.html](http://www.sumo.or.jp/eng/index.html)

[www.japantimes.co.jp/sports/sumo.html](http://www.japantimes.co.jp/sports/sumo.html)

Beginners Guide:

[sumo.goo.ne.jp/eng/ozumo\\_joho\\_kyoku/shiru/kiso\\_chishiki/beginners\\_guide/index.html](http://sumo.goo.ne.jp/eng/ozumo_joho_kyoku/shiru/kiso_chishiki/beginners_guide/index.html)

**Japanese:**

[ja.wikipedia.org/wiki/相撲](http://ja.wikipedia.org/wiki/相撲)

## 場所

“*Basho*”—tournament

early, as this event is always popular and places fill up fast.

Want to know more about Sumo?

“You can contribute to making our Society vital by lending a hand.”  
Read “Volunteers Wanted!” on page 4 to see how you could help.

## National Conference - Coffs Harbour

The National Federation of Australia-Japan Societies (Incorporated) is the peak body in Australia for the promotion of Australia-Japan cultural, public affairs and educational activities.

The theme of the conference is “Taking it One Step Further.” According to this year’s host, the Australia-Japan Society of Coffs Harbour, “discussion will focus on where the National Federation is

heading and how it can assist member societies, particularly those starting off. Coffs Harbour is the first city outside the capital cities to host a National Federation conference, special consideration will be given to assisting regional centres.” In 2008, Coffs Harbour celebrates 20 years of its sister city relationship with Sasebo, Kyushu.

The conference will be from **Friday 25th until Sunday 27th July.**

Full details of the conference program and costs are available on the National Federation Website under “Conference 2008” at:

[www.austjapanfed.org.au/index.php?MMID=547](http://www.austjapanfed.org.au/index.php?MMID=547)

## Welcome: New Members

The **AJSNSW** welcomes recent new members:

**Corporate:**

- Digital Tsunami
- Andrew Morse

**Family**

- Akira Nakajima

**Educational**

- Seiko Kei Karate
- Ron Matthews
- ANJeL
- Luke Nottage

**Individual**

- Anita Byrnes
- Jason Fuller

- Jason Hitch
- Richard Hughes
- Katherine Saunders

**Concession:**

- Ronald Timothy Jap

Seckin Ungur,  
Director - Memberships **AJSNSW**

# AJSNSW Recent Happenings

## Young Success Stories

Vice President Leigh McClintock was the inspiration behind a night to showcase what young people are doing to enrich the Australia-Japan relationship. Consul-General in Sydney Mr Hobo attended the function. The venue for the night was generously provided by legal-firm [TressCox](#). Over 50 people attended.



Vice President Leigh McClintock, members of Team Australia and a Matchbox Project Display at the Young Success Stories night

## Our First Shaberanaito!

The Japanese Society of Sydney (JSS) discussed with the AJSNSW about arranging a function aimed at young members. As a result the first such event, Shaberanaito! (A Night of Conversation) was held. Almost 70 people registered for the event, which took the form of a short presentation on the topic for the evening followed by groups of Japanese and our native English speaker members providing the opportunity to hold guided conversations.

nal concept from Saito-san President of JSS and Tanaka-san the Vice President.

**Why not bring a friend along to our next function?**

**Remember Members get special rates at all our events.**

established by the Inoue Yasushi Memorial Culture Foundation and set up at the University of Sydney in 2006 to encourage Australian researchers, scholars and Ph.D students who are studying Japanese culture and literature. The winner was Dr Roman Rosenbaum, from



Consul General Hobo at the Inoue Yasushi Award

the University of Sydney. A further report will be in our next **Tomodachi**.

## Ambassador Meeting:

The Board of the AJSNSW recently had a dinner meeting with the Japanese Ambassador to Australia, H.E. Taka-aki Kojima and his wife. The meeting provided an opportunity to discuss and exchange views on the current issues in Australia-Japan relations as well as highlight future directions for the **AJSNSW**.



Ambassador Kojima



Shaberanaito! A great turnout. Venue courtesy Sumitomo Australia

## Inoue Yasushi Award Presentation

The topic for the night was "Sport in Australia: and Vice President Leigh McClintock set the scene and highlighted some great English expressions derived from sport but which have passed into common usage. Our special thanks of Sumitomo Australia for providing a great venue for this function and to the origi-

Inoue Yasushi was one of the most famous and respected Japanese novelists in Post-War Japanese Literature. The Award, the second time it has been presented, was



Taisho Chic  
Japan in the 20s and 30s

If you wish to  
submit an event  
for inclusion in

Tomodachi,

simply email :

[infonsw@austjapanfed.org.au](mailto:infonsw@austjapanfed.org.au)

[Both a formatted flyer, as well as  
a plain text file, are preferred]

## What's On

This month there are a few art related events in Sydney.

### Taisho Chic

#### Japan in the 20s and 30s

**Where:** Art Gallery of NSW

**When:** Until 3rd August

The balance between modernity and nostalgia — the clash and the embrace — is captured in this exhibition of paintings, prints, textiles and decorative arts from the period, ranging from prints of coolly sophisticated young women to bold kimonos with abstract patterns that reinterpreted traditional motifs and sleek glassware that represented the latest in art deco chic.

[www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au/exhibitions/current/taisho\\_chic](http://www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au/exhibitions/current/taisho_chic)

### Hello Tokyo!

#### Contemporary Art in Japan and Australia

**Where:** Art Gallery of NSW

**When:** Sunday 15th June

Hear eight leading curators and artists from

Japan and Australia talk on key issues for contemporary art in and between the two countries, and the region: joint projects, biennales, art museums and the role of artists.

Speakers from Japan are Fumihiko Sumitomo, curator, Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, Hisako Hara, leading critic, curator and academic from Osaka, Taro Amano, Chief Curator, Yokohama Museum of Art and Jin Kurashige, participating artist in the Sydney Biennale. They are matched by Reuben Keehan, curator, Artspace (and curator of *Between Places*, opening at Tokyo Wonder Site on 13 September), Suhanya Raffel, Head of Asian, Pacific and International Art, Queensland Art Gallery, Jackie Menzies, Head Curator, Asian Art, Art Gallery of NSW and Shaun Gladwell, also participating in the Syd-

ney Biennale, and one of the 2 Australians in the last Yokohama Biennale.

[www.asialink.unimelb.edu.au/sydneyforum](http://www.asialink.unimelb.edu.au/sydneyforum)

### Sydney Film Festival

#### Japanese Films

**Where:** Various Venues

**When:** During June

Film Titles:

Appleseed Saga: Ex Machina

KUROZU ZERO

A Gentle Breeze In The Village

A Page of Madness

Sukiyaki Western Django

Tokyo Sonata

Full details and screening times and locations of these films:

[www.sydneyfilmfestival.org](http://www.sydneyfilmfestival.org)

### Heads Up for July:

#### TaikOz

#### Drumming Workshop

**When:** Saturday 12th July

Full details:

Email [admin@taikoz.com](mailto:admin@taikoz.com) or 02 9572 8595

## Volunteers Wanted!

The **AJSNSW** operates through its Board. The Board's Directors do all of this in a voluntary capacity and freely give of their time. If you are a member of **AJSNSW** and have a few hours you could spare on an occasional basis, we would like to hear from you. Read on to find out more:

We are ideally looking for volunteers who have some degree of computer skills, writing skills or are comfortable with making telephone contact. **AJSNSW** is currently seeking to enlarge its membership base and a typical task would be to assist in building up our target data base, helping with mail-outs etc. We also are interested in volunteers with good writing skills to assist us with content for our communication

modes with members. Naturally we will cover out-of-pocket costs.

If you are interested in this, please email us at:

[infonsw@austjapanfed.org.au](mailto:infonsw@austjapanfed.org.au).





# Australia–Japan Society of NSW (Inc)

ABN 70 001 250 228

Co–Patrons: The Premier of New South Wales.  
The Consul General of Japan, Sydney

Established 1968

## OBJECTIVES:

The objects for which the Society is established are:

- To promote mutual understanding between the peoples of Australia and Japan,
- To stimulate amongst Australians an informed interest in the Japanese people and in Japanese political, economic, business, social and cultural matters,
- To encourage an interest in Australian political, economic, business, social and cultural matters in Japanese people,
- To provide opportunities and facilities for contact between Australians having a common interest in Japan and between Australians and Japanese,
- To cooperate with other organizations in Australia and Japan with similar objects,
- To subscribe to or become a member of and cooperate with any other club, association or organization whether incorporated or not whose objects are altogether or in part similar to those of the Society, and
- To hold or arrange cultural, academic, languages and sporting contests, festivals or displays, or competitions which tend to promote or further mutual understanding between the peoples of Australia and Japan.

**Address:** PO Box R937, ROYAL EXCHANGE NSW 1225

**Telephone:** (02) 9214 7410 Fax: (02) 9487 5874

**Email:** [infonsw@austjapanfed.org.au](mailto:infonsw@austjapanfed.org.au)

**Web:** [www.austjapanfed.org.au](http://www.austjapanfed.org.au)

## The Board

**President:** David H . Jacobs

**Vice President:** Leigh McClintock

**Treasurer & Secretary:** Ian Stewart

## Other Directors -

Anita Byrnes

Seckin Cetin

Debra Hazelton

Philip Mitchell

Masanori Ohtani

Philip Porter

Teri Teramoto

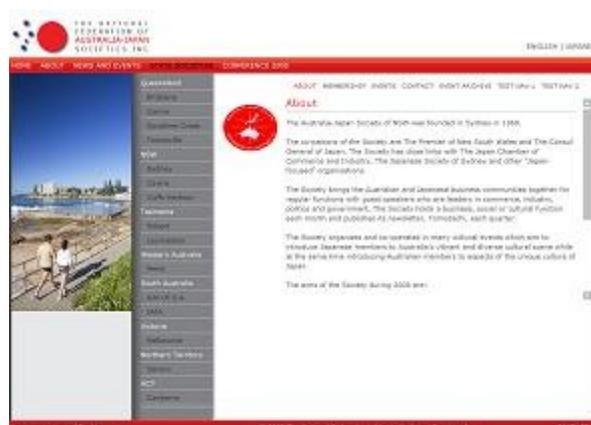
## AJSNSW Website

You can keep up to date with all the recent events of the AJSNSW by visiting our website. Our website is located within the National Federation of Australia-Japan Societies so that, at a glance, you can see all the activities that are going on around Australia.

To view our webpages simply go to:

[www.austjapanfed.org.au](http://www.austjapanfed.org.au)

then select “Sydney” from the menu.



**“The AJSNSW website provides you with the list of our current and past events on line—so even if you miss our regular emails you can always find out about our next event**