



Australia Japan Society of NSW Incorporated

Tomodachi Newsletter

22 November 2010

President's message

This year has been a busy one for your Society. A solid program of special events, lectures and social occasions, gave members, their friends and guests the opportunity to hear and see topical areas of interest.

We also developed our new website www.ajsnsw.org.au which will be improved over time to provide members with an increased range of information and services.

The Society is keen to expand its membership over the coming months and years. As we increase our membership numbers, we will be able to offer a greater range and scope of events, so please encourage others you know to join the AJS NSW.

Thanks to the members of the Board who all contribute their time voluntarily for the work of the Society.

I wish you all a very happy and enjoyable Christmas and New Year as we look forward to the many opportunities the AJS NSW offers to understand, enhance and enjoy Australia-Japan relations in 2011.

Philip Mitchell
President

Members enjoy the Sumo grand tournament

More than 50 members and friends ventured into the Menzies Hotel on Thursday 18 November to watch that day's program from the Fukuoka Grand Sumo Tournament, held over 2 weeks from Sunday 14 – Sunday 28 November.

The group was entertained by some very exciting matches. The final matches for the evening provided the opportunity for several people to win prizes. Other guests were the recipients of a number of lucky door prizes, generously donated by our sponsors and supporters.

The plentiful supply of food also added to the excitement on the night. Check out the photos at the back of the newsletter.

A special thanks go to Masanori Ohtani from AJS NSW and his wife Momoe for organising the event.

AJS NSW proud to sponsor UNSW prize

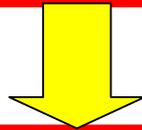
The Society continues to support activities that strengthen the links between Australia and Japan.

The Australia-Japan Society of NSW prize will be an annual feature of the awards presentations at the University of NSW School of Languages and Linguistics.

With AJS NSW contributing \$400 and the UNSW contributing a further \$100, the \$500 prize will be keenly sought after.

The Awards is for students who are taking Japanese as a major and who have demonstrated outstanding performance across their Japanese studies.

The Award will be given for the first time in April/May next year for outstanding performance in a student's 2010 studies.



Exciting opportunity in Kanazawa to learn Japanese language and culture in April 2011

Applications are now being accepted for the 2 week course in Japanese language/culture in Kanazawa.

The course will run for 2 weeks from 17th to 29th April next year and include language lessons, cultural activities and homestay accommodation with a Japanese family.

The program is being run by the Australia-Japan Society of ACT in conjunction with the Ishikawa Foundation for International Exchange.

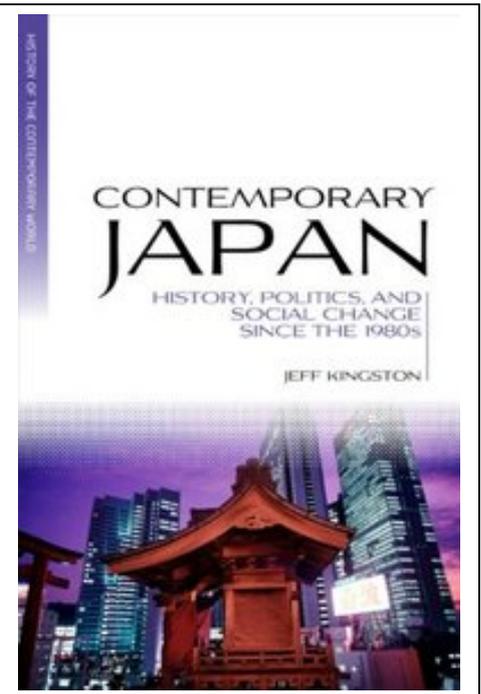
Applicants must be at least 20 years of age, be a member of an Australia-Japan Society (or join one) and be prepared to stay in Japan for the duration of the course.

To get more information on this exciting opportunity, send an email to Michael Hodgkin at the following address mhodgkin@pcug.org.au

In print

A new book takes an interesting look at society in Japan since 1989 when Emperor Akihito ascended the throne. "Contemporary Japan: History, Politics and Social Change since the 1980s" by Jeff Kingston looks at a range of issues from the start of the Heisei era, the economy, the movement in the part time and temporary workforce from 1/5th of the population to 1/3rd, the growing ageing population and the political climate and environment of the last 20 years.

"Contemporary Japan" is full of very useful dates and data.



2010 Japanese Film festival – starting now

From 22 – 28 November in Sydney at event Cinemas in George Street, the 14th Japanese Film Festival will feature the latest films straight from Japan.

The Opening Film ***About Her Brother*** (screening on Monday 22 November in Sydney) takes a wonderful look at the relationship which develops between Ginko and her younger brother Tetsuro, which progresses from her feelings of anger towards him and moves to a great story of love and tolerance when she finds out he is terminally ill.

The Closing Film ***A Lone Scalpel*** (screening in Sydney on Sunday 28 November) tells the story of Dr Touma who passes up a promising career in the medical elite to practice in a small city hospital. The issues he has to confront make the film very memorable.

For the complete list of movie titles, times dates and for ticket information, go to www.japanesefilmfestival.net



Photos from the Annual Sumo Party 18 November at the Menzies Hotel

