

MOVIES

TOHO CINEMAS Niihama (AEON Mall)

March 29 ~	Dumbo	Dubbed
April 12 ~	Halloween R15+	English
April 12 ~	Hunter Killer	English
April 19 ~	Shazam!	English / Dubbed
April 25 ~	Marvel Avengers: Endgame	English
May 3 ~	Detective Pikachu	English
May 10 ~	Overlord	English
May 31 ~	Godzilla: King of the Monsters	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 online from Niihama City:

☆For the garbage rules:

Go to: city.niihama.lg.jp

Search for: Niihama Shi How to sort and put out your trash and garbage

☆For What's New? in English or Chinese

Go directly to:

www.city.niihama.lg.jp/soshiki/chiiki/whatsnew2019.html

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 Y. Fukuma & Y. Amano

ONE POINT JAPANESE

“しまいました(しまった)”の表現

<p>A: ^{さくら}桜がもう ^ち散ってしまいましたね。 Sakura ga mō chitte shimaimashita ne. (The cherry blossoms have already scattered.)</p> <p>B: あつと ^まいう間 でしたね。 Atto yū ma deshita ne. (They were gone before I knew it!)</p> <p>A: でも ^{いま}今から ^は葉ざくらが とても きれいですよ。 Demo, ima kara hazakura ga totemo kire desu yo. (But next the leafy, green cherry trees will be beautiful.)</p> <p>B: そうですか。でも、^{はな}花が なければ さくらだと わかりにくいですね。 Sō desu ka. Demo hana ga nakereba, sakura da to wakaririkui desu ne. (Really? But without blossoms, it's difficult to tell they are cherry trees.)</p>
<p>A: ^{やくそく}しまった! ^{じかん}約束の 時間を まちがえていました。 Shimatta! Yakusoku no jikan o machigaete shimaimashita. (Oh, no! I got the meeting time wrong.)</p> <p>B: ^{だいじょうぶ}大丈夫ですよ。まだ、間に合いますよ。 Daijōbu desu yo. Mada maniaimasu yo. (It's OK. You can still make it in time.)</p> <p>A: よく ^{かんが}考えたら、^{やくそく}約束は ^{あした}明日でした。 Yoku kangaetara, yakusoku wa ashita deshita. (On second thought, the meeting day was tomorrow.)</p> <p>B: よかったですね。 Yokatta desu ne. (That's good.)</p>
<p>A: あ、よかった。 A, yokatta. (Ah, I'm relieved.)</p> <p>B: どうしたの。 Dō shita no. (What happened?)</p> <p>A: ^{きのう}昨日、^{さいふ}財布を ^お落として ^{いま}しまったんだけど、^み今、見つかったって ^{れんらく}連絡が あったんですよ。 Kinō saifu o otoshite shimattan dakedo, ima, mitsukattatte renraku ga attandesu yo. (Yesterday, I lost my wallet, but just I received word that it was found.)</p> <p>B: わあ、よかったね。 Waa, yokatta ne. (Wow, that's great.)</p>

< 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).

e-mail: manami-m@js6.so-net.ne.jp

What's New?

Niihama City

No.285 May 2019

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Out With The New, In With The Old? Hannah Melnyk

Around two years ago, I decided that I had had enough of apartment living. It was late February when I ventured out, alone, to an estate agents and after jumping through what seemed like a few thousand hoops and a forest's worth of paperwork later, I found myself a few months later with keys to my new house. All my possessions loaded up into a borrowed truck I set about moving.

Whilst putting most of my effort and concentration into the estate agents, I had seemingly neglected the fact that I was moving from a 1LK semi-furnished apartment into a 5DK house... that was completely unfurnished.

I had managed to remember to buy the essentials such as a refrigerator, but even once everything was delivered and the truck unloaded, my things barely filled 2 rooms of the house. Maybe this wasn't the best idea after all...

Most of my friends, especially those older than myself were apprehensive about the move. Not for the same reasons I had, but because my 'new' house is over 50years old. "It's too old. It's too dangerous." they would say. "It's so old-fashioned!" they exclaimed. Sitting on the kitchen floor, that was empty except for the giant refrigerator and the small system kitchen, I began to think that they were right.

Of course, they were right that it is old fashioned and lacks any mod-cons. The living room has a garish green tiled wall, with a fake red brick fireplace and fake blue marble top. The room is completed by a huge, over-the-top, ridiculous chandelier. The tatami rooms are completed with glittery mud walls. There is no air conditioner units in sight and certainly not enough power sockets

Things got worse when I started to buy items for the house. "That dresser is so old! Why on Earth do you want that!?" they protested when I bought a Kamakura-bori dresser. My reason was always the same: "It fits with the house!" Not to mention,

'mottainai'. Why buy something new and expensive, when there's already a perfect thing for your need that maybe just needs a little TLC?

Slowly but surely, they started coming round to this way of thinking. Instead of throwing things away, they started offering them to me. First it was a couple of cupboards and small storage pieces that come from a friend's mother's house that were no longer needed. Then came the "I changed my kitchen, do you need some crockery?", then the "My family are moving away, do you want these old pots?". These questions were always followed by a slightly hesitant pause, then, "If not.... I'll just put them out on the next rubbish day..."

Of course, I'm not one to say no to freebies, but I also hate to see anything wasted. "I can find somewhere in the house to put it!" I would say gratefully, "Are you sure you don't want it!? It's beautiful!"

Not only did their thinking start to change with regards to old, traditional items, but my house became fuller and fuller. There's the beautiful tea ceremony pots that are now filled with flowers, the swing that had been in storage for many years, the solid and bulky wooden chests, the stone lantern for the garden and the list goes on.

Whilst my friends have pretty much reluctantly accepted my love of traditional items, old furniture and my obsession with rummaging around reuse shops, they have been slower to accept my love of old houses. "Isn't it too hot in summer?" "Isn't it too dark and cold in winter?"

What confuses them more, was when I was upset that almost all the remaining houses of Yamada Shataku were being demolished. The houses, albeit old and run down so much that most, if not all, were so dilapidated they were probably beyond repair, were beautiful and when built would have been the envy of everyone. Now the land is just waste land, bare and empty. My friends' reasoning came back to the same problems they had with my house: "Too old." "Not safe if there's an earthquake". My argument back was, if they had been looked after and not left to rot, they wouldn't have been so dangerous and renovations wouldn't have been so costly.

However, a few weeks later, "You're right" one friend said. "We should be keeping our traditional items, they're part of our culture. I don't like this throwaway culture that we've started to acquire. It's convenient but..." My other friends also quietly started to agree. I could have jumped for joy, but instead, I said just nodded in agreement.

I didn't quite have the courage to tell them that, apart from some chips and scrapes, plus the fact it needs a good clean and re-varnishing, I've found the perfect dining room dresser!



Hannah is a teacher at Jade Eikaiwa and has been living in Niihama for eight years. When she's not working she can usually be found hanging out at the riding school, looking after vegetables in her garden or scouring the resell stores.

Niihama City International Center

"Niihama City International Center" has just been opened.

Please feel free to visit us if you need help for situations such as:

- Learning Japanese
- Seeing a doctor and receiving help with Japanese
- Learning how to make "bento"
- Teaching how to cook dishes from your home country
- Receiving help with Japanese regarding handouts from elementary school.

We are ready to help you to solve your problems.

Place: Bunka Center Bekkan

TEL: 0897-65-1579 Fax: 0897-65-3157

Open: Tues. - Sat.

Time: 12:00PM - 6:00PM

Closed: Sundays, Mondays and National holidays



MAY EVENTS

4/27~5/6 10-day Golden Week Holiday

5/1 The New Era "Reiwa" Begins.

Ehime Mandarin Pirate Baseball Game at City Stadium

5/12 (Sun) 12:00 p.m. ~ vs. Kochi Fighting Dogs

Free for elementary school & Jr. high students.

If it rains, it will be cancelled.

For details: Please call City Office TEL: 0897-65-1303

5/15 (Wed) 11:00 a.m. J-Alert System Test

J-Alert is a nationwide warning system.

At Minetopia Besshi

5/1~5/31 Peony Flowers are in full bloom.※

5/18 (Sat) - 19 (Sun) ※

You can enjoy a demonstration of katsuo (bonito) cooking and Japanese drumming. Admission free.

※Free shuttle bus to Minetopia from Kokuryo-gawa river's west bank near Yamane Park

4/28~5/5, 5/18, 5/19 (10:00 a.m.~4:00 p.m.)

6/1 (Sat) Free Welcome Tour for New Residents of Niihama

Niihama Minami High School UNESCO Club gives a free tour around Niihama 9:00 a.m.~5:00 p.m. (in Japanese)

20 people. First come first served. About ¥1000 is needed for lunch.

Reservations required by May 27.

Please call City Hall: 0897-65-1238



Internationalization in Ehime

(from Ehime Shimbun August 21, 2018)

I was puzzled when asked, "How many foreigners do you think live in Ehime Prefecture?" The answer is 11,488 at the time of April, 2018. This means one out of 120 people is a nonnative. I had not thought the number is so large, however it made more sense when I was told that more than 30% of people from abroad are Chinese who bear a strong resemblance to Japanese. Since half of them are technical trainees, working in factories, etc., they hardly have chance to go out during the daytime. Globalization proceeds invisibly.

A seminar on Japanese language education held recently at Ehime University inferred a great deal. What the instructor told was persuasive, and I nodded in assent. Even easy verb conjugations or word pronunciations are difficult to explain to nonnatives. It may be of help for their understanding if explained slowly and expressively, in easy short sentences. The important point is to patiently wait for their understanding, listening attentively imagining their perspective. It does not mean that they are inferior in intellectual thinking if their understanding of Japanese language is slow.

The former UN Secretary General Mr. Kofi Atta Annan recently passed away. He used to pursue peace by dialogue and put emphasis on the dignity of human beings in all countries. He kept his high school teacher's words at heart, "someone is suffering somewhere and it is not someone else's business." The Japanese government is expanding the number of foreign workers to compensate for the labor shortage. People from abroad who suffer communication failure may increase around us. It will be good if we have more people who can assist these people to be able to express their true feelings. It should be the first step to communicate with each other well and live together.

