Welcome Message

Welcome to the Winter 2021 Centre for Japanese Studies e-Newsletter. In this issue we will be celebrating our 20th episode of our Beyond Japan podcast series with a look back on our top three episodes to date. JapanInNorwich.org has also seen a makeover with a new MAIJS Student Spot to keep our students enrolled on our MA in Interdisciplinary Japanese Studies updated and connected through lockdown. For our wider following, we have a range of events coming up including our monthly CJS webinars. Finally we compiled a selection of scholarships and digital learning resources to help anyone looking to take their interest in Japan to the academic level.

We always welcome feedback and are very happy to pass on Japan-related news of relevance to our readership – so do get in touch and let us know what you think.

Stay safe and well,

Simon and Oliver

Editor’s note: Japanese names are given in the Japanese form of family name first i.e. MATSUMOTO Mariko
Last year, the University of East Anglia together with the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures were delighted to announce the launch of our MA programme in Interdisciplinary Japanese Studies. For our inaugural year, we were delighted to welcome 8 students to the programme and to Norwich. We now invite prospective students to join our blossoming programme this September 2021. We have funding available for any interested applying, including Sasakawa Postgraduate Studentships from the Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation, so please do take a look and feel free to get in touch with any questions you may have about the course. See our webpage for more information or apply here directly.

Administered through UEA’s Interdisciplinary Institute for the Humanities, home to the Centre for Japanese Studies, this MA course is a collaboration of Japan specialists from both the University and the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures. Lecturers with academic focus on Japan from several schools of study at UEA, as well as academic staff of the Sainsbury Institute together have developed an innovative interdisciplinary curriculum for students who want to know about Japan, its place in the world, and its transforming cultural identity. For a taste of diversity amongst our lecturers, watch our new video on YouTube or check our Beyond Japan podcast episodes #1-#7 for in-depth discussion with the teaching team.

The third UK lockdown has seen us return to the now all-too-familiar homebound lifestyle that has come to define the pandemic. However, through each lockdown we have innovated new means of reaching out to our following. First came our Beyond Japan podcast series, now on its 20th episode and growing strong. By the second lockdown, we had our CJS Webinars in full swing. Now we are focussing on our cohort of MA students, bringing to them their own digital space where we can stay in touch while we are separated, keep them updated on course-related news and research and discuss their own research amongst themselves. Any students enrolled on our MA in Interdisciplinary Japanese Studies can create an account here using their @uea.ac.uk email. We hope you will join us online while we wait to reconnect once more in the classroom.
Beyond Japan, having reached its 20th episode on Lived Religion in Rural Japan, has come a long way from its first episode with our own Professor Simon Kaner back in April 2020. Since then, we have had over 2,000 combined views on YouTube and expanded to all podcast formats. You can find Beyond Japan on Spotify, Apple, Google, Anchor and many other servers. Alternatively, you can subscribe to our YouTube channel for the latest episodes.

Recently, Oliver was invited to write an article for the University of Sheffield’s School of East Asian Studies (SEAS) e-Newsletter, describing what he has done since graduating from Sheffield and his motives behind Beyond Japan.

To celebrate the milestone of our 20th episode, we’re giving you a rundown of the top three episodes from the last 90 days:

1. **Ep. #13: Hauntings and Discriminated Histories** with Professor Andrea De Antoni

   ![Hauntings and Discriminated Histories with Andrea De Antoni](image)
Ep. #17: Dansō Crossdressing and Gender in Japan with Dr Marta Fanasca


New episodes come out every Thursday. More information is available here.

CJS Research Webinar Series Schedule

This year we have a full roster for our CJS Research Webinar Series curated by our CJS colleague Dr Sherzod Muminov. Our webinar series runs on the second Thursday of every month from February through to May. Webinars typically consist of a 40-minute conversation with a guest speaker before going to a Q&A with our virtual audience. Subscribe to JapanInNorwich.org for email notifications when tickets are available for booking. Our first webinar will be on Thursday 11 February at 13:00 on ‘Rule of Law and Representative Democracy in Japan’ with Professor Kabashima Hiroshi. See our provisional schedule for this semester below:
FEBRUARY

Rule of Law and Representative Democracy in Japan
KABASHIMA Hiroshi
Professor, Graduate School of Law, Tōhoku University, Japan

MARCH

The Politics of Painting: Japanese Art during the Second World War
Asato IKEDA
Associate Professor of Art History, Fordham University

APRIL

[Title to be confirmed]
Bryan Hikari HARTZHEIM
Assistant Professor, Waseda University

MAY

Roundtable research seminar on the Anglo-Japanese Relations, 1894-1914
Participants:
Anthony BEST, Associate Professor, LSE
Chika TONOOKA, Kaplanoff Research Fellow, Pembroke College Cambridge
Upcoming Events & Opportunities

Tadashi Yanai Initiative for Globalizing Japanese Humanities
Summer School Deadline: Monday 12 April
Apply here

The National Centre for Writing has today confirmed a new three-year partnership with the Tadashi Yanai Initiative for Globalizing Japanese Humanities at UCLA, to bring an exciting new range of Japanese writers to the English-language readership. Working with Strangers Press, based at the University of East Anglia (UEA) the project will include Kyōkai, a series of five chapbooks, edited by Polly Barton and Asa Yoneda. It builds on the success of Keshiki, a series of eight Japanese chapbooks that has sold over 10,000 copies to date. The new Kyōkai series will focus on writers who are often marginalised - linguistically or geographically - to provide an alternative view of contemporary Japan.

The partnership includes the renowned British Centre for Literary Translation (BCLT). Bursaries will be available to support up-and-coming Japanese-English literary translators attending the BCLT online Summer School in July 2021.

An annual mentorship will also be available to a Japanese-English translator showing exceptional promise. The translators will work with a mentor to develop their craft and make connections within the publishing industry. In 2020-21, the Yanai Initiative supported the Japanese mentorship for the winner of the 2020 Harvill Secker Young Translator Prize, Jesse Kirkwood, who is being mentored by Polly Barton. The scheme is likely to open again for applications in summer 2021, but anyone interested should sign up to the NCW newsletter.

This wider three-year programme will be delivered by the National Centre for Writing in the UK, working in partnership with the British Centre for Literary Translation and Strangers Press at the University of East Anglia.

The Yanai Initiative is a collaborative project of UCLA’s Department of Asian Languages and Cultures and Waseda University, and is directed by Professor Michael Emmerich. Funded by a gift from Tadashi Yanai, the chair, president and CEO of Japan-based Fast Retailing and founder of clothing company Uniqlo, the Yanai Initiative supports symposia, public lectures, faculty research, scholarly exchange, cultural events and community outreach, as well as graduate and postdoctoral fellowships and undergraduate awards.

Japan Foundation/BAJS Postgraduate Workshop 2021
25-26 February
Free Registration: Apply here
The Japan Foundation/BAJS Postgraduate Workshop is back! A lot has changed since the 2020 iteration, and this year’s online workshop will be tackling the effects of the global pandemic on academia head on. The workshop will take place online and will be spread over two mornings. The aim of this workshop will be to help postgraduate students develop their careers in JS navigating the 'new normal'. We’re proud to mention our own MA students Natsue Hayward and Naomi Hughes-White will also be giving talks, so we encourage our MA students to join in and show their support for them.

This year, participating students will also be able to present their latest research to academics and their peers, gaining important feedback at a time when presenting opportunities is low. There will also be talks and discussions about key areas surrounding the rapidly changing world of Japanese Studies. Topics will include:

- Funding opportunities available to PhD candidates and early career researchers.
- The current state of academia in Japan and the effects of COVID-19
- Job opportunities both inside and outside of academia
- Creating a social media research presence
- And more...

**Eligibility**

Registration is open to postgraduate in any field of the humanities of social sciences with a focus on Japan (including comparative studies). Spaces are limited and priority will be given to PhD/Dphil students from the UK/Ireland. Master’s level students may apply at any time but their places will not be confirmed until closer to the event. Students must be able to attend both days.

**Japan’s Friendship Ties Programs MIRAI**

**Deadline: Sunday 14 February**

Japan’s Friendship Ties Programs MIRAI (Mutual understanding, Intellectual Relations and Academic Exchange Initiative) invites groups of promising young leaders from Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus who study politics, security policies, economics, science and technology, arts and culture, international relations, Asian studies, Japan Studies or other related fields, and also who are expected to play an active role in international society and provides opportunities to have intellectual exchanges with Japanese students of the same generations and scholars.
The program aims to deepen participants’ understanding of Japan and its policy, to promote mutual understandings and thus build a basis for future friendship and cooperation between Japan and their regions. The three main objectives include:

1. To promote mutual understandings
2. To enhance intellectual discussions
3. To build strong networks among future leaders of Japan and the world.

For more information, see their website.

**SISJAC Third Thursday Lectures**

Our colleagues at the Sainsbury Institute hold monthly lectures around Japanese arts and cultures every third Thursday. You can find out more about their upcoming events here.

**Scholarships and Funding**

Following the announcement that the Japanese government will be investing £70 million towards university research by 2022, now is a good time to be thinking about a Japan-oriented academic career. Take a look at some of the opportunities below to get started.

**Sasakawa Postgraduate Studentships**

Application deadline: 28 February 2021

The Centre for Japanese Studies has once again been invited to submit applications for a number of Sasakawa Postgraduate Studentships. This is the 8th year of this programme and we have been very successful in securing several of these studentships for MA and PhD students at UEA. This year we have three Sasakawa Postgraduate Studentship holders in HIS and AMA. Each studentship is worth £10,000 towards tuition fees and living expenses. In the first instance, please send a brief CV and a statement of interest (up to 500 words), specifying the course you are interested in and your future plans in Japan-related research and activity, to Professor Simon Kaner (s.kaner@uea.ac.uk) by 28 February 2021. More information is available here.

**Toyota-Shi Trevelyan Trust Scholarship**

Application deadline: Monday 19 April 2021

In a bid to contribute to academic research, international understanding and knowledge exchange, the Toyota-Shi Trevelyan Trust (TSTT) provides scholarships and bursaries to enable students from the United Kingdom to pursue studies in Japan. The scholarships, which amount to £5000 per award are available to undergraduate and postgraduate students who are residents in the UK to pursue a course of study or work placement in Japan during the 2020/2021 academic year.

Priority will be given to people who would be studying in the Aichi Prefecture and to be eligible you must have a good knowledge of the Japanese language and be pursuing a course in a related field.

If you would like to apply for a scholarship, send your CV with academic reference, transcript, a letter outlining your background and intended course of study in Japan and your most recent bank statement to scholarships@ish.org.uk
COVID News from Japan

For a running number of reported COVID19 infections, victims and recoveries in Japan, see the Asahi Shimbun homepage [JP].

Infections: 394,550  Hospital Admissions: 43,820  Recoveries: 344,796  Deaths: 6,070

For non-Japanese speakers, the numbers on the webpage indicate:

Infections: Yesterday  Hospital Admissions: Yesterday  Recoveries: Yesterday  Deaths: Yesterday

Visitor the Pandaid website for comprehensive material for educating on coronavirus. Nosigner has contributed many such manner posters including advising others to stay one tuna apart.

For a Japanese government public service video on coronavirus (Japanese only):

3 つの密を避けよう！

For Japanese speakers, here are two articles in English from the Japan Times laying out vocabulary coming out of the crisis:

- The Japanese words used to encourage self-restraint
- Cancellations, postponements, suspensions — words that define the times

Click here for a comprehensive online document on Japanese universities adopting distance learning.

For more information on Japanese universities see this twitter thread by Rochelle Kopp, professor at Kitakyushu University, for resources.

General Links

Orientations Magazine
Embassy of Japan
Japan Foundation
JSPS
British Association for Japanese Studies
Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation
Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation
Japan Society
EU-Japan Centre
Canon Foundation
Applications for JET Programme
Japanese Language Proficiency Exam
UEA Japan Society: ueajapansociety@gmail.com
Taiko Centre East
Career Forums
Contact Us

If you have any contributions for the next e-newsletter, please send them to us by **15 April 2021** to make the next issue.

Send us an email at **cjs@uea.ac.uk**.

To keep up with goings-on at CJS, follow us on social media:

Or visit our website: **japaninnorwich.org**

If you wish to be removed from our mailing list, please email cjs@uea.ac.uk