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Commerce in Japan

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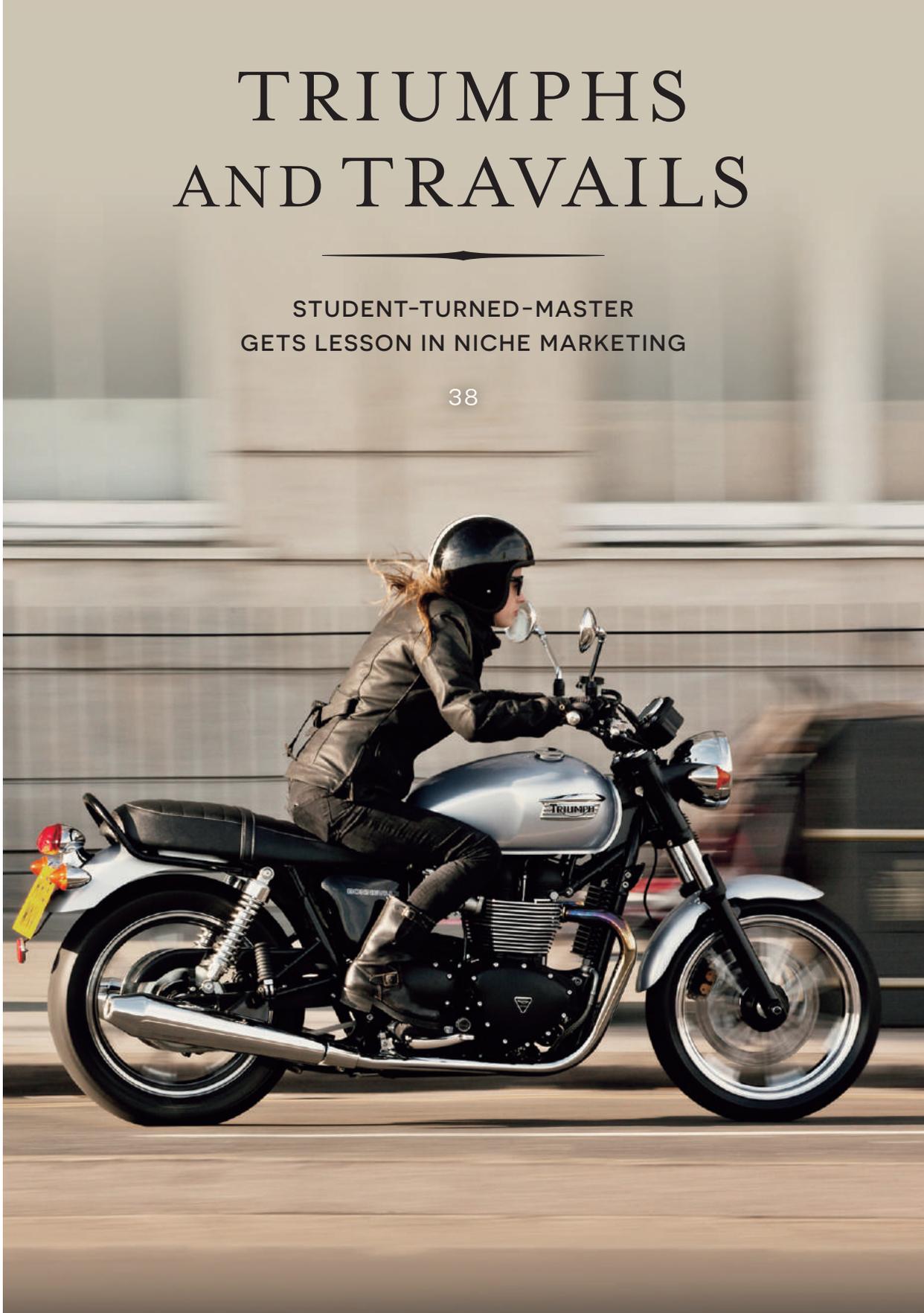
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ROBERT WALTERS

September 2018

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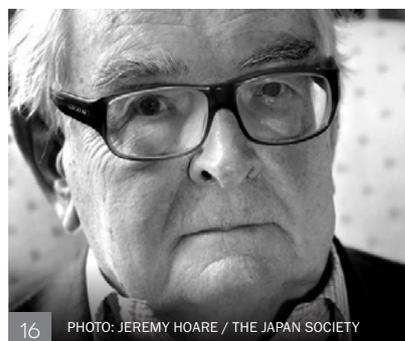


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PHOTO: BRITISH EMBASSY TOKYO



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PHOTO: JEREMY HOARE / THE JAPAN SOCIETY



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The British Chamber of Commerce in Japan

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To strengthen business ties between Britain and Japan, promote and support the business interests of all our Members, and actively encourage new business entrants into the Japanese market as well as Japanese investment into the UK.

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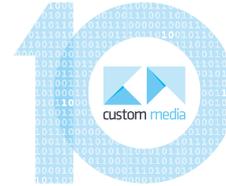
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Japanese investment

And cultural and sporting links around the UK

BY PAUL MADDEN CMG
BRITISH AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN
PHOTOS: BRITISH EMBASSY TOKYO



Ambassador Madden visited Hitachi's rail plant in Newton Aycliffe



A 1,000-acre site on Anglesey may be home to a new nuclear power station

I spent several weeks in August back in the UK, travelling on Japan-related business all around the country, including Scotland, Wales and the North East of England, as well as London. I was reminded again what a truly beautiful country we have, with an extraordinary diversity for our relatively small landmass.

My main focus was meeting Japanese investors across a wide range of business sectors. I was particularly pleased to visit the stunning 1,000-acre site on Anglesey, North Wales, where Hitachi hopes to build a new nuclear power station, subject to striking the right financial deal with the British government. The scale of the project is immense and would involve up to 9,000 workers in the construction phase.

In the North East, I visited Hitachi's rail plant at Newton Aycliffe, in County Durham, which is producing trains for intercity express and suburban lines. I also saw NSK's bearings plant at nearby Peterlee, which proudly claims to be the oldest Japanese manufacturing investment in England, dating back to the 1970s. The sophistication of its products has evolved significantly over that time, but it remains a key supplier to automakers in Britain and Europe.

I had several roundtable discussions with groups of investors, facilitated by the Welsh government and by the Japanese Consulate General in Edinburgh. Inevitably there was quite a lot of discussion about Brexit. I had previously caught up with the latest thinking in calls on key government departments in London, including the Department for Exiting the European Union, the Department for International Trade and the Department for Business,

Energy and International Strategy. The firms were supportive of the proposals for continuing access to the EU market set out in the British Government's white paper. Their main concern was continuity, in order to minimise disruption to their European supply chains and export markets.

Cultural exchanges

I also saw many examples of cultural exchanges between Japan and Britain. In London, I visited the brand new Japan House on Kensington High Street, one of only three that have been established by the Japanese government—the others being in Los Angeles and Sao Paulo, Brazil. With retail, exhibition and performance spaces, plus a Japanese restaurant, it looks set to become a great showcase for Japan in Britain. Do drop in next time you're in London.

At the National Museum of Wales in Cardiff, I had a tour of the major current Kizuna exhibition, a collaboration with Japan's National History Museum about the links between Wales and Japan. With artefacts going back to the earliest contacts between Japan and the West in the 16th century, it is proving very popular, and visitor numbers are well ahead of expectations.



Conwy Castle in Wales was recently twinned with Himeji Castle in Hyogo Prefecture

I was reminded again what a truly beautiful country we have, with an extraordinary diversity for our relatively small landmass.

I couldn't resist popping in to see UK-based, Japanese stand-up comedian Yuriko Kotani, who was performing in the cosy environment of a converted double-decker bus.

Driving into Conwy, north Wales, I was impressed to see the streets bedecked with Japanese flags, celebrating the recent twinning agreement between Conwy Castle and Himeji Castle in Hyogo Prefecture. The town council and local tourist officials told me they were already seeing a significant upswing in Japanese visitors.

While in Edinburgh, I couldn't resist popping in to see UK-based, Japanese stand-up comedian Yuriko Kotani, who was performing in the cosy environment of a converted double-decker bus. She has some very funny takes on British life from a Japanese perspective, which you can find on YouTube. When I introduced myself afterwards, she was delighted that the British Ambassador to Japan had stopped by.

I also met a number of sporting organisations to discuss the various events taking place in Japan over the next couple of years. In London I saw British Olympic Association CEO Bill Sweeney and British Paralympic Association CEO Tim Hollingsworth. Both have made very good progress on their arrangements for Tokyo 2020.

We discussed how the British Embassy Tokyo is supporting their efforts, and how we can use the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games for wider promotion of the UK.

I also dropped into the Principality Stadium in Cardiff, to discuss the Welsh Rugby Union's plans for the 2019 Rugby World Cup with former Welsh fullback and winger Rhys Williams. He told me about their visit earlier in the month to Kitakyushu in Fukuoka Prefecture where Wales will have its pre-tournament training camp. They had carried out training for local players, coaches and referees, and received a warm welcome at the local *matsuri*.

Distinguished predecessor

On my return to Japan it was straight into the annual meeting of the UK-Japan 21st Century Group, which brings together parliamentarians, business people and academics from the two countries. It is chaired by former



Ambassador Madden met former Wales rugby player Rhys Williams

Cabinet ministers Yasuhisa Shiozaki and Lord (Andrew) Lansley. I used to work with the latter when we were both young government officials more than 30 years ago, and we won scholarships from the Japanese government for study tours in Japan in consecutive years in the 1980s.

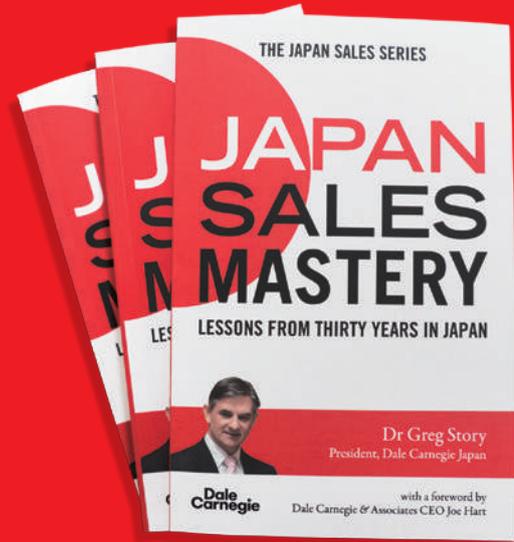
The group called on Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga, and attended a reception hosted by Foreign Minister Taro Kono, before heading down to Kamakura in Kanagawa Prefecture for its meeting. We discussed a wide-range of economic, security and cultural issues. Unsurprisingly there was a very large measure of agreement about the nature of the challenges and opportunities which both countries face in these uncertain times, and about how we could work together to tackle them.

David Fitton, who some of you may remember as a former minister at the British Embassy Tokyo, has just become secretary of the group on retirement from the Foreign & Commonwealth Office, following his posting as High Commissioner in Jamaica.

Finally, last month we lost a great friend of Japan with the death of Sir Hugh Cortazzi at the age of 94. I have always seen him as the most distinguished of my predecessors as British Ambassador to Japan in the modern age. I think we have all benefited from the many popular and scholarly books on Japan which he wrote during his long retirement. I was corresponding with him about the draft of his latest book only a couple of months ago. RIP Sir Hugh. 🇬🇧



The UK-Japan 21st Century Group held its annual meeting in Kamakura, Kanagawa Prefecture



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A mixed month

Brexit, education and more from memory lane

JORDAN ALLEN | jordan@custom-media.com

It has been a mixed month here in Japan, both in terms of the weather—equal parts sunny and stormy—and events. We have said goodbye to one of the most respected and prominent UK scholars of Japanese and former diplomat, Sir Hugh Cortazzi GCMG, who passed away on 14 August at the age of 94. You can read an obituary written by Sir David Warren, also a former British ambassador to Japan, on page 16.

Meanwhile, September marks the beginning of a new school term for many, with some schools welcoming their new intake for the year. Given

One issue that has been inescapable for the past two years is Brexit.

that Tokyo is so well served by international schools, many catering to the numerous British expats living in the capital, *BCCJ ACUMEN* has taken a look at what is being offered by some of those schools and why people choose to send their children to them. More on this can be found on page 20.

Divided opinions

If you keep up with British affairs, you'll know that one issue that has been inescapable for the past two years is Brexit. The topic continues to divide opinions, while the final outcome of the whole saga looks ever more uncertain.

This month, we present a look at Japanese opinions of the UK pre- and post-Brexit referendum, thanks to some valuable research carried out by the British Council. Some of the findings

are quite surprising, with certain areas faring better or worse than you might have expected. You can read more about this on page 31.

Well-known figures

Finally, as part of *BCCJ ACUMEN*'s ongoing series marking the 70th anniversary of the British Chamber of Commerce in Japan, we move away from articles and into images. I was given access to the BCCJ's archive of photographs, and selected 13 of them for inclusion in the photo spread which you can find on pages 26 and 27.

The images, which cover the past 25 years of chamber activities, include an array of well-known figures, choice locations and well-attended parties, giving an indication of how much influence and clout the BCCJ has. I hope you will enjoy looking at the images as much as I enjoyed selecting them. 🍀

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MEDIA

UK, Japan to monitor N Korea activity at sea



The HMS Argyll will be deployed to Japan to help with surveillance operations.
PHOTO: L (PHOT) KEN GAUNT, ROYAL NAVY

The UK and Japan are working on conducting joint surveillance activities later in the year in a bid to spot illegal ship-to-ship goods transfers by North Korea, *The Japan News* reported on 20 August.

The surveillance will be carried out in November and December, following the arrival in Japan of the Royal Navy frigate HMS Argyll, the third UK Navy vessel to visit Japan this year following HMS Sutherland and HMS Albion, the report says.

It adds that the ship will use US military bases in Japan, and will also be involved in joint exercises with Japan's Maritime Self-Defense Force.

North Korea has been accused of violating international sanctions by carrying out illegal ship-to-ship goods transfers on the high seas.

Naval drill off for typhoon

The UK and Japan cancelled a joint beach landing naval drill near Mt Fuji due to a typhoon which was approaching the Japanese mainland, *Japan Today* reported on 22 August.

The drill, involving a detachment of Royal Marines and Japanese amphibious troops, was set to see soldiers land on the beach from boats launched by HMS Albion, a Royal Navy amphibious assault carrier that visited Japan, according to the report.

A Japanese destroyer and helicopters had also been scheduled to take part in the exercise.

Typhoon Cimaron brought strong winds and rain to the Japanese archipelago, after arriving from the western Pacific.

London looks to Tokyo over future of British banks in EU

The UK government is looking at the relationship between Japanese banks and the European Union as an example for British banks to follow after leaving the EU, *The Japan Times* reported on 21 August.

A government paper states that the UK wanted equivalence, where the EU recognises rules as strict as its own, but a more generous version than that which other non-EU countries have, the report says.

It also says that the pact between the EU and Japan had been cited as an example for the rules the UK wanted, as this allows for taking into account the impact of each other's decisions and regulatory dialogue between the two.

Tokyo, Osaka firms fund deal for offshore wind farm off Lincs

Two major Japanese energy firms are to help finance a new offshore wind farm in the UK in a £1bn deal, *The Telegraph* reported on 13 August.

The Electric Power Development Co., Ltd., better known as J-Power, and Kansai Electric Power Co., Inc. have bought a combined 41% stake—25% and 16%, respectively—in the Triton Knoll project from German renewables firm Innogy SE.

The investment in the plant, off the coast of Lincolnshire, marks the first time Japanese energy firms have made a major move to enter the UK's wind power market, according to the report.



Innogy SE already operates a number of wind farms off the coast of the UK.
PHOTO: INNOGY SE

Scotland, Yokohama ink pact on closer ties

Scottish Culture Minister Fiona Hyslop signed a joint declaration of cooperation with Mayor of Yokohama Fumiko Hayashi, the *Sankei Shimbun's Japan Forward* website reported on 13 August.

Hyslop, who was on a three-day visit to Japan, also took part in a sell-out seminar on diversity and inclusion organised by the British Chamber of Commerce in Japan.

The agreement between Scotland and Yokohama includes close cooperation in sport, education, culture and marine industries, according to the report.

Hyslop's trip to Japan ended with a tourism networking lunch at the British Embassy Tokyo.



Fiona Hyslop met representatives of the City of Yokohama.
 PHOTO: © SCOTTISH DEVELOPMENT INTERNATIONAL

Blended in Osaka, bottled in UK

A new Japanese whisky has been launched. The drink was bottled in the UK after having spent three months maturing at sea on the voyage from Japan, *The Spirits Business* reported on 15 August.

Kaiyo whisky was blended and aged in Japan, before being loaded in mizunara oak casks bound for the UK. The firm behind the drink says the casks were subject to changes in temperature and air pressure, and the whisky inside would also have been impacted.

The whisky was bottled on arrival in the UK, and is being sold in regular, cask strength and peated expressions.



PHOTO: DAVID HO PROFESSIONAL HEADSHOTS SCOTLAND

Campsie Fells SME to sell whisky souvenirs to Japan

A Scottish firm hoping to sell its wares to whisky lovers in Japan has been awarded a grant from the Department for International Trade and London Heathrow Airport, *Passenger Terminal Today* reported on 22 August.

Reza Wood Designs, which recycles whisky barrels from Scottish distilleries and turns them into handcrafted items for whisky fans, said it plans to use its £2,000 grant from the World of Opportunity 2018 campaign to help it enter the Japanese market.

The scheme saw grants awarded to 20 small and medium-sized enterprises, including a tea firm, a family-run bicycle business, and a gourmet crisp maker.

England lose to Japan in Women's Under-20 World Cup

England lost to Japan in the semi-finals of the FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup, the BBC reported on 20 August.

Despite Mo Marley's side putting in a good performance during the tournament, they were defeated 2-0 in the game in Vannes, France, the report states.

The goals came from Japan's Riko Ueki and Jun Endo, leading England to face France in the third-place play-off, and Japan to face Spain in the final.

Japan beat Spain 3-1 in the final, while England finished third after beating France 4-2.

Wales build rugby ties in Kyushu

More than a year ahead of the 2019 Rugby World Cup in Japan, the Welsh team has begun staging an outreach programme in Kitakyushu, on Japan's southernmost main island of Kyushu, *Channel NewsAsia* reported on 14 August.

With the Welsh team being based in the city for the competition, captain Ryan Jones was quoted as saying, "We wanted to be a little bit different, so our legacy is starting now".

On a recent visit, Jones and the Wales Rugby Union ran coaching sessions for 600 children, and a coaching course for 50 coaches, the report says. 🇬🇧

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Competitive edge

How rugby and same-sex marriages can support Japan's globalisation

LORI HENDERSON MBE

We are truly delighted to be cooperating with other international chambers of commerce in Japan on two new exciting initiatives, both of which were launched on the evening of 19 September, after many weeks and months of strategising, planning and *nemawashi*.

Rugby Alliance

As most readers know, the Rugby World Cup 2019 (RWC) will be held in Japan next year from 20 September to 2 November. The tournament will involve 20 international teams, 48 matches and 12 host cities.

After staging a variety of separate RWC-related events, eight international chambers of commerce have successfully formed a coalition, the Rugby Alliance. Our mission is to support Japan's delivery of the Rugby World Cup 2019, fostering a legacy of more inclusive communities and embracing opportunities for international business and exchange.

The Rugby Alliance was announced formally to more than 300 guests at our Rugby World Cup 2019—One Year to Go event on 19 September at Happon-en.

Co-hosting the exciting occasion was the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce and Industry, with the chambers of commerce of Australia and New Zealand, the US, the UK, Canada,

France, Italy, Ireland and South Africa participating. The chambers of commerce of RWC host cities also took part, using the event to promote their travel and tourism sectors, as well as food and beverage attractions.

Also attending were senior representatives from rugby organising bodies in Japan and special guests from governing body World Rugby, including Chairman Bill Beaumont CBE DL. We also heard from Japan wheelchair rugby player and bronze medallist Hiroyuki Misaka, and former Sakura Sevens player Aya Nakajima.

The event was a key moment in time for communities and businesses—both Japanese and foreign—to celebrate the potential of the RWC as a once-in-a-generation opportunity and an agent for societal innovation.

Viewpoint: Marriage Equality

Along with the American Chamber of Commerce in Japan, the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Japan, and the Australian and New Zealand Chamber of Commerce in Japan, we are proud to have announced a position paper on the extension of freedom of marriage to same-sex couples at the Lawyers for LGBT & Allies Network gala at the Akasaka Prince Hotel.

With the moral case a given, we believe that legalising same-sex marriage could benefit

member firms and individuals across our chambers, as well as the Japanese economy as a whole.

The current legal landscape facing LGBT couples can disadvantage firms doing business in Japan. It can make recruitment difficult. For example, talented employees are discouraged from relocating to a country that does not recognise same-sex marriage, and where they may face issues in obtaining visas for their partners.

Such disparity can make Japan a less attractive option for LGBT couples compared with other developed countries vying for the same talent. It is well documented that the country is facing a growing labour shortage, which is impeding economic growth. Japanese firms simply cannot afford to lose in the international competition for human resources.

With the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games approaching and Japan finding itself in the global spotlight, it is important that we demonstrate our commitment to progressive ideals, as well as showcase the country's overall competitiveness.

Public support for same-sex marriage is growing, both within Japan and internationally. The BCCJ is proud to be part of this movement.

For more information on these joint chamber projects, visit www.bccjapan.com 🇯🇵

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A sporting chance

How the Rugby World Cup is bringing life to Japan

DAVID BICKLE | @BCCJ_President

According to British Cycling, the UK’s main national governing body for cycle sport, more than 2mn people in Wales now cycle at least once a week. That’s participation by approximately two-thirds of the nation’s population across all ages.

It should be no surprise then that it was a Welshman, Geraint Thomas, who added victory in this summer’s Tour de France cycle race to his impressive array of world, Olympic and Commonwealth titles.

Thomas rides for Team Sky, which has now produced six of the last seven Tour winners—all six of these titles going to British riders. The team itself, which is based at the UK’s National Cycling Centre in Manchester, is managed by British Cycling’s former performance director, Sir Dave Brailsford, who himself hails from the mountains of Snowdonia in North Wales.

Leveraging Wales’s reputation for spectacular highland and coastal landscapes, Trade & Invest Wales identifies investments in sport and the outdoors as elements of a strategy to promote awareness of the need for a sustainable economy that complements the environment. It also highlights the potential for sporting success to inspire a sense of national pride that can be harnessed by businesses.

Opportunities abound for domestic and international brands alike, and keen observers will note that it is Japanese car makers Isuzu and Subaru that sponsor the jerseys of the Welsh men’s and women’s national rugby teams.

Hope and optimism

In Japan there is also a huge opportunity for sport to catalyse economic development, notably in connection with the 2019 Rugby World Cup (RWC). Matches will take place at 12 venues around Japan—the smallest being the new Kamaishi Unosumai stadium in Iwate Prefecture. In common with Wales, this part of Japan is blessed with an incredible coastline. Mountainous and rugged, the vibrant greens of the richly forested slopes contrast spectacularly with the deep blue water of the Pacific Ocean.

The area was decimated in 2011 by the tsunami triggered by the Great East Japan Earthquake. In addition to the devastating loss of life, the National Police Agency reported

damage to more than 1.1mn buildings, including Kamaishi’s junior high and elementary schools.

Famously, all pupils at school that day survived—because they followed the drill, and evacuated immediately to high ground. The new stadium occupies the site of these schools and is the most tangible symbol of Kamaishi’s recovery.

While memories of the disaster are still raw, the official stadium opening on 19 August was a celebration of hope and optimism. The rugby community participated in force from across the fan and player spectrum: men, women, children, professionals, the wheelchair-bound and legends—some old enough to draw their pensions!

The RWC will undoubtedly be a fillip to the Japanese economy next year, but it is critical that the tournament also be the genesis of a lasting legacy for communities in Japan. To that end, the British Chamber of Commerce in Japan is committed to supporting Japan’s delivery of the tournament, fostering a legacy of more inclusive communities and embracing opportunities for international business and exchange.

If you want to support Japan’s regional economies, I urge you to visit the areas yourself—go now, go next year, and then go again. You are part of our community; be part of the legacy. 🇬🇧

If you want to support Japan’s regional economies, I urge you to visit the areas yourself



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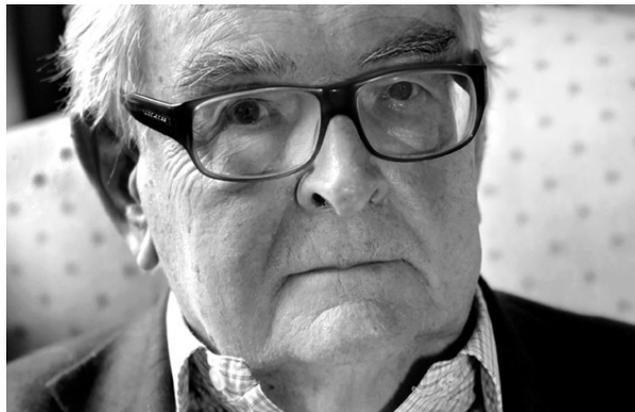


PHOTO: JEREMY HOARE / THE JAPAN SOCIETY



SIR HUGH CORTAZZI GCMG (1924–2018)

BY SIR DAVID WARREN KCMG

Hugh Cortazzi was born in 1924, and educated at Sedbergh School in Yorkshire, where his father was a teacher. In 1941, he won a scholarship to St Andrews University to study Modern Languages but volunteered after five terms to join the Royal Air Force (RAF), and was sent to the School of Asian and African Studies (SOAS), London University, to learn Japanese.

In January 1945, he was posted to India and began to take part in the interrogation of Japanese prisoners of war. Later that year, after the Japanese surrender in August, he moved to Singapore, where he joined the war crimes investigation team. He spent a year in Japan with the RAF, before returning to SOAS, where he took his degree in Japanese in 1949, the year that he joined the Foreign Office.

He was posted first to Singapore to join the office of the Commissioner-General for South-East Asia, Malcolm MacDonald, but after a year he was sent back to Tokyo for his first tour of duty at the British Embassy Tokyo, where he was involved in negotiating the United Nations Status of Forces Agreement. He returned for a home tour to London, where among other things he was required to interpret for Prime Ministers Winston Churchill and Shigeru Yoshida on the occasion of the latter's visit to London in October 1954.

He ... encouraged British firms to adopt a less condescending and protectionist approach.

In 1956, he married his Foreign Office colleague Elizabeth Montagu, with whom he had been serving in the Information Research Department; a posting to the British Embassy in Bonn followed, from 1958 to 1960.

Major investment

Hugh's real diplomatic involvement with Japan began in 1961, with his second posting to the British Embassy Tokyo. He was to spend most of the 1960s in Tokyo (with a short period back in London in 1965–6).

From 1961 he was the head of the political section in the embassy. This was the period in which bilateral discussions at foreign minister level began between Lord Home and Masayoshi Ohira; the Anglo-Japanese Treaty of Commerce and Navigation was concluded in 1962; and HRH Princess Alexandra paid the first post-war royal visit to Japan.

Japan was now well set on its phenomenal period of economic growth and re-entering the international community with the 1964 Olympics. Hugh returned to Tokyo in 1966 as commercial counsellor and re-organised the trade promotion effort within the embassy. He tackled the trade barriers that were then prevalent, encouraged British firms to adopt a less condescending and protectionist approach towards Japan, and prepared for the major British Week promotion in Tokyo in 1969 that was opened by HRH Princess Margaret. As he wrote in his memoir, *Japan and Back* (1998), "We were able to record a significant increase in British exports in 1969 and



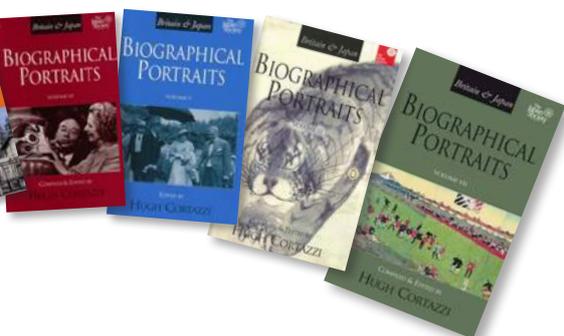
Hugh Cortazzi with his wife Elizabeth outside their home
PHOTO: ARTS OF ASIA

for the first time that year our exports to Japan and our imports from Japan were in balance".

Hugh spent the 1970s out of Japan. From 1972 to 1975 he was minister (commercial) in Washington. He returned to London as the deputy under-secretary in the Foreign & Commonwealth Office dealing with Asia, a post which of course involved contact with Japan. However, much of his time was spent on other responsibilities, not least the aftermath of the war in Vietnam, and China's beginning to emerge from Maoism. For two years, he was also chair of the Diplomatic Service Association, the senior diplomats' trade union.

He wondered if he would ever be able to return to Japan, but the opportunity came with the retirement of Michael Wilford in 1980, and Hugh became ambassador in October that year.

Hugh served in Tokyo for three and a half years: as was then the rule, he retired on his 60th birthday. By far the most significant part of his ambassadorship was his work to promote trade and attract Japanese inward investment,



A selection of Hugh's books
PHOTOS: THE JAPAN SOCIETY

then in its infancy. He helped to pave the way for the major investment by Nissan Motor Company in Sunderland, formally announced after his ambassadorship in 1984. He had overseen, at the Tokyo end, the process by which then-President Shintaro Ishihara's letter of intent had been transformed into a firm commitment.

Many tributes have been paid to Hugh since his death, both in Britain and Japan.

Many other investments were made during that period, not least that in 1983 by NEC, which invested in a factory in Livingston, Scotland, that was opened by the Queen. Japanese firms that opened plants include Maxell Holdings, Ltd.; Ricoh Company, Ltd.; Sharp Corporation; Brother Industries, Ltd.; GS Yuasa Corporation; Yamazaki Mazak Corporation; Hitachi, Ltd. after the break-up of their GEC joint venture; and the ICL-Fujitsu relationship. Discussions also began

with Honda Motor Company, Ltd. and Toyota Motor Corporation.

Trade promotion efforts continued to intensify, as did attempts to get the Japanese to remove trade barriers and bureaucratic obstacles. Hugh was as frustrated by the difficulty of overcoming Japanese bureaucratic rigidity as he was by British firms not always using the breathing space afforded by the voluntary arrangements that were negotiated to improve their productivity and competitiveness.

Scholar and writer

It was not the easiest time politically. The British efforts to develop closer political cooperation did not secure the Japanese government's support during the 1982 Falklands War. A pro-Argentine lobby in the Diet was able to influence opinion because of fears over the impact of a pro-UK stance on Japanese communities and trade in South America.

A visit to Japan by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in September 1982 was difficult: she attacked Hugh and other officials at considerable length for not taking an even more aggressive line against Japan over trade restrictions, he refused to back down, and eventually everyone went to bed, with Hugh telling his wife that he would probably have to resign the next day. "In fact", as he later wrote, "it all worked out quite satisfactorily in the end and she stuck to her brief".

Hugh retired from Tokyo and the Diplomatic Service in May 1984. Having been created KCMG in 1980, he was advanced to GCMG on his departure from Japan. Thirty five years as a diplomat were to be followed by an astonishingly productive 34 years of notional retirement, as a scholar and writer about Japan. He also took on a number of non-executive roles, including with Austin Rover, Hill Samuel, and later some Japanese firms, including NEC, the



Hugh Cortazzi with Crown Prince Naruhito (centre) in 1985.
PHOTO: THE JAPAN SOCIETY

Daiichi Kangyo Bank, the Bank of Kyoto and department store Mitsukoshi. He chaired the Japan Society from 1985 to 1995, and was an important participant in the preparations for the Japan Festival (chaired by Sir Peter Parker) in 1991, which marked the society's centenary. He attended meetings of the UK-Japan 2000 Group (now the 21st Century Group) and was an instigator of the UK-Japan High Technology Forum.

On top of all this activity, he produced book after book on Britain and Japan—biographies; monographs; general studies of modern Japan, Japanese culture and history—and contributed to and co-edited collections of essays about the historical links between the two countries. The 10-volume series, Britain & Japan: Biographical Portraits, much of which he edited personally, is a formidable achievement. He launched his most recent book, co-edited with Antony Best, British Foreign Secretaries and Japan 1850-1990, only a few weeks ago, at the AGM of the Japan Society in London. A volume on royal and imperial links, on which he was still working at the time of his death, will be published in 2019.

Many tributes have been paid to Hugh since his death, both in Britain and Japan. He was the foremost Japan specialist of his generation in the Foreign Office. He was an inspiration to many others, both as a diplomat and as a scholar. He epitomised the virtues of both diplomacy and scholarship—industry, expertise, objectivity, truthfulness—and he never stopped working, writing, learning, and pushing for a better bilateral understanding. We mourn him for all those reasons. But many of us also mourn him as a friend, and our thoughts are with his wife, children and grandchildren. 🌸



Hugh Cortazzi seated on then-Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's left at Fujitsu Fanuc Ltd. in 1982.
PHOTO: CLIVE BRADLEY / THE JAPAN SOCIETY

LOVE OF NOTES AND COINS ...

... keeps the Japanese brain awake

BY NORIKO HAMA



The Japanese love their cash. Cash as in physical notes and coins. Not the electronic variety that floats around in cyberspace instead of bouncing about in purses and pockets. Surveys show that we are totally behind the times in our attachment to the ¥10,000 and ¥1,000 notes and the way we keep carrying ¥100 and ¥10 coins around with us, not to mention the feather light and totally cumbersome ¥1 bit.

South Korea is said to be a 98% notes- and coins-free nation. The figure is 60% in China and 55% in the UK. But the equivalent ratio for Japan is a meagre 18%.

The Swedes are experimenting with the e-krona and are thinking about doing away with physical kronas altogether. At least their central bank seems to be considering such a course of action. Danish parents send their children their pocket money electronically. But in Japan pocket money is for the most part still transferred physically from the parental purse to the pockets of their offspring.

Cash dependence

E-commerce does of course take place very widely in Japan. People use pre-paid cash cards to get on trains and buses. Even Japanese people can become addicted to credit card-based spending orgies. And yet the fact remains that we are still very much a physical cash-dependent society.

The government and the banking community both seem increasingly concerned about this. They are worried about global competition. To the extent that Japanese people keep conducting their monetary affairs in paper and bits of metal, Japan can never hope to compete effectively in the global financial marketplace. We can never become properly linked up to the global financial transaction network so long as people keep

drawing cash out of automatic teller machines and stocking their wallets with paper money. Or so they say.

They are right of course, up to a point. But there are other aspects to the use of physical cash that have to be weighed against all the talk about going global financially. For one thing, dealing with physical money keeps your brain in good shape. You are constantly calculating.

You are always thinking about how to get rid of all the ¥10, ¥5 and ¥1 yen coins which keep accumulating about your person. When you are about to go on holiday you think carefully about how much money you should take out of the bank. You worry about what denomination of notes you should carry in what proportion. You don't want to be faced with a situation where you have only ¥10,000 notes to pay for your ice creams and single glasses of wine. When you are about to go out for a meal with friends and you know that the bill is to be split equally among you, you are careful to go prepared with plenty of small-denomination notes and a good variety of coins, so that you can always produce the exact amount required.

None of the above would apply if you were doing everything with electronic cash. No brain-work is required in the act of paying for things with the QR codes on your smartphone. Mental degeneration awaits.

Citizens' cash

On a more sinister note, the abolition of physical cash will mean that you will be deprived of the

means of hiding your money from Big Brother. Or of protecting your money from the potential collapse of the bank with which you do business. Physical cash can always be taken out of the bank and hidden under your pillow, or somewhere much more secret.

But you cannot hide electronic money under the pillow. You cannot hide it under anything. Imagine a world in which the central bank of a nation issues electronic money directly to individuals. In that situation it will be virtually impossible to escape surveillance of how you are moving your money about. That is fine if you can trust your central banker.

But what if the central bank becomes the mere monetary branch of a dictatorship. The only thing to do in that eventuality is to go underground and reinvent a revolutionary citizens' system of physical cash transactions.

It could well be that the Japanese have already embarked on this journey into an underground world of citizens' cash. With interest rates virtually non-existent, it actually makes no sense at all to keep your money in the bank. Far better to hide your money where nobody can get at it.

Come the day when the Bank of Japan announces the switch to an e-yen regime, we will be well prepared and well stocked to go underground with our notes and coins. There we will spend our days constantly adding and subtracting and dividing and generally keeping our calculating brains in very good shape. Far better than bashing our smartphones on electronic code readers in brainless bliss. 🍀

Dealing with physical money keeps your brain in good shape. You are constantly calculating.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

The British School in Tokyo



Since its opening in Shibuya in 1989, The British School in Tokyo (BST) has been establishing itself as one of Asia's premier not-for-profit international schools.

Today, the school educates well over 1,000 students from the ages of three to 18, representing more than 60 nationalities. We employ 120 highly skilled and talented teachers, recruited directly from the best schools in the UK or from other highly-rated British international schools around the world. Because we know that finding the right people is crucial to our future (and to that of our students), we insist on seeing each one of them teach in their own schools before confirming any appointment. Only the best will do.

From the outset, BST has worked hard to establish a global reputation for academic excellence. Examination results are outstanding: in 2018 almost half of all entries at A-level were awarded coveted A*/A grades, paving the way for our graduates to win places on extremely competitive degree courses at prestigious UK universities, including Cambridge, Durham, Edinburgh, and University College London. In keeping with our international outlook, this year BST students will also be taking up places at first class institutions as far afield as The Hague, Sydney and Toronto and, closer to home, at Keio University in Japan.



The success of our graduates has led to a significant increase in applications from ambitious young men and women of all nationalities who are keen to give themselves the best chance of going on to study at the university of their choice. Young people today see themselves as true global citizens and they recognise that UK A-levels offer an academic passport that can take them almost anywhere they might wish to go. Universities around the world are very familiar with Britain's public examination system and are more than happy to accept students with A-levels or their equivalent.

Lasting legacy

Of course, there is much more to life at BST than rigorous academics or exam preparation. While parents are impressed by the level of academic challenge and the structured progression of our particular brand of British education, students here learn so much more than how to achieve top grades.

Sport, music and drama are integral elements in the routines of the school day, and both community service and adventurous activity are central to the school's ethos. This summer, for example, we opened a wonderful new music suite to meet the needs of our talented singers and instrumentalists while, at the same time, an intrepid group of young eco-scientists travelled to Fiji to participate in an internationally renowned Operation Wallacea project.

In this respect, the next two years promise to bring us some unique opportunities. As we move ever closer to hosting the 2019 Rugby World Cup and the Tokyo 2020 Olympics and Paralympics,



here at BST we are focusing on the values inherent in fair play and the true spirit of sport. We are determined to build a broad and lasting legacy on the inspiration these global events afford us.

We have always encouraged our students to pursue excellence in everything that they set out to do, to learn to appreciate the strength that diversity can bring, and to discover the joy of exceeding even their own expectations of themselves. From their earliest years in our nursery and reception classes, our children are given countless opportunities to develop the independence and resilience that will enable them to take the next step in their education—wherever it might take them—with confidence and a smile. As the world's most talented sportsmen and women begin to turn towards Tokyo, we hope that their example will underscore the priceless value of the attributes we have always championed. 🇬🇧



To find out more about joining The British School in Tokyo, please contact our experienced Admissions Team at admissions@bst.ac.jp

To learn more about our plans for #RWC2019 and #Tokyo2020 follow @BST_Tokyo1920 on Twitter



GLOBAL MINDS

Why people in Japan are choosing international schools

BY JULIAN RYALL

PHOTO: THE BRITISH SCHOOL TOKYO

Every responsible parent wants the best for their child. Their physical well-being and security are at the top of most parents' wish lists, coupled with a child's happiness and opportunities to explore, develop and learn.

Whether it is for expatriate families, longer-term residents of Japan, families with parents from different countries and cultures or even a growing number of Japanese parents who have lived abroad and want a more global education for their children, international schools tick those boxes.

Brian Christian, principal of the British School in Tokyo, said that parents from overseas may want their children to have an international education for numerous reasons, which vary in importance from family to family.

"Perhaps the most important factor is parents' desire to ensure that their children are cared for appropriately", he said. "They feel more comfortable recognising that the school complies with standards of care in their home country. In today's world, student well-being has to be a top priority".



Brian Christian,
principal of the
British School in Tokyo

For British parents who are in Japan for a couple of years with a work assignment, delivery of the curriculum in English is a key factor, along with ensuring that the children are able to slip back into their home education system when the family's Japanese adventure is over, to move to another similar international school, or to progress to university.

Other important considerations are the small class sizes, recognition that the teachers are highly qualified and experienced, and having tailored learning available for students with specific needs.

The school also sees education as a three-way partnership between parents, teachers and the children, Christian told *BCCJ ACUMEN*. "The aim of that partnership has to be to develop happy, confident and caring young people."

The British School in Tokyo has around 120 members of staff and almost 1,200 students between the ages of three and 18, with the most rapidly growing segment being dual-nationality families, most of whom are long-term residents of Japan.

Gavin Blair falls into that category, with his 16-year-old son having just completed his GCSEs and planning to enter the sixth form to take his A-levels.

"Our son went to the local Japanese primary school, so he had his Japanese language skills down, but we liked the idea of him seeing both sides, of mixing with kids from very different backgrounds and getting a more international

experience", said Blair, a journalist who is originally from South London.

"And that has happened; he has met children from a wide range of backgrounds and that has given him a broader view of the world".

The Blairs have also been impressed with the school's commitment to extracurricular activities, with their son going on field trips to Hakuba twice a year, taking part in school sports teams and completing a Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Nurturing

St Maur International School can trace its roots back to 1872, making it the oldest international educational institution in the country. It similarly prides itself on nurturing its students with a strong curriculum of academic studies combined with fine arts, sporting and other activities.

"International schools give children a different outlook on life and the skills they will need in the future", said Catherine Endo, head of school.

"And I think a lot of parents want their children to experience diversity in a very natural way".

St Maur has more than 490 students enrolled from 35 countries, as well as 183 Japanese pupils and a 65-strong teaching staff. Students in the high school enter the International Baccalaureate programme, with every one of its recent graduates going on to some form of higher graduation, in the UK, US, Japan, Canada, Australia or elsewhere.

"English is the main language of learning, but from the first year of middle school, the

“International schools give children a different outlook”



Catherine Endo,
head of St Maur
International School



Dr Mary Anne Suzuki,
head of science at
St Maur International
School

students have a chance to learn French or Spanish,” said Endo. “Learning a language from other students also becomes part of school life and many of our students go on to careers that use their language skills”

The school is also committed to providing its students with a well-rounded programme, said Endo, that enables them to pursue studies in a wide range of International Baccalaureate Diploma courses in grades 11 and 12. And the secondary school extracurricular programme is scheduled in such a way as to provide students access to both fine arts education and sport after school.

“When we look to the future, the demand in Japanese society will be for people with an international perspective,” Endo added.

As both a teacher and a parent with twin daughters at St Maur, Dr Mary Anne Suzuki sees an international education from both sides.

“When my Japanese husband and I were choosing a school, the top priorities were that the children would be safe and happy and that the school would deliver a high quality of education; those were non-negotiable,” she said.

“And as our children are half-Japanese and half-English, it was important for us that they went to a school where both cultures are valued and that they can take pride in those cultures.

“We also believe that it is important that they are exposed to children of different cultures and there is a human side that occurs naturally in

international schools,” said Suzuki, who is head of science at St Maur.

The New International School of Japan (NewIS), in Tokyo’s Toshima Ward, differs from other educational establishments in Japan since students learn all subjects in both English and Japanese, said Steven Parr, founding director and head of school.

Traditional Japanese education is descended from the Prussian education system of the 1800s and has standardisation as the primary goal and result, he said. This can lack appeal some parents and students who have been exposed to greater diversity and more progressive approaches to education.

The NewIS has 230 students from the age of three to grade 12, with around 30 percent having one Japanese parent and another 30 percent with both parents being Japanese, according to Parr.

“We educate the children the best we can, according to our mission, and we believe it stands them in good stead for wherever they may go later on,” he said. And underlining the demand for an international education, the school is expanding from 40 full-time teachers in the academic year that has just ended to 46 in the coming year. And Parr expects that to grow to a faculty of more than 50 in another year.

Global thinking

Daniel Roebuck, from the business office of Chiyoda International School (CHIST), believes

that the global mindset of the expatriate community in Japan means parents who move to Japan are keen to seize the opportunity to broaden their children’s minds at the same time as ensuring they receive a good education.

“Most international schools place a high emphasis on global thinking, which includes learning, respecting and experiencing local cultures,” said Roebuck. “Students will have the opportunity to find similarities with their own cultures and enjoy the learning it provides, while sport teaches us the power of teamwork and feeling part of something bigger than ourselves and how we achieve the same goals”.

The school opened in April and has around 70 students, the majority of whom are Japanese and whose parents are internationally minded and are seeking a more rounded, global education, Roebuck said.

“Our school motto is Student First. This means we have the highest emphasis on making sure our students are cared for, both academically and emotionally,” he added. “We have counsellors available to take special care of students experiencing issues in their life here at CHIST, and that means students here are able to express themselves however they wish, with a caring staff to guide them in becoming young adults when they leave us.

“Our goal is to educate our students in a way that enables them to gain universally transferable learning tools for the globally minded,” Roebuck explained. “Students who graduate here will be able to enter university with the ability to think critically and be motivated, inquisitive lifelong learners. That is the teaching philosophy of our school and its culture of positivity and self-expression”.



PHOTO: SAINT MAUR INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



Daniel Roebuck,
Business office
Chiyoda International
School

BRIGHT FUTURES IN BRITAIN

Aoba-Japan International School

Aoba-Japan International School (A-JIS) has two campuses in Tokyo. With one in Meguro and another in Hikarigaoka, it welcomes international students from their first days at school through to their high school graduations and beyond. In an interview with Custom Media, Long Tran and Yuya Ra, two recently graduated students, talked about their fond memories and the skills they have taken away with them from their time at A-JIS.

Tran started studying at Aoba-Japan International School in 2015 and graduated in 2018. About to start studying English and Philosophy at the University of St Andrews in Scotland, he has “become a more mature person” throughout his time at A-JIS. “The teachers were very passionate about what they were trying to teach and how they [helped] the students to succeed”.

The International Baccalaureate (IB) is an internationally recognised qualification and is renowned for being challenging. At A-JIS, students study through the International Baccalaureate scheme. “I think how the IB reaches really deep into each subject, that really helped me to open my eyes to how far I can go, or how much further I can go in to the subjects”, said Ra. Set to begin her studies in Environmental Biology at Imperial

College London in September, she hopes to “use [her] knowledge to fight pollution around the world”.

The IB education requires students to carry out self-directed projects. The independence to work and learn on their own provides them with a skill that will be valuable when they reach university level, and indeed career level. “What I learned from these self-management tasks is that you have to really put yourself on discipline. Discipline and time management”, said Ra. When asked to give advice to younger students, she enthused, “Don’t procrastinate! Stay on your task. You can do it!”

Experimental

Tran commended the IB for encouraging him to “be experimental with what you give out to the course”. He found the IB gave him “the ability to direct [his] own studies, to read the requirements and see how [he] can fit [him]self in it, or how [he] can take advantage of it and go forward”.

Ra praised the teacher-student relationships, saying she “value[d] how teachers explore[d] questions with the students”. The teaching process at A-JIS is laid back. Since the school is smaller than average, the attention to each

student is more concentrated. “If you have a question, [the teachers] have the patience to listen to it and solve it with you”. The trust in and admiration for her teachers was evident, as she praised the laid back but committed attitude towards teaching, making sure every student felt relaxed and free to learn in their own way. “I think [Aoba] gave me an opportunity to develop my own voice”, said Tran.

Ra explained the learning style at Aoba, and how she feels she has benefitted as a student: “We don’t just try to remember it, we are learning to actually incorporate it into our understanding, and so that is why we realised that something we understood before is kind of different from what we are learning now, so let’s figure out why. So those are critical thinking skills, which are important skills, I think”.

To think in depth about what you are learning, question things and try to understand things on a deeper level is something the IB promotes—it pushes students to question their work, and question why they are learning what they are learning. Tran said that “the impulse to look at different perspectives and the ability to direct myself” was a valued aspect of the personal development he had gained at A-JIS.

“The more you learn, the more you realise how little you know and I really was driven by that curiosity,” said Ra. A mature approach to knowledge and learning proves that Aoba has nurtured Ra to increase her hunger for learning. “Don’t be afraid. If you are a curious person, this will be a really good environment for you”, she said, smiling. Tran advised about the importance of enjoying studies, “try to have fun with what you are studying. Don’t see it as something you have to do, but what you can do”.

A-JIS has provided a stable learning structure, preparing these students for their new life at university. Encouraging students and guiding them in to the subjects they enjoy the most seems to be A-JIS’s secret to success.

“When I was younger, I didn’t really think about why I was learning or what I was learning for. I was just learning for the grades ... kids aim





for high grades because they believe that brings them everything else in life. I started thinking about it once I came to Aoba. I settled on choosing to learn what I like to learn”, said Ra.

This approach results in students being passionate, successful and informed about their future decisions and feeling more confident in their chosen subject when they finally do embark on their post-high school journey.

Opening minds

Tran specifically commended A-JIS for preparing him for university: “My counsellor gave me advice on what to study and what direction I should take. He also read through my university application. I talked to them about my studies and they helped me figure out what I want, and what I should do”.

The social aspect of schooling at A-JIS is a benefit to students who are native and non-native speakers of English. Ra spoke about

how A-JIS prompted her to make friends and converse with international students of her age. “I made friends with kids from other countries: Ireland, Malaysia and Japan. Since our [native] languages [are] all different, we spoke English, and so that really helped me to get a hold of how ‘teenage talk’ works in English.”

This experience is a great way to prepare children for their future life, particularly students who plan to attend universities in places such as the UK, the US or Canada. It also aids in opening the minds of young children and getting them to experience contact with people from different cultures and backgrounds from all over the world.

This has been an important part of Tran’s time at A-JIS, as it influenced him to choose to go to university in the UK so he could “use English on a daily basis ... in an environment where I can speak the language that I am most familiar with, even outside of school”.

The two students have been raised in a school that provides a clear and independent learning path to all students. Supported by teachers, their peers and their families, they have both achieved the grades they needed to get into two prestigious British universities. Both students are excited about their futures in the UK, and feel prepared for the educational differences between international school and university, due to the IB-style education and the supportive and dedicated school that is A-JIS. 🇬🇧



www.aobajapan.jp

Long Tran

Yuya Ra

The A-List of Education



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Tokyo 116-0014

Chihiro Suzuki, Marketing Department
03-3806-6102
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www.akamonkai.ac.jp/english

Akamonkai was established in 1985 near the Akamon red gate of the University of Tokyo. We have been an accredited, incorporated educational institution since 2005. To date, we have educated over 20,000 graduates from 80 countries. After graduation, our students play an active role around the world, including Japan and their home countries.

Since classes are carefully organised according to skill level, students can study in classes suitable for each student's Japanese level and learning speed. Students are taught by teachers with extensive experience in Japanese language education and with various backgrounds.

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Established in 1989, The British School in Tokyo (BST) has developed a reputation for high quality education. Rated excellent by an independent inspection, our community is warm, friendly and offers the highest standards of pastoral care. Unique in Japan, BST follows the English National Curriculum from Nursery to A Level, preparing pupils for entry into universities worldwide. Our graduates continually achieve results well above the UK national average.

Students know that education is about more than passing exams; sport, the arts, community service and adventurous activities are woven into the fabric of school life. Students are given countless opportunities to develop independence and resilience, enabling them to take the next step in their education and lives, with confidence.

PROGRAMME / CURRICULUM

- Co-educational
- English National Curriculum from Nursery to Year 13
- More than 1,000 students
- Outstanding academic results
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- Students place at top universities around the world
- Awarded excellent in all areas in a recent Independent Schools Inspectorate review



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SIS Vision: To foster passionate, independent, highly-motivated learners who actively contribute to world peace.

SIS Mission: To provide a multicultural learning community which nurtures a passion for academic, social, and personal success.

SIS Educational Philosophy: SIS aims at educating each of its students to be: inspired and independent life-long learners; academically, artistically, socially, and physically balanced; inquirers and problem-solvers; multilingual communicators; responsible and principled internationally-minded citizens; appreciative of our local community.

PROGRAMME / CURRICULUM

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- English as an Additional Language (EAL) support
- Low student-to-teacher ratio
- Japanese language instruction at Kokugo level
- Diversity: more than 20 nationalities
- A wide range of ASP programmes
- Day care service
- School bus service
- Saturday school

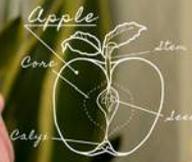


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RECENT HISTORY OF THE BCCJ IN PICTURES

To mark 70 years of the British Chamber of Commerce in Japan, we are bringing you a range of articles looking at the history of the chamber and UK—Japan ties.

This month we present something a little different. *BCCJ ACUMEN* was given access to the BCCJ photo archive, from which we selected a range of images showing some of the events, visitors and personalities who have been snapped by BCCJ staff over the past 25 years.

While some of the captions are brief, due to the lack of information about the photos, the subjects are nonetheless engaging.



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1. The late Baroness Denton of Wakefield addressed the BCCJ on 26 March 1996.
2. The Brits Bash, 6 December 2006.
3. Japanese International Olympic Commissioners Chiharu Igaya and Shun-Ichiro Okano were joined by Gary Lineker at a luncheon hosted by the diplomat Sir John Boyd.
4. Prince Edward, Duke of Kent, addressed BCCJ members on 20 November 1996.
5. BCCJ event on board the yacht *Cynara*, built in Gosport in 1927 and brought to Japan in 1973.
6. BCCJ event on board the *QE2* in 1993.



7

- 7. Former BCCJ Executive Director Ian De Stains OBE spoke with former UK Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in 1993.
- 8. Ian De Stains OBE resting in a rickshaw in Vietnam, where he was taking part in a Britain in Asia Pacific meeting in 1999.
- 9. The 1994 BCCJ Annual General Meeting
- 10. On a visit to Japan, then-Prime Minister John Major met BCCJ members on 19 September 1993.
- 11. Jack Straw, then foreign secretary, met with members of the BCCJ in July 2002.
- 12. Playing roulette at the Brits Bash on 4 December 2004.
- 13. BCCJ members who took part in an Association of British Businesses in Asia summit in March 1998.



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GIVE HEARTS FOR LIFE

How TELL is marking World Mental Health Day

BY VICKIE SKORJI
LIFELINE DIRECTOR, TELL

Have you heard about the silent epidemic stripping young people all around the world of their potential and future? It is called mental illness.

Ask a parent or teacher how to treat any common childhood illnesses and they will have an answer. Ask the same question about childhood mental health problems and few of them know.

Yet mental illness is one of the greatest disabilities young people face and the cause of the second-highest number of deaths among those aged between 10 and 24.

For that reason, World Mental Health Day, on 10 October, this year is focusing the call to action on young people and their challenges in our ever-changing world.

While we all know that adolescence is a time of great physical, social, and emotional growth, few of us are aware that it is also the time when more than half of all mental health problems emerge. This makes adolescence a critical time in young people's lives.

Sadly, around the globe an increasing number of young people are feeling overwhelmed by the pressures of school and life. Thus one in 10—and, in some countries, one in five—young people are developing mental health problems at a time that should be the prime of their life.

One of the greatest changes in the lives of young people today is their day-to-day interaction with technology and social media. While they have many positive attributes and advantages for young people, researchers are concerned about the mental well-being of young people and the rise in mental illnesses. The worries are about:

- Excessive time spent online
- Too much information being shared
- Cyber bullying
- The influence of social media on body image
- The sourcing of harmful content or advice, such as websites and social networks that promote self-harm

Each one of us can play a vital role in the prevention of suicides

Numerous surveys and studies around the world have explored the relationship between the amount of time spent online and young people's well-being. These studies highlight the fact that the more time spent on smartphones, the Internet, and social media, the greater the probability of the young developing a mental illnesses, compared with those who occupy themselves with non-screen activities, such as exercising, reading books, and interacting face-to-face with people. Yet in many countries, a growing number of young people are choosing to spend their time using technology to interact.

According to a 2016 study by the US-based Cyberbully Research Center, over 30% of young people have experienced cyber bullying and many have done so repeatedly.

Here in Japan, as people come back from their summer vacations and school resumes, the number of youth suicides spike. Not only have they been increasing over the past few years but, even more worrying, most young people are not speaking out about their struggles or seeking support.

A 2014 study in Japan, examining young people's attitudes towards mental illness there and Australia, found a stigma attached to mental illness in Japan. Many Japanese youths view a person with mental illness as weak—rather than ill—and, often, as dangerous.

Such attitudes leave young people with mental illnesses trying to hide the issue and exhausted. Many feel weak and a failure, and that they have no person or place to which to turn—and no hope for the future.

Education about mental illness in schools is urgently needed in Japan, especially for at-risk populations that are more likely to fall target to

discrimination and bullying, such as those with developmental or learning difficulties, LGBTQIA students, or biracial and migrant youths.

Mental illnesses are treatable, discrimination is unacceptable, and preventing suicides is entirely possible.

Open communication is the first step to preventing mental illness in young people, and to breaking down the stigma and barriers to support and treatment.

Often, teachers and parents think that talking about mental health problems, and in particular suicide, might implant the idea into a young person's mind. This is a myth. Talking about suicide and mental illness is the best form of prevention.

Each one of us can play a vital role in the prevention of suicides and ensuring young people live full and happy lives. We can do so through the simple acts of caring and listening.

On 9 September, TELL launched its Give Hearts for Life campaign as part of its month-long activities around World Suicide Prevention Day on 10 September, and World Mental Health Day on 10 October.

During the Give Hearts for Life campaign, TELL is asking people around the country to write words of support and encouragement to those struggling with mental health issues on hearts that are orange, a colour which signifies compassion and care.

TELL is sharing these messages on its social media platforms throughout the month. Our goal is to receive 21,140 messages to mark the number of lives lost to suicide in Japan last year, and to let those struggling with mental illness know they are not alone. 🇯🇵

- World Mental Health Day takes place on 10 October.
- Over 50% of all mental health issues emerge during adolescence.
- Over 30% of young people in the US have experienced cyber bullying.

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tell 

THE ART OF NEGOTIATING

Pablo Restrepo of Negotiation by Design

On 18 and 19 October, a workshop on the art of negotiating will be held in Tokyo by Pablo Restrepo of Negotiation by Design. *BCCJACUMEN* caught up with Restrepo to find out more.

Tell us a little about yourself.

For over 25 years, I have been training and consulting on negotiation for corporations, governments and elite universities around the world. This October will be my eighth year of travelling to Tokyo to teach negotiation to the talented MBA students at McGill University.

Being Colombian, I have a particular perspective on the power of negotiation. In November of 2016, for example, the Colombian government signed a peace agreement with the main guerrilla group, the FARC, ending the longest on-going conflict in Latin America. Negotiation played an important role in stopping the violence and negotiation continues to play an important part in rebuilding rural areas of the country.

For example, I have trained UN peacekeepers to conduct negotiations between opposing factions in rural areas, so that faction members might find ways to live together, enjoying peace and prosperity.

In essence, successful negotiation is about reaching a fair agreement that will work for both parties. It is even better if you do not leave any value on the table. The same principles apply whether you are negotiating peace, an important deal at work, a raise, or even where to go on vacation with your family.

I grew up in France and Colombia then, in the US, I did my undergraduate degree at Columbia University and my MBA at the Kellogg School of Management.

Tell us a little about what Negotiation by Design does.

Our mission is to provide corporations and people with the skills they need to become stronger negotiators. Our training is based on practical, easy-to-use tools. This is what makes us different. Preparation accounts for 70% of the success in any negotiation. Our main tool, the Negotiation Canvas, provides step-by-step guidance to prepare



Expert negotiators:

- Identify and capture more value
- Set ambitious, yet achievable targets
- Increase power
- Remove obstacles
- Lead at the bargaining table
- Build strong, long-term relationships
- Close better deals

you for your next negotiation. The Negotiation Canvas has been used to negotiate successfully with some of the largest corporations in the world.

Tell us about your Tokyo workshop, on 18 and 19 October.

Our two-day negotiation workshop is designed to give corporate professionals the tools they need to make better deals. Professionals in sales, procurement, as well as legal and human resources find our workshops particularly useful.

The Japanese culture values cooperation and harmony, so our win-win negotiation methodology is well-suited to the culture. You can be a strong, effective negotiator and make deals that are good for both parties. I can teach you how to do that.

The workshop will be highly interactive and practical. I will start by providing a solid foundation in best practices. Then, participants will improve their negotiation skills by conducting negotiation simulations with their peers. Our workshops are a safe space in which to practice

and learn specific negotiation skills and develop the confidence needed to handle conflict and overcome roadblocks.

Participants will understand more about themselves as negotiators and what they need to do to make better deals. It will also be a great opportunity to network with other participants.

What skills will be the take away from the workshop?

At the end of the workshop, participants will have a practical toolkit that will enable them to perform better on all their negotiations. They will know how to prepare well for a negotiation by setting ambitious, yet achievable, targets. They will know how to increase their power, remove obstacles, and identify more value—even before they get to the bargaining table. Once at the table, they will know how to lead the negotiation; build strong, long-term relationships; and, most importantly, close better deals.

Lastly, participants will receive an electronic copy of the Negotiation Canvas in English and Japanese to use for future negotiations.

Is this the first such event in Tokyo?

We are pleased to announce that this will be our first Negotiation Master Class in Tokyo. We launched our Negotiation Master Classes just last month in Montréal at the amazing headquarters of Cirque du Soleil, which is also one of our clients. We are now bringing our Negotiation Master Classes to Tokyo.

How can people book a place?

The workshop will be held at the centrally located Fukuracia Marunouchi Oazo conference centre. To reserve your spot, visit our webpage (<http://negotiationbydesign.com/workshops/>). Members of the American, British and Canadian chambers of commerce in Japan and the Tokyo American Club signing up for the workshop will receive a ¥44,600 discount. Please use the code NBDCM18 to receive your markdown. 🇺🇸



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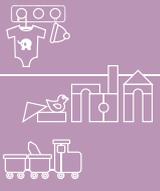
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Kspace JUNIOR
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THE UK'S IMAGE BEFORE AND AFTER BREXIT

How Japan viewed the UK pre- and post- referendum

BY JORDAN ALLEN

It dominated the news and divided the nation. The referendum on the UK's membership of the European Union, held on 23 June 2016, sealed the country's fate as the Leave camp narrowly pulled in a higher percentage of the vote than the Remain voters.

But what impact did the referendum have on the UK and its image abroad? Did people lose faith in the UK after almost 52% of voters opted to leave the EU, or did the referendum enhance people's image of the country?

At a recent event at the offices of the British Chamber of Commerce in Japan, Matt Burney, the director of the British Council in Japan, gave a talk in which he spoke about the results of two surveys carried out by the council across G20 countries. The poll looked at perceptions of the UK pre- and post-referendum, with a focus on Japan.

Explaining the motivation for the survey first, Burney said that "It is important for us to understand how the UK is perceived around the world. Particularly against the backdrop of shifting geo-political trends".

"We thought it would be a good idea to carry out some perception studies, pre-referendum and post-referendum, to see how the UK's image has changed since the referendum", he said.

The study targeted 18- to 34-year-olds, with at least a secondary-school education, in all of the G20 nations. The reason for focusing on this demographic, Burney said, was that it represents "the future business leaders, they will be the future decision-makers, so it is very important that we understand what they think about the UK and other countries".

The first survey was carried out in May and June of 2016, while the second took place in September and October 2016, with 1,000 people having been surveyed each time in Japan.

Attractive countries

The first part of the survey Burney detailed was the general attractiveness of countries.

Participants were asked to indicate how attractive they thought each G20 country to be. The poll respondents' replies show that young Japanese people's opinion of the UK was not quite as good following the referendum as it had been before.

While 54% of the respondents pre-referendum had found the UK to be attractive, the figure was 49% post-referendum.

Trust, post-referendum, was examined in the survey, with only 32% of Japanese respondents saying they trusted the UK government and 33% saying they trusted British people. However, while that does not sound immediately positive, according to the Japanese respondents, the UK was the third-most trusted nation after Canada and France.

An area where the referendum appears to have had little impact is studying abroad. The UK ranked as the third-most attractive study destination for Japanese respondents. The second poll showed a slight increase in the number of Japanese people wishing to study in the UK compared with the earlier one.

"Maybe this has got something to do with the sterling effect, because, of course, spending

Only 32% of Japanese respondents [said] they trusted the UK government.

power was increased when sterling lost its value immediately after the referendum", Burney said. "It allowed the Japanese to enjoy more spending power".

Some areas saw an increase in views of the UK from Japanese respondents. When asked, "which three of the following countries do you find most attractive as a source of arts and culture?", the UK ranked third after France and Italy. In the first survey, 32% of Japanese young people had opted for the UK, while in the second, the figure stood at 38%.

"I think this is good news for an organisation like the British Council, which is involved in arts and culture and shows this is very important in terms of perceptions about the UK and how important arts and culture are to creating positive perceptions", said Burney.



Discussion at the event centred on Japanese perceptions of the UK pre- and post-referendum.



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“I think the fact that there was so much coverage of the UK around the world during the referendum period [is good], and there were related images—many ironically had a positive effect. It impinged on people’s consciousness,” he added.

Engagement post-referendum

Delving further into the results of the second survey, a series of questions on engagement with the UK post-referendum saw the vast majority of respondents indicate it made no difference, or that they had no opinion. However, a small number did suggest they would be less likely to engage.

In terms of visiting the UK, 9% of the respondents answered they would be less likely to do so, while 7% said they would be more likely. The question about studying in the UK saw 8% say, following the referendum, that they would be less likely to do so, with 4% implying they’d be more likely.

But business suffered the most. Post-referendum, 11% of respondents indicated they would be less likely to do business or conduct trade with the UK, and 6% that they would be more likely to do so.

“The messages that we get from the business community in Japan is ‘this is going to be very difficult,’” Burney said.

Meanwhile, 60% of respondents said interacting with UK arts and culture and making personal contacts and friendships with British people would not be affected.

The survey looks at tourism, a sector which saw the UK come fifth in terms of desirable destinations for young Japanese people, after Italy, France, the United States and Australia. The



Matt Burney (left) said the intense media coverage around the referendum may have been a good thing.

results show a slight increase in the number of people choosing the UK compared with the pre-referendum survey.

Finally, poll participants from all countries were asked a series of questions regarding what they thought were the most important issues facing the world.

Both the Japanese and British respondents indicated that extremism, terrorism, armed conflict, poverty, migration, climate change and the environment were their top concerns, albeit not in the same order.

But the main takeaway from the surveys is that the Brexit referendum has not significantly harmed relations between Japan and the UK. While some areas have seen a loss of interest or loss of trust, others have seen an increase.

As Burney said when summing up, “the positives and negatives balance each other out”.

When asked specifically whether the referendum had had an impact on their perceptions of the UK, one third of the Japanese respondents replied in the negative.

So, the UK appears to come out the other side of the referendum relatively unscathed. As Burney said when summing up, “the positives and negatives balance each other out”.

However, with the UK scheduled to depart from the EU on 29 March, 2019, perhaps another survey after then might yield an interesting set of results. 🇬🇧

The survey showed only 33% of Japanese respondents said they trusted British people post-referendum.



NIKKO'S VICTORIAN LEGACY

Tea and scones served at 19th century British villa

BY SIMON FARRELL

They say heaven is where events are hosted by the British, where the chefs are French, the lovers Italian. So, imagine the decadence and diplomatic gossip among the four European embassy villas built on the banks of Lake Chuzenji in Nikko, between the middle of the Meiji Era (1868–1912) and the start of the Showa Era (1926–89).

Long ago also having accommodated royalty, politicians and other VIPs, the villas have survived restoration, repair and neglect. Among them, the British two-storey mini-museum—built in 1896 as a private residence for British Ambassador Sir Ernest Mason Satow (1843–1929)—stands out for its historical charm, breathtaking views and local artisanship.

The building then became a holiday villa of the British Embassy Tokyo until 2008. In 2010 it was donated to Tochigi Prefecture, which carefully restored it before opening it to the public in 2016. For just ¥200, visitors can experience a time warp as they wander the corridors, staircase and study decorated with original antiques, furniture, fittings and images from the era of Queen Victoria's reign, along with some contemporary touches.

When we visited, we noticed another quaint British touch—the long silent orderly queue; it led to the café. The menu offers freshly baked cheese



ACCESS TO BRITISH EMBASSY VILLA

Nikko is about two hours by train from Asakusa, Tokyo. At the JR Nikko or Tobu Nikko railway station, take a taxi (about ¥7,000 for a 30min ride), or local bus (about a one-hour ride) to the Utagahama Parking Lot. From there it is a 10min walk.

www.nikko-nsm.co.jp/british.html

scones or scones served with jam and cream to accompany Yorkshire or Earl Grey tea. The edifice overlooks the spectacular Lake Chuzenji National Park, which Sir Ernest often likened to the Lake District in north-west England.

The bright and cheerful café even kindly provides its own illustrated advice on how to eat the scones, although it could dismay purists from Devon and Cornwall, who have their own regional styles.



Other European villas

About 200 metres away is the local cedar-built former Italian Embassy Villa, which the local prefecture bought, restored and opened to the public in 2012, along with the privately owned former French Embassy villa. We can only speculate what could be the Belgian contribution to heaven or diplomatic circles, but their embassy villa—now a private holiday home—was opened briefly to the public in June, 90 years after its construction. It may open again occasionally, to mark special days.

About 40 holiday villas were built for embassies and wealthy expats. Some still stand and are used, while others have been abandoned or demolished, or await a new lease of life.

Europeans—according to local tourism literature —“brought their love of hiking, yachting and skiing that today forms a deep, irrevocable link with the global tourist destination of Nikko”.

Where royals stay

British monarchs visiting Japan also have headed for Nikko’s fresh air and healthy lifestyle, staying at the city’s centrally located Nikko Kanaya Hotel, Japan’s oldest resort hotel.

Proudly displayed (picture below) is the original 1922 guest check-in signature of Edward VIII, Prince of Wales (before he became King of the United Kingdom and British Empire in 1936 and—after abdicating later the same year—the Duke of Windsor).

Elaborate autographs by Princes George (1926) and Henry, the Duke of Gloucester (1929), are also featured on the ground floor, along with those of Swedish and Danish crown princes and princesses.

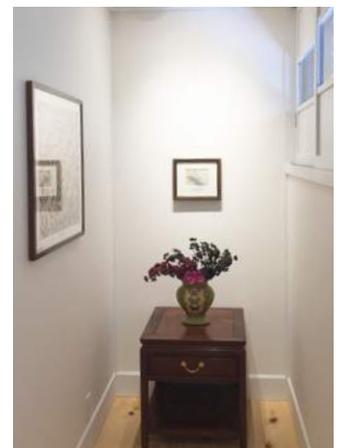
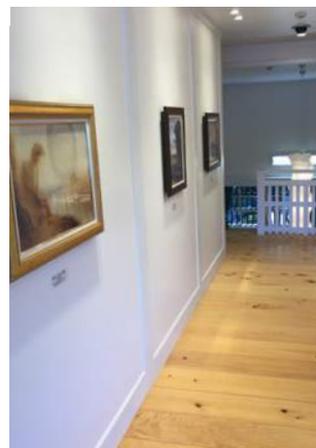
The rooms in which these royals, as well as politicians and VIPs from around the world, stayed no longer exist. In other cases, the



numbers and locations of the rooms remain secret or have been forgotten.

However, I slept and dreamed very well in number 15, the room where a tourist named Albert Einstein was registered in 1922, when a telegram informed him he was to be awarded the 1921 Nobel Prize in Physics. 🇬🇧

British monarchs visiting Japan also have headed for Nikko’s fresh air and healthy lifestyle.



European princes and dukes signed the guest register at Nikko Kanaya Hotel.

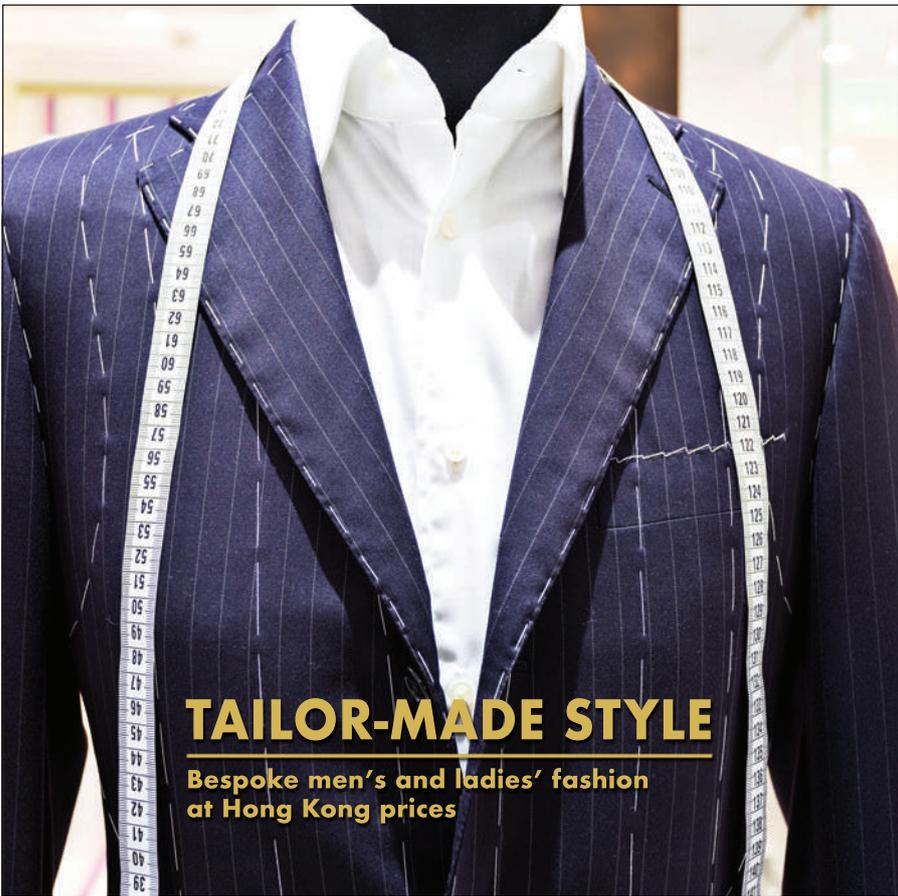


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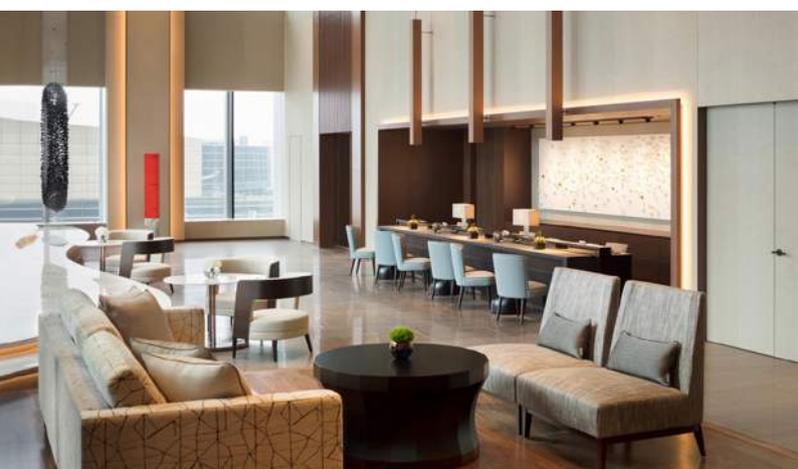
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YEAR-ROUND COMFORT

Ascott Marunouchi Tokyo celebrates its first birthday



Serviced residences provide comfort, privacy, and—for those traveling for extended periods on business—the perfect environment for bringing along the family. Having loved ones along for the trip makes staying away from home a little bit easier.

As one of the leading global owner-operators of serviced residences, The Ascott Limited has been a part of Tokyo's serviced-residence market for 15 years, with its Citadines and Somerset brands. A wholly owned subsidiary of Singapore-based CapitaLand Limited—one of Asia's largest real estate companies—Ascott operates more than 500 properties in over 30 countries. But the Ascott brand itself was absent from the Japanese capital until March 30, 2017, when Ascott Marunouchi Tokyo opened.

Turning one

The serviced residence celebrated its first anniversary in March, and Ascott Marunouchi Tokyo General Manager Shinichi Koshikawa spoke to *BCCJ ACUMEN* about the past 12 months and how the business has navigated its first year.

A variety of apartment types makes the Ascott Marunouchi Tokyo ideal for all business travelers. As Koshikawa explained: “We have seven apartment types that range from studios to three bedrooms. Those with two or more bedrooms are very popular with guests traveling as a group. Two-bedroom units have two separate bathrooms, so guests can have privacy even if they are traveling with family or friends.”

Many staying in Tokyo for business have found that the location serves them well. “The Marunouchi–Otemachi area is the main financial and business district of Tokyo, where many multinational companies and the headquarters of major Japanese banks are based,” Koshikawa said. Marunouchi is also becoming more vital in areas other than business, making it a well-rounded home base with many entertainment and lifestyle options. “Supermarkets, restaurants, cafés, banks, and a beautiful park are all within a 10-minute walk of Ascott Marunouchi Tokyo.”

To better assist guests who are often from abroad, staff members “speak at least English and Japanese. Some of the servers speak other languages, such as Spanish, French, Chinese, and Korean.” According to Koshikawa, this helps guests feel secure and at home.

Family-friendly

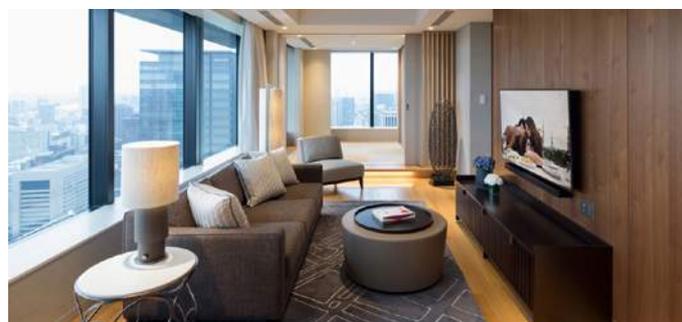
This home-away-from-home atmosphere is important not just to business people. “Ascott is targeting top business executives, but many family guests are also staying with us. We have received good feedback from families,” said Koshikawa. Tokyo, as one of the busiest cities in the world, can be tiring. Having a place to return to at the end of an eventful day, where you can relax and enjoy a private space of your own, could be just what is needed for a family holiday.

Plus, nearby Ginza is “the city's most prestigious shopping, dining, and entertainment district,” which gives Ascott Marunouchi Tokyo a close social hub around which families can stroll during their free time.

Ascott The Residence provides guests with everything they require for a comfortable stay: separate living and dining areas, a fully-equipped kitchen, en suite bathrooms, and modern amenities and facilities. The serviced residence also houses a pool, restaurant, meeting rooms, and 24-hour gym.

Over the past year, the serviced residence has expanded activities to enhance the guest experience. “This year we began offering free yoga classes every Wednesday morning, and our restaurant started serving high tea in July. To heighten the guest experience, we organized a Beaujolais Nouveau party last November featuring fresh wines, and we keep adding new experiences so guests can better enjoy their time at the Ascott.”

It seems that the past year has been a successful one, and Ascott “will continue to provide world-class accommodation and service” while upholding its reputation and further “providing great customer value and experiences, defining exclusive living.” 🇯🇵



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0120 914 886 (toll-free)
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www.the-ascott.com



PHOTO: TRIUMPH

TRIUMPHS AND TRAVAILS

Student-turned-master gets lesson in niche marketing

BY ROB RUSSELL

My father was a big fan of British motorcycles and had a leaky and rattly old BSA 500cc single-cylinder machine and a silver pudding basin crash helmet. When my brother and I were children, he used to take us for rides along a winding country lane in our Norfolk village.

It was a noisy bike and one Sunday evening a large, grumpy gentleman in a sweat-stained vest came out of his house, waved us down and said something like, "I'm trying to get my kids to sleep. Ain't you got nothing better to do than ride up and down all night making a racket!?"

I was puzzled: what could be better than that?

When I was old enough to get a bike of my own there were no thoughts in my mind whatsoever about buying British. In those days you could ride a 250cc bike on a provisional licence, which is to say, as a 17-year-old without having passed a test of any kind.

I know I wasn't the only teenager who worked all through the summer of his 16th year and bought himself a 90mph-plus Japanese bike for his 17th birthday.

Then Yamaha brought out the 100mph (the magic "ton" in motorcycle parlance) RD250 liquid-cooled two-stroke. It was too much for the lawmakers in Whitehall, who promptly lowered the provisional licence limit to 125cc, incidentally condemning me to a sobering-up period on a Honda C90 Cub while I slowed down enough to get through the test.

Decline

Domestic production of British bikes peaked at 187,000 in 1954 using a labour-intensive manufacturing process which, by the 1970s, still enabled production of a mere 15 bikes per employee per year. Meanwhile, in Japan and Germany, the decision had been made to invest heavily in the latest equipment and technology leading to breakthroughs which, in the same decade, allowed the likes of Honda to produce 100-200 bikes a year for each employee.

By the late 1950s, around the time my father became old enough to have a bike of his own, Honda's total output was larger than that of all the British manufacturers combined.

One reason the British found it hard to compete was the huge domestic market in Japan which gave Honda et al the means with which to expand abroad. However, this could as easily have been an excuse for them to rest on their laurels. And, indeed, in the 1960s some in the Honda organisation thought it was madness to try to sell motorcycles to a previously dominant Britain and car-obsessed America.

By the late 1950s ... Honda's total output was larger than that of all the British manufacturers combined.



The Yamaha RD250, which could reach 100mph, was released in 1973.

Instead, Honda chose to continue to innovate and expand, and developed the practice of spending 3% of gross revenue on research and development. In 1960, they opened their first R&D facility, about which British makers were deeply sceptical, and which they emulated only much later in the decade—when it was already too late.

Contrary to the popular stereotype, it was not slavish copying that led to the domination of the big four Japanese manufacturers (Honda, Yamaha, Suzuki, Kawasaki), but big dreaming, virtually superhuman determination and single-mindedness harnessed to adaptability, and seemingly divinely endowed engineering skills.

It was not slavish copying that led to the domination of the big four Japanese manufacturers.

The man who embodied these world-beating qualities was Soichiro Honda. Again, contrary to the stereotype, Honda was a fiercely independent Tokyo man, who had little time for formal education and the effrontery and drive to personally berate the Minister of International Trade and Industry (MITI, now METI) before building a car in record time and getting it into the Tokyo motor show in 1962.

Honda started Honda Motor Co. in 1948, the same way that, in 1902, Siegfried Bettmann—a German émigré living in Birmingham—started what was to become Triumph Motor Company, by making motorised bicycles.

Both firms attracted the best engineers, who quickly learned to make high-quality, high-performance motorcycles that embodied innovative technology and were attractive to the consumers of their day.

By the time Honda retired in 1973, his firm had reached the landmark of 20mn bikes produced and had changed the motorcycle world forever with the introduction of the 67 horsepower, 123mph four-cylinder CB750 which sold for the almost unthinkable low price of \$1,495 in the US.

By contrast, in Britain, 1973 saw the dissolution of the deeply indebted major British industrial combine, the BSA Group. Founded in 1861, it now abandoned its final attempt to build a world beater, after the firm's accountants concluded that it would sell for double the cost of the equivalent Honda in the United States.

Triumph struggled on for another decade with the support of Harold Wilson's Labour government and the left-leaning Minister of Trade and Industry Tony Benn. This led to the famous Meriden worker's cooperative, which finally threw in the towel in 1983.

The British Fight Back

When the Meriden co-op went into receivership, two men stepped into the breach. The first was millionaire real estate developer John Bloor, who bought the Triumph name and patents—wisely taking his time to watch and learn, including several trips to Japan, before opening a new Triumph factory in Hinckley, Leicestershire in 1991.

The second was Les Harris, an enthusiast from Devon who bought the leftover parts and supplies and purchased a five-year licence from Bloor to produce Triumph Bonneville. He built a remarkable 1,255 machines, thereby ensuring the continuity that allows Triumph to claim the title of the world's longest continually-operating manufacturer of motorcycles.

The new Hinckley Triumphs were just that—modern, liquid-cooled, mostly three cylinder machines that bore little resemblance to their predecessors in looks, reliability and performance. And they have proved amazingly popular: 63,400 bikes were sold in 2016, not only in Britain (where Triumph has a 16% share of the lucrative big bike market), but in more than 30 international markets. These include Japan and Thailand, where Bloor has built fully British-owned factories that supply parts and also assemble complete bikes.

A big test for the new company came in 2002 when a large part of the Hinckley factory was destroyed by fire. Out of the soul-searching that followed, and with the help of Danish-born branding expert Tue Manton, Triumph made the decision to build a niche that would differentiate them from the Japanese and give them an edge when the growing threat from Chinese makers inevitably crystallises in the near future.

Brits on Bikes

Last autumn, a wine-fuelled conversation with a fellow Brit who shares my love of both motorcycles and golf led to the idea of a trip around Japan riding from one golf course to the next, sending the clubs ahead by door-to-door parcel delivery and exploring along the way.

A series of happy coincidences then led to Paddock Motorcycles in Okayama offering to lend us two bikes for the journey. Their suggestion was two imported Triumph Tiger 800cc machines. If that's not ironic I don't know what is. But one thing's for sure: with the new Tiger motor being smooth running and gentle on the ears we won't have to worry about dealing with irate parents who can't get their children to sleep. 🇬🇧



PHOTO: TRIUMPH

ARTS

UK EVENTS IN JAPAN

COMPILED BY
KIYOKO MORITA

1 8 JULY–8 OCTOBER

Dear Ms Crook— PJ Crook Exhibition

Pamela June Crook MBE, known professionally as PJ Crook, is an English painter and sculptor. Her paintings have been used as covers for King Crimson's albums since 1997. This exhibition introduces the history of the friendship between the Morohashi Museum of Modern Art and Ms Crook. The museum, situated within Bandai-Asahi National Park in Fukushima Prefecture, is the top collector in Japan of her work. The museum is exhibiting all the items of her work that it holds, as well as a retrospective of the collection's formation.

PHOTO: © PJ CROOK 2018

Morohashi Museum of Modern Art

1093-23 Kengamine,
Oaza-hibara,
Kita-shiobara-mura,
Yama-gun, Fukushima

9:30am–5:30pm

(last admission: 5pm)

Adults: ¥950
[http://dali.jp/en/exhibition/
0241-37-1088](http://dali.jp/en/exhibition/0241-37-1088)

◦ **Free tickets**

We have five pairs of tickets to give away.

2 FROM 28 SEPTEMBER

National Theatre Live: Yerma

A young woman is driven to the unthinkable by her desperate desire to have a child in Simon Stone's radical production of Garcia Lorca's achingly powerful masterpiece.

Set in contemporary London, Billie Piper's portrayal of a woman in her thirties, desperate to conceive, builds with elemental force to a staggering, shocking climax.

PHOTO: © JOHAN PERSSON

Toho Cinemas Nihombashi
(among other locations)
2-3-1 Nihombashi-muromachi,
Chuo-ku, Tokyo
Various times
Adults: ¥3,000
<https://www.ntlive.jp/yerma>
050-6868-5060

3 3–8 OCTOBER

Barakura Harvest Festival

Mark the beginning of autumn with local foods, harvest displays and a visit to the festival's art and crafts market. Her Majesty's Royal Marines Band Service, the musicians of the Royal Navy, will be on hand to provide a lively musical accompaniment.

PHOTO: BARAKURA ENGLISH GARDEN

BARAKURA English Garden

5047 Kuridaira, Kitayama,
Chino-shi, Nagano
Various show times
Adults: ¥1,400
[http://barakura.co.jp/2018-
harvest-festival](http://barakura.co.jp/2018-harvest-festival)
0266-77-2019

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4

◦ To apply for free tickets and gifts, please send an email with your name, address and telephone number by 28 September to: coordinator@custom-media.com
Winners will be picked at random.

4
3-14 OCTOBER

Matthew Bourne's Cinderella

Directed and choreographed by award-winning Sir Matthew Bourne OBE. His interpretation of the classic fairy tale has, at its heart, a true war-time romance. A chance meeting results in a magical night for Cinderella and her dashing young Royal Air Force pilot, together just long enough to fall in love before being parted by the horrors of the Blitz, a German bombing offensive against Britain during WW II.

PHOTO: HUGO GLENDINNING

Tokyu Theatre Orb

Shibuya Hikarie 11F,
2-21-1 Shibuya,
Shibuya-ku, Tokyo
Various show times
Adults: from ¥5,500
<http://theatre-orb.com/english/lineup/20181001.html>
03-3490-4949

◦ **Free gifts**

We are giving away three *Matthew Bourne's Cinderella* clear files.

5
3 AND 5 OCTOBER

GOGO PENGUIN

Manchester-based leftfield piano trio GoGo Penguin are pianist Chris Lllingworth, bassist Nick Blacka and drummer Rob Turner. Their music has been described as acoustic-electronica, but they draw equally on rock, jazz and minimalism, game soundtracks and glitchy-electronica to create unique music.

Shibuya Club QUATTRO

(October 3)
32-13 Udagawa-cho,
Shibuya-ku, Tokyo

Umeda Club QUATTRO

(October 5)
8-17 Taiyujicho,
Kita-ku, Osaka
7pm (Door open 6pm)
Adults: ¥6,800

6
21, 22, 24, 26 OCTOBER

**LIBERA—Angel Voices
Tour 2018 "beyond"**

Libera is an English, all-boy vocal group directed by Robert Prizeman.

The boys, aged between seven and 16, attend many different local schools in South London and come from a variety of backgrounds. Their atmospheric albums have topped classical and mainstream charts around the world.

PHOTO: © LIBERA

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Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo

ZEPP NAGOYA

4-60-7 Hiraikecho,
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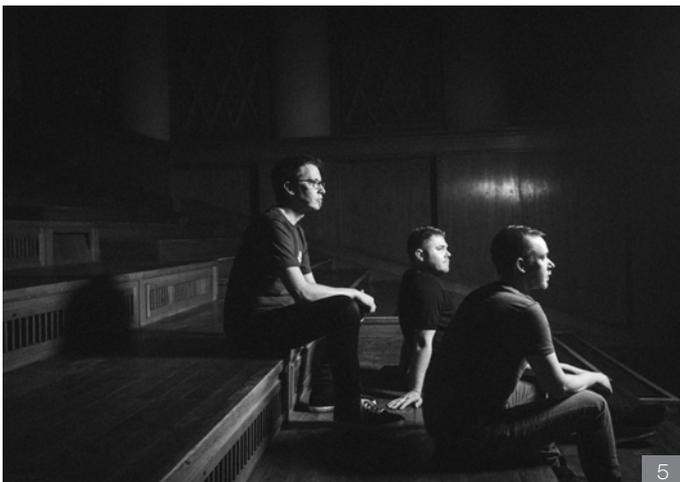
5-3-51 Nakanoshima,
Kita-ku, Osaka

Various Times

Adults: From ¥8,000

<http://www.kajimotomusic.com/en/artists/k=14>

0570-069-960



5



6



UK-JAPAN EVENTS

1
 An event was held on 22 August at the office of the British Chamber of Commerce in Japan (BCCJ) to look at the Department for International Trade's plans for the 2019 Rugby World Cup and 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games. From left: Phil Robertson from Honyaku Plus; Stephen McGowan; Linda Lally from the Department of International Trade; David Mullholand from the British Embassy Tokyo; David Bickle, BCCJ president.

2
 Lori Henderson MBE, executive director of the BCCJ, pictured with Shunichi Hiramaki (centre) and Kisho Nakagawa from Japanese tour firm JTB at the BCCJ office.

3, 5
 Sales expert Dr Greg Story addresses members of the BCCJ at an event entitled The 7 Deadly Sins of Selling in Japan, held at ANA InterContinental Tokyo on 18 July.

4
 Lori Henderson MBE (left) and members of the BCCJ attend a study session on how the UK government might respond to a disaster in Japan, led by the British Embassy Tokyo's Director for Trade and Investment Chris Heffer (fourth from right).

BCCJ ACUMEN readers are welcome to email recent UK-Japan event photos with captions and credits for the editor to consider: publisher@custom-media.com



6
A reception for participants in the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) programme was held on 20 July at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London. From left: Bonnie Stuart, a 2018 JET participant now working in Kyoto Prefecture; Sarah Parsons, the chair of the JET Alumni Association UK; Japanese Ambassador to the UK Koji Tsuruoka.

PHOTO: EMBASSY OF JAPAN IN THE UK

7
An event was held on 30 August at the House of Aston-Martin in Tokyo, at which Aston-Martin, Hackett and Johnnie Walker showed their wares to guests. Pictured second left is Graham Simpkins of men's outfitters Hackett, showing the company's suits and cloth.

8
Japanese Ambassador to the UK Koji Tsuruoka (left), presented Keiko Holmes OBE (2nd from right) with the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays, in recognition of her contribution to reconciliation between Japan and the UK. Holmes has worked as a volunteer with British former prisoners of war, helping them to visit Japan and educate them about the country. Also pictured are Holmes' son Daniel (right) and Ambassador Tsuruoka's wife Yoko.

PHOTO: EMBASSY OF JAPAN IN THE UK

9
Japanese Ambassador to the UK Koji Tsuruoka (left), meets fashion designer Paul Costelloe at the ambassador's official residence. Costelloe, whose designer label is based in London, has worked to assist the Tohoku region of Japan, which suffered in the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami of March, 2011.

PHOTO: EMBASSY OF JAPAN IN THE UK

10
Staff and students from the British School in Tokyo take part in their Eco-Science Community Service Expedition to Fiji as part of Operation Wallacea, an environmental research and conservation expedition organisation.

PHOTO: THE BRITISH SCHOOL IN TOKYO

POSITIVE SOUL

Talking to Bluey of Incognito

BY GUY PERRYMAN MBE

Of all the people I have interviewed over the years, Bluey from British acid jazz band Incognito is the person I have met the most over a microphone. Since the mid-1990s we have got together for a chat at least twice a year, either when he is on tour in Japan or I am in London. A man who creates positive soulful music in keeping with his character, Bluey is always a joy to be around. Our most recent conversation was in August this year, backstage at the Blue Note Tokyo.

I discovered Incognito in the early 1990s when, as a DJ with Virgin Megastores in Tokyo, we championed this new sound coming out of London. It included other notable acid jazz

and soul funk artists such as The Brand New Heavies, Jamiroquai, Us3 and many more.

A momentous time in British music bound together in Camden with Dingwalls nightclub, pirate radio stations, *Straight No Chaser* magazine, Acid Jazz and Talkin' Loud record labels and DJ Gilles Peterson, a driving force within it all. Bluey recalls the spirit of the community.

"Especially in London it was THE creative culture. It was the arts, it was the fashion, there was an awareness to create. Acid jazz had a lot of designers, the guys that were doing the artwork, a lot of street artists that had become legit making album covers for people.

It was that kind of feel where people were graduating from various things—style gurus, artists—and you had magazines like *Straight No Chaser* that featured them. They had platforms: the music; a place: locations—such as Camden Town, the Dingwalls. We had a place to spring from on a Sunday morning, everybody getting together. We had incredible DJs, dancers, musicians, poets, spoken word artists, all in this mish-mash. So it was a really positive movement and multicultural. Probably one of the most multicultural set-ups ever. It was amazing."

Live art

Is London still inspiring Bluey today, I wondered?

"Very much so. One of my current pet projects is to promote London and the UK. I'm speaking to a drum company called the British Drum Company. I'm going to create the sound of British-made drums on the next Incognito album and it's going to be very particular and it's going to have a sound of all the influences of acid jazz and yet the sound of this drum is going to be all British because it's all British made."

He continued enthusiastically about another project. "I've just been commissioned for a piece that I've done with one of my co-writers and creative heads Ski Oakenfull. The combination of the two of us coming together caught the eye of some people in the City.

"In the square mile, where they've got some very interesting buildings going up, we're combining art, architecture, sounds and music that you can only hear in those surroundings. On the roof they're going to have live art and music in



Bluey (left) describes Incognito as more of a collective than a band.



Citrus Sun, one of Bluey's side projects, mainly performs instrumental pieces.

the building. Designers are coming together with street artists, it's incredible."

This conversation triggers childhood recollections in Mauritius, where Bluey was born. "One of my earliest memories is sound and architecture because the house that we lived in, the kitchen was outside, and in Mauritius you could get rain at any time, and we needed to cover that area.

"So, between the house and our neighbour's wall, my grandfather put corrugated iron. These corrugated sheets of metal had different thicknesses and textures, some of them were old, some of them were rusted, some brand new.

"They told me I used to get really excited when the rain would fall on these things, and I would sit underneath and lie down on the

kitchen floor and listen to the sound of the falling rain on the corrugated iron. For me that is my earliest music—rhythm and music created by rain on the ceiling, and I've always kept in touch with that".

Sense of community

Industrious and creative as a young boy, just as he is today, Bluey shares more from his childhood. "I would use those same sheets of metal later. Between the age of five and eight I actually had a band, but everything that was played was created by me—from tin cans to plastic containers, oil drums, old rusty sugar cane utensils that they used to stir the pots of molasses, fishing tackle left at the beach that I would stretch over shoe boxes to create string instruments.

So now, being in London and being commissioned to do music for a building, it's subtle stuff but it connects really well".

As in his childhood, Bluey has always brought musicians together and has said that Incognito is more of a collective than a band. He wants to build a sense of community and a home where his "family" of musicians are always welcome. The seeds of community were no doubt sewn being raised by extended family.

Bluey's side projects are also created to nurture musicians—Thames River Soul brings together London-based musicians and Citrus Sun (spontaneously named one morning in his kitchen, as he looked out the window at the glorious morning sun and at the citrus washing up liquid sitting on the sink) gives the Incognito rhythm section the chance to perform more instrumental-based live shows.

Bluey tours the world with his bands, signs young singers in different countries to his record

Between the age of five and eight I actually had a band, but everything that was played was created by me

label, gives inspirational talks at colleges in the US and has built a loyal following of fans in Japan and tours here every year, performing at the iconic Blue Note Tokyo. He has a soft spot for this country and the people, not least because of his Japanese wife.

But Bluey is definitely at home in London and each time I've interviewed him there, the location has been significant—a soul pirate radio station dedicated to keeping British soul on the air, the "hallowed ground" of Ronnie Scott's legendary jazz club in Soho and more personally a tour of Bluey's manor, in Stoke Newington in north London, where we explored the streets and lunched at his favourite local Junior's Caribbean restaurant.

London has seeped into Bluey's soul and music and, in return, his positive soul has seeped into the music fabric of London. He is a valuable gem in British music and one of the country's most inspiring cultural ambassadors. 🇬🇧

BIOGRAPHY

- Born 1957 in Mauritius
- Full name Jean-Paul Maunick but, from the age of 12, has gone by his school nickname Bluey
- The son of Mauritian poet Edouard Maunick
- In the mid 1960s, aged nine, moved with his mother to the UK
- In late 1970s, founding member of jazz funk band Light Of The World in London
- In 1979, formed acid jazz funk band Incognito

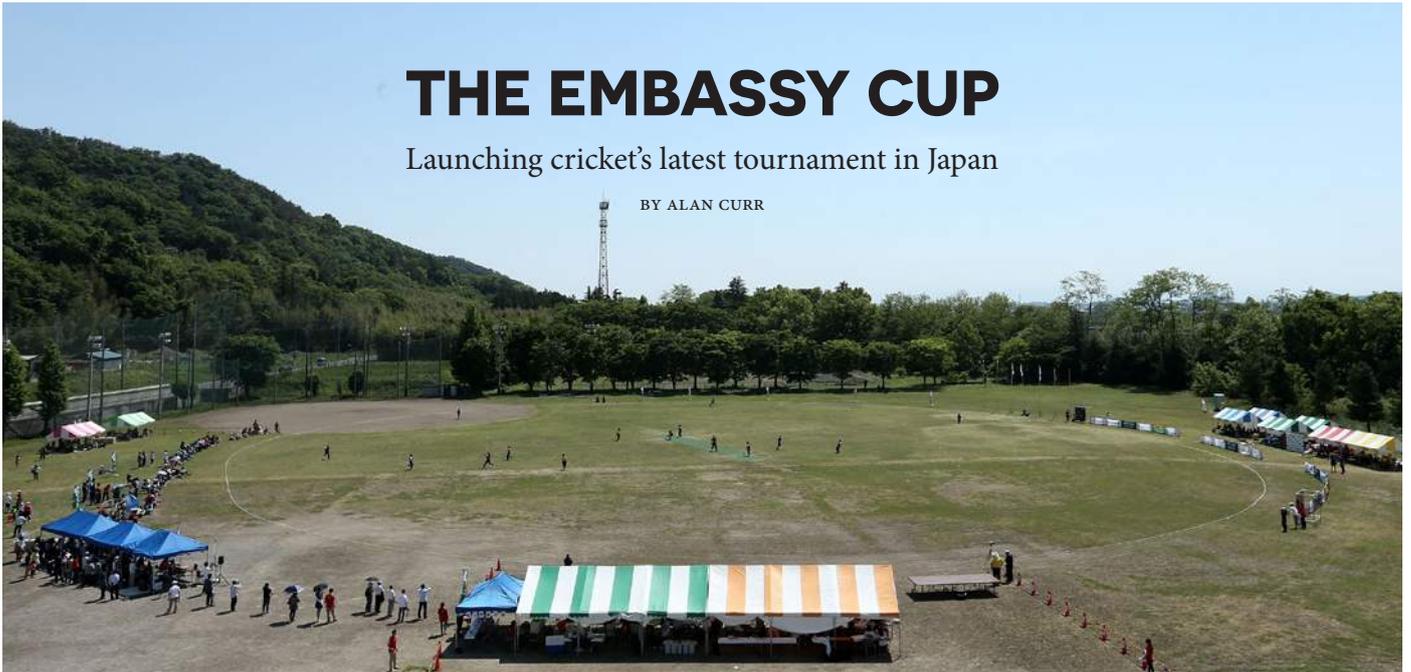


Bluey plays at Blue Note Tokyo every year.

THE EMBASSY CUP

Launching cricket's latest tournament in Japan

BY ALAN CURR



The British Embassy Cricket Team will join in the opening of the first international-standard cricket ground in Japan when they participate in the inaugural Embassy Cup on 22 and 23 September.

The tournament will take place in Sano City, Tochigi Prefecture, around 80km north of Tokyo. The eight teams competing will represent several embassies. There will be the combined Australia–New Zealand team, in addition to teams from the embassies of Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, the UK, and Sri Lanka, as well as the Japan national team.

During the two days there will be food stands and a bar, as well as have-a-go areas for adults and children to provide a real *matsuri* flavour. For those adventurous enough to stay later and make a full weekend of it, there will be a glamping area and an outdoor cinema.

The Sano International Cricket Ground recently underwent a ¥460mn renovation, that involved adding an extra playing area and relaying the grass. Seating for around 500 allows an excellent viewing experience and, through the project—supported by Sano City Council—it is hoped that the venue will attract people from all over the country for cricket and recreation.

Japan Cricket Association CEO Naoki Alex Miyaji said: “We are incredibly excited about this event. It marks the culmination of many years’ hard work to build a facility that would not look out of place anywhere in the world, and we look forward to sharing this moment with the international community.”



Naoki Alex Miyaji,
CEO of Japan Cricket
Association

Entry will be free on both days, and the British Embassy Tokyo team will play its first match against the combined Australia and New Zealand side from about 13:45 on 23 September. Depending on that result, they will play again in either the morning or the afternoon of the following day. Please come and cheer them on! 🇬🇧

The Sano International Cricket Ground (below) recently underwent a ¥460mn renovation.





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