



THE HYOGO TIMES

The Monthly Publication for HyogoAJET Members

The Hyogoajet Official Website: <http://hyogoajet.org>

August 2002 Yashiro Issue



Welcome to Japan and to Hyogo Prefecture

**How to join HyogoAJET, useful info about 'Living in Hyogo'
and the all-important Entertainment Schedule!**

Welcome to Hyogo Prefecture!

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Welcome to Hyogo ken everyone and congratulations on being selected to be part of the 2002/2003 JET Programme. It all happens here because Hyogo is THE best place to be; at least we'd like to think so!

Konichiwa mina san! Genki desu ka? (FYI: Memorize this phrase and you'll be famous at school!) First of all, I'd like to congratulate and send Kudos out to everyone on making it to Yashiro despite the smoldering, sweat-laden heat of the summer. (Air con is a beautiful thing & Pocari Sweat, despite the name) I hope you're enjoying the work shops and shmooze-fests characteristic of Yashiro and are looking forward to building on this adventure you've embarked on. Gambate kudasai! (means = hang in there! Memorize this one too!)

Now, I know y'all might have a wee bit of 'relaxing' time to 'soak up' in over the next few days, and because of this (drum roll please) for your sheer reading pleasure we've put together the welcome edition of 'The Hyogo Times' newsletter just for you, care of the HAJET team.

Now you might be asking yourself - just who exactly are these people and what's this all about... well let me explain. The Hyogo AJET team (Association of Japanese exchange teachers) is a non-profit group of volunteer JETS comprised of 11 lovely lassies and 1 striking lad who all work together, as well as individually to make this team work. In a nutshell, we're here for you to help make your experience as exciting as possible. Take a look at the committee profiles on the next pages to meet this lovely bunch.

To start off, we have a serious group of social coordinators who are now in the midst of planning a plethora of events that will hit Hyogo this year. August will see them at such events as the HIMEJI BEER GARDEN on the 17th, the KOBE NIGHT OUT on the 30th and in September the BACK TO SCHOOL BEER GARDEN on the 7th. Later on in the month, we will take advantage of the natural surroundings and will guide you up to Mt. Seppiko to soak up pristine air, scenery and ONSEN (hot bath) delights. From then on there are temple retreats, holiday parties, onsen weekends, skiing, cherry blossom parties, theatre shows put on by JETS, climbing Mt. Fuji, barbecues, beaches and much more fun! See the Event Calendar for more information.

Discounts to Hyogo AJET events are offered to Hyogo AJET members, and often we use events to raise money for various charities, which we support in the community. Information about each and every event can be found in our monthly newsletter, The Hyogo Times, which also includes original travel essays, cooking tips, humor, random

banter and teaching ideas written by Hyogo JETs. We run a postage-paid library service (1000+ books) for use by members. We coordinate and publish the Hyogo Living Guide, City Guide and Tajima guide (if you live in Tajima) which you should have received by now; handy guides which help newly arrived JETs settle into life here in Japan. We also run a sempai / kohai system whereby a veteran JET (sempai) offers a friendly ear on the phone or may even organize a get-together for new JETs (kohai's) in the area. If you haven't been contacted by your sempai as of yet - please feel free to contact them!

This funky group of volunteer's work together to help make your stay in Japan jam-packed with fun and a whole lot of culture. You can get involved too! Flip over the pages and you'll see just what I mean.

Most importantly to have a better idea about what we're all about check out our web site: <http://hyogoajet.org> for all the updates and how to become a member. Or speak to one of the HAJET members directly at Yashiro. Say 'KONICHIWA' to Izzy Lim 2nd year JET, Sabine Sengmueller, 2nd year JET or Rebecca Dean, 2nd year JET at the conference and they'll give you 'the story!'

Last but not least, have a truly amazing time at Yashiro (yes, it's possible), make new friends, write down their contact information and keep in touch. Most importantly make the most of this adventure no matter how long you stay. Tread lightly, listen, learn, respect, participate, smile, and integrate during your stay here. This year is going to seriously whirl by, so get on board and as involved as you can. Enjoy the summer, explore the joys of Hyogo Ken and soak up the heat with us at the Himeji beer garden on the 17th. Stayed tuned and get involved in all the cultural treats we have in store for you.

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, or would like to get involved don't hesitate to contact us at any time (see committee contact list at the back of 'The Hyogo Times'). If you'd like to chat send an email to me, PR Ten-cents-off, and I'll fill your ears with tales of joy and splendor.

Until then, 'Ja, mata ne' (means = see ya later) and Gambatte kudasai, 'fight-fight!'

Rachel Tenzythoff

Hyogo Prefectural Representative 'Ten-cents-off!'
Email: pr@hyogoajet.org
Home phone: 06-6491-0309
Work phone: 06-6421-0132
URL: <http://hyogoajet.org>

HAJET invites you to join the exotic annual beer-filled celebration of summer and welcome of the new JETs at the:

HIMEJI BEER GARDEN 2002

When?

Saturday 17th August 5:30 – 9:00pm

Where?

The roof of FORUS department store, Himeji.

How Much?

Girlies 2,550 yen Boys 2,800 yen

(ALL YOU CAN EAT AND DRINK!)

How do I get there? From JR Sannomiya take the Special Rapid Service train for JR Himeji Station (45 mins. – slower by local train). Follow the signs to the Central Exit and meet up with all the new and old JET faces in front of 'Baskin Robbins' outside the station (5pm SHARP!).

Or to make your own way there, come out of the central exit, head straight down Miyuki-dori to the first major traffic intersection. Turn right and FORUS dept. store will be on your left. Join us all on the roof!

For more information,

check out <http://hyogoajet.org>
or contact Hyogo Ajet Social Co-Ordinators
at: events@hyogoajet.org
or Sophie James hajet_charity@hotmail.com
Cell: 090-6374-4719

HyogoAJET Committee profiles

Yashiro Welcome Edition of The Hyogo Times - From the editor

Otsukarasamadeshita! (Great work everyone!) Sending out a great bit THANKS to all of you that participated this summer in helping to create THE welcome edition of The Hyogo Times. What a lovely read it is if I do say so myself.

This is the first edition of it's kind, not in content but in style. This little project would not be possible without the blood, sweat and tears of one Web Mistress & Hyogo Times Design Editor, ALT Fiona Cubie - thank you for your patience, insight and creativity Fi. Special thanks goes out to all our contributors this month, especially the HAJET committee, out-going C.I.R. Mark Wuebbels and Katia Therault, The Kansai Time Out magazine, ALT Ruth Kent, Nara ken's own Jason Pickens', our infamous Hyogo Times Editor Steve Wilkinson, and to all the new 2002-2003 JETs that are taking the time to read this.

This Welcome Edition has been created solely for our new 2002-2003 Hyogo JET friends. I hope you've enjoyed this little compilation. If you're interested in having your 'voice' heard, or would like to submit your own interesting bits and pieces of any nature, please EMAIL your work to Steve Wilkinson at times@hyogoajet.org by the 3rd FRIDAY of EACH month.

In September you should receive the 'Back To School' Hyogo Times edition (for August/September) at your host institution, another little literary treat for you. However, as of October only Hyogo AJET members will receive our monthly Hyogo Times newsletter, discounts to events, access to the library and other fun stuff - so please run on over to the AJET table at Yashiro and sign up with one of our 'genki' members. Thanks for your support and happy reading! For updated information and news click on <http://hyogoajet.org>.

Signing out for now,

HAJET PR Ten-cents-off!
Rachel Tenzythoff



HAJET PR:

Name: Rachel-Elizabeth Tenzythoff (AKA: Ten-cents-off) or Meg Ryan, whatever floats yer boat.

Hometown: Toronto, Canada.
Land of the Canuck's, home of poutine, beaver tails,

northern lights, the Rockies, the Maple Leaf's and great BEER!

When I came to be: January 16th, 1976. Capricorn bones. Some funky blood type I can't seem to recall at the moment. (Word to the wise know your blood type. Bonus points at school!)

JET status: now in my third year as a JET if you can believe it, just can't get enough.

University highlights: running down the street with 5000 frosh clad in my Pokaroo PJ's and teddy bear.

Japan-land: English instructor for grades 1 through 3 at Amagasaki Senior High School in Amagasaki shi a hop skip and a jump from Osaka and Kobe.



(Thanks to English.com)

Japan o'phile obsessions: rice 3 times a day, miso soup, okonomiaki, Pokey, yukata, Papa Totoro, shodo (calligraphy), tea ceremony, temple stays and hot plates, endless.

Other weird stuff: salsa dancing is my passion and can be indulged in right here IN Japan, travelling, yoga, reading tragic love stories, & endless events-events-events.

AJET Position deets: As Hyogo AJET PR I'm here at you're every beck & call to represent all the needs of YOU the Hyogo Jets and pass on any comments or suggestions you have to National Council at any point during your stay.

Most importantly, I'm kicking around all year with the 2002 - 2003 styling Hyogo AJET committee members whom you'll have the pleasure of meeting at Yashiro (say 'hello' to Sabine & Izzy) and when you read on in the next few pages. In this coming year, we'll be hopping around Hyogo involving ourselves in planning **events**, to tempt your palate, publish the monthly **HYOGO TIMES newsletter** to keep you informed, and maintains the other services we provide such as the **library**, the **website**, **supporting charitable organizations**, Tajima area support, the **Living Guide**, the **Kobe city guide**, the **Tajima guide** and securing sponsorship to name a few. If you haven't already checked us out at <http://hyogoajet.org>, then get clickin.

We're here to help provide a support network for you, make you smile and most importantly help you to forge friendships that will last a lifetime. Even if you're in the boondocks, we'll find you.

Fond farewell: For now, it's been a slice! Enjoy this adventure every step of the way. My advice, try everything at least once (ok maybe NOT everything but you get me.) Don't compare and strike down, open up your mind to a new way of thinking and interacting and learn. You'll realize that although we're different we're all really, one and the same. So, go with the flow & get involved. Sooner than you know it it'll feel like home. Signing out...

Rachel (Ten-cents-off)!



Hyogo Times Editor

Name: **Stephen Wilkinson**

Committee Position: Hyogo Times Editor

Birthdate: 4th October 1979

Birthplace: Weston-Super-Mare, England

A Brief History: Run over in 1991. Black belt in karate.

A-levels in Maths, History

and English Literature. 2:1 in History and Politics from Exeter University, England.

People don't believe me when: I tell them I was run over, or that I've got a black belt, or any of my claims to fame.

Claims to Fame: Went to school with Wayne Bridge, England and Southampton defender. Went to university with Will Young, star of Pop Idol. Also, my mum's cousin wrote smash hit "I'm Walking on Sunshine"

Favourite things about Japan: My girlfriend, the weather, the weekends, payday.

But I can't get used to: Teachers talking to me when I'm standing at the urinals. Sorry, that's just weird. The best English I've ever seen: On a glass I can only assume is for children in my school's staff room, complete with smiley faces, and this slogan written around its rim: "We Are Hookers!" I kid you not.

Summer holiday this year: Mexico



Web Mistress



Hi there, I'm **Fiona Cubie**, a second year Kiwi living in Kobe, and Hyogoajet's Web Mistress!
Please call me **Fi** or I'll think I'm in trouble!
I also double as The Hyogo Times Design Editor from August 2002 (or I do the production)

for those in the know!

Hyogoajet's website <http://hyogoajet.org> is regularly updated with activity and event information, social snaps, news and useful links to make your life in Japan easier. Check out the 'Computing in Japan' link to get more info on ISPs and ADSL and buying English OS computers in Japan.

Email lists

There is also a Hyogoajet Group Email List which you can subscribe to. This is open to all JETs in Hyogo as a means of communication... AJET or not. Please use it considerately and if file attachments are necessary, keep them to a reasonable size (<50Kb) as any messages posted go out to all members of the list.

To post a message, send an email to:
hyogojets@yahoogroups.com

To subscribe to the list, send a blank email to:
hyogojets-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

To unsubscribe from the list, send a blank email to:
hyogojets-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com

There are other email lists you can join - details on our website! - So if you have any images or information you would like to feature on the website, or have any questions or comments - feel free to email me @ admin@hyogoajet.org

Have a good one, see you at the Pub! - Fi

'Design is seductive propaganda'. Jennifer Morla

Treasurer

and... *(anything else I get dragged to do or volunteer to do)* - I am your friendly, smiling, and genki treasurer,
Andrea Ruth Sparrow.



I basically handle all the debits and credits of Hyogo AJET. Also, I run an

analysis to see where all the money that we receive is distributed. Therefore, in order to make sure that our Prefecture Rocks and continues the adventurous events we need your support. So PLEASE make sure to sign up for Hyogo AJET. Your generous contribution helps keep Hyogo AJET alive and

Librarian

Name: **Katie Rosecrans**

From: America, East coast

Year: 2nd

Lives in: Suzurandai, Kobe (towards the mountains)



School: University of Florida (and Kansai Gaidai, Osaka) Major: Anthropology
So I'm headed towards: Graduate school
Interests: Reading, DIY projects, Rainer Maria, red shoes, Domokun
Addictions: Sugar, lip gloss, pens

AJET Position: Librarian

Job Description: I have a whole bunch of books at my apartment. If you want one, just e-mail me and I'll send it to you. And, if you've joined **Hyogo AJET, it's free!** The books are all listed on the HyogoAJET website - <http://hyogoajet.org> - check it out!

Perks: I get to read all the books I want.

Drawbacks: I don't get to give you stern looks or tell you to be quiet.

Contact: librarian@hyogoajet.org

"There's more to life than books, you know. But not much more, not much more." -Morrissey

running. A little about me...Where to begin... From: Newport Beach, California (and NO it is not LA)

Current Location: Kobe, Japan Interests: Besides traveling, I enjoy Japanese shodo (calligraphy), Japanese cuisine, taking pictures (you have to buy a digital camera), and shopping for shoes.

Oh I almost forgot.... I love cooking and eating.

Nicknames: My good friends call me "Sparrow" and my students "Andy-sensei"

Email: hajet_treasurer@hotmail.com

Words of Wisdom. *"Smile when you are sad, Smile when you are happy, Smile when someone stares at you, return a Smile, if you get my point, JUST SMILE".*



Tajima Representative

Howdy everyone! I'm **Sabine**, your friendly neighbourhood Tajima Representative. What this entails is basically

helping the scattered northern folk of Hyogo bond. If you live up here with us, or want to come visit - check out our website:

TajimaJETs@communities.msn.ca

So, I help plan the social stuff up here in my free time, much like I did back home in Canada. I also like to experiment with teleportation in my free time.

On top of this busy schedule I am planning a trip next year with Habitat for Humanity to Nepal - give me a shout if you want to join us!

To those awesome JETs leaving - thank you for all your hard work! You guys rock, and surely made my first year here memorable. To everyone incoming - I can't wait to meet you and to get to know you - if there's anything I can do to help your stay here be awesome, let me know. Contact me if you would like to come up to Tajima, need any help, want to go hiking or to the beach, have questions or comments on the Tajima Living Guide, or just to get to know me at randomgirl01@hotmail.com

Charity Co-ordinator



Hi everyone! - I'm **Sophie James**, now a third-year ALT living in the Inaka paradise of Awaji-shima on the tail end of Hyogo-Ken.

Originally I come from Worcester in the middle of England (yes - the true home of the sauce!). Before coming

to Japan I lived in France on and off for some years, did a degree in English literature and backpacked around Thailand.

I love travelling and adventure. I enjoy the challenge of living in Japan and have been on a Habitat for Humanity International building project to Nepal and lead a team to Papua New Guinea during my time here. (And I am now the Habitat Special Interest Group National Co-ordinator). After JET I want to do more travelling and volunteer work around the globe.

I am very excited to be involved with Hyogo AJET this year as Charity Co-ordinator. We have a whole heap of events planned - and many of those will generate a lot of funds for various charities. If you would like to nominate a particular charity for us to support, please let me know.

Japan is perhaps not known for its national awareness of charity, but there are a growing number of worthy organisations that operate within and from Japan that I would like Hyogo AJET to work with. I know that so many JETs have a lot of spare time on their hands and I am keen to find you a way of using it!

The fantastic Hyogo Times and our wonderful web site will soon keep you posted with all the charity opportunities available to you. And please feel free to contact me anytime for anything charity related! I will be only too happy to help.

Sophie James - hajet_charity@hotmail.com
Work Tel: 0799-42-4433
Home Tel: 0799-42-5823



Sempai Coordinator

Hi! I'm your Sempai coordinator for the next year, so my aim is to make sure that all you new JETs have a fun, stress-free time in Japan. So, I'm going to make sure that you all

have someone who knows what they're doing around you. Here are a few details about me. I'll leave it to you to work out what kind of a bod I am!

Name: **Joanne Kirsty Mckay**...

(Please call me 'Jo'. 'Joanne', should only be used if you are angry with me!)

Location: In the heart of rural Japan, Ichinomiya-cho, Shiso-gun

Job: Teaching at Junior High School, Elementary school and at a really cute younger kiddies school
Birthplace: Colchester, Essex, England
Star sign: Capricorn

Blood Group: 'A' positive (Born in the year of the sheep)

Japanese rice or Japanese bread: Rice

If I weren't in Japan I'd be in France, eating French bread and cheese and drinking red wine.

Favourite thing about Japan? The smell from the chicken farm beside my house!

Biggest surprise in Japan? Japanese creepy crawly things!

Advice for surviving in Japan: Having a sense of humour.



Committee member

Name: **Isabel Marie Lim**

Age: turning 23 July 20th!

Favorite colors: silver and blue

Weird talent: I can throw tennis balls with my toes (like to pick stuff up too, kinda monkey like) one of the inaka girls

Pets: yes, 2 cute siamese/himalayan kittens! (miwa and shizuka)

Why i joined ajet? : I joined because I felt I could make a positive contribution to the quality of this year's living and sights to see guides. Ajet is one of the ways that all the jets can keep in contact and meet up. plus, the other committee members are great and we enjoy each others' company =)

Why you should join: because you can stay within the loop and not feel disoriented when you start your new life in japan! The Hyogo Times, the Library, the Social, Cultural, and Charity Events are a great way to interact with jets & non jets alike! It is your vehicle to move your ideas into motion, so if you want to start a project, Ajet is the way to go! Got AJET?

Committee member



WELCOME TO JAPAN! - **Rebecca Dean** here - HAJET member reserve. I am a utility player, lending a hand whenever my services are needed. I will be assisting with social events and other tasks that may come up. It's a

privilege to be able to spend time with the lovely HAJET group every now and then-they're a great bunch!

I hope you get the chance this year as well. I helped edit this year's Hyogo Living Guide, so if you have any suggestions, complaints, or discover some outdated information please give me an email. qcarpediemq@hotmail.com



Committee member

Role: erm... HAJET Fairy
Name: **Wendy Jones;**
(**Wend**), unless I'm in big trouble.

Likes: Peanut M&M's, the sea, dancing, David Bowie, Tom Yam Soup

Dislikes: people trying to feed me fish eggs, Mini Moni, being expected to function in 80% humidity. (or am i just being picky?) Not too fond of SLUGS. Blurb: 24 year old, inaka jet, with big expectations for 2002-03 having just rounded off an amazing year in Japan. Genkiness levels still running pretty high, so thought they could be channelled into HAJET. So as a new recruit, ready to contribute any blazing bright ideas and help organise any supercool events on the sunny horizon. Contact email wendjones@hotmail.com



AJET Block 7 Representative

Name: **Connie Kong**

- Age: people have guessed as young as 16 and as old as 82 (a very bad guess from a 1st grader!)
- Occupation:

Elementary School entertainer

- Alter-ego: **AJET Block 7 Representative**
- What is AJET? AJET is a volunteer organization within the JET Program. It's run by JETs & for JETs! On the national level, AJET works with CLAIR to identify issues affecting JETs and to find a solution. On the prefectural level, AJET is a great way to meet other JETs in your area.
- What is Block 7? Hyogo, Nara, Wakayama, and Osaka prefectures
- Favorite things: traveling, spicy food, onsens, sleeping in, good conversation
- Least Favorite things: all bugs that bite
- Re-curring question: Why am I in Japan?
- Little known fact: I've got about 800 books stored in my apartment for AJET. If anyone wants to buy a copy of the new Team Taught Pizza, ask me!!!
- contact emails: ajetblock7@yahoo.com if you need representing and ajetpubs@yahoo.com if you need a book.

HyogoAJET EVENT!

Kobe Night Out

'A Relaxed Night Out - Bar Hopping in Sannomiya!'

Where

The KRAC: (6:30 - 8:00)

The HUB: (8:00 - 9:00)

Sally's Bar (9:30 - close)

When:

Friday August 30th
6.30pm-11.40pm ('ish!)

Starting off @ the KRAC

Kobe Regatta and Athletic Club in Kobe
ALL YOU CAN DRINK for FREE + some munchies sponsored by the KRAC in Kobe.
Then it is off to the other bars....

A groovy opportunity to get everyone together - old and new and hit the hot spots in Sannomiya. Stay for a few brews & some grub or hang out the whole night... but BE CAREFUL the last trains and subway from Sannomiya leave at around 11:45 p.m. So if you don't want to be loafing around the whole night - make a run for it!

Meeting place 6:30 p.m.

Hagen Daas Ice Cream. From Hankyu Sannomiya station, take the East exit. Exit the train station and walk directly across the street. Turn the corner and you'll see the store 5 feet ahead on your left hand side. The peace park is directly across from Hagen Daas. Can't miss it. If you get lost call 090-8194-0309 otherwise see you at the bars!

Contact:

Katie Rosecrans
hp: **078-597-2566**

Email: events@hyogoajet.org

Web: <http://hyogoajet.org>

HyogoAJET EVENT!

Give yourself a gift - Join Hyogo AJET!!!!!!

Meet more people, make more friends and do more stuff this year!

Is it worth it???

Perhaps you're asking yourself, "Is it worth it?" You know, anyone can come to an AJET event. You don't have to be a member. But, without any members we can not plan any events, nor can we offer the services that have been part of the Hyogo JET community for years. So, take a look at what we have to offer, and see if it is worth the money.

"What do I get???"

First of all, you should have already joined National AJET. It's free this year and although it is not a labor union, it is the only voice that JETs have when trying to implement general and universal changes to the JET Programme. Unfortunately, your humble, local chapter doesn't wield such power in government offices. We can however, help you adjust to your new lifestyle in Japan by providing a variety of services and events to keep you sane and entertained.

Working Hard For You!

HAJET is pleased to offer a variety of events to meet the tastes of the many different people who make up the HAJET community. The volunteer committee is working hard to plan activities that you will enjoy. If you do not see something that interests you, JOIN ANYWAY, and contribute your ideas. Chances are there are other JETs who would be interested in doing the same things as you. Be the one to speak out. Be an active voice in Hyogo. By doing so, HAJET can continue evolving and offering programs that satisfy the ever-changing Hyogo JET community.

Something You Can Be Proud Of!

Programs that help new JETs adapt, charity fundraisers, cultural events, professional assistance, and parties contribute to the sense of community and purpose that sometimes can be lacking when one finds himself or herself in a foreign situation. Join today, and let's enjoy a year filled with good times.

Events

- (ONLY HAJET members receive discounts to many of these events) • Parties!!!!
- Cultural Outings (temple tours/stays, festivals etc.)
 - Pub Crawls and Beer Gardens
 - Outdoor events (camping, skiing, hiking, BBQs, Mt. Fuji, onsens, cherry blossom viewing)
 - Charity Fundraisers (Talent show, Tibetan JHS students)

Services

- HAJET Library - A postage paid library service with over 1000+ titles for members.
- Hyogo Times - A monthly newsletter created and edited by Hyogo JETs and distributed only to AJET members. Includes essays, recipes, humor, puzzles, important information, event listings etc.
- Sempai Support System - New JETs are paired with 2nd or 3rd year JETs living in their area. Sempai are there to help new JETs adjust and socialize.
- Hyogo Living Guide - A handy, free manual written by Hyogo JETs containing the secrets about and meaning of life for those living in Hyogo. Distributed to all first year JETs at Yashiro Orientation. Plus a NEW City guide and Tajima guide
- HAJET Web site - A convenient place to find information about HAJET events, post messages, and find out about all sorts of stuff that makes life in Japan easier. Check it out <http://hyogoajet.org>

For more information call Rachel Tenzythoff
Prefectural Rep at 06-6491-0309
or email pr@hyogoajet.org

New Members
3000 Yen

Renewing
2500 Yen

**Special Discount
For Couples!**

New Shared*
4500 Yen

Renewing Shared*
3500 Yen

**In order to qualify, you and your partner must officially reside at the same address.*



Join in Tokyo, at Yashiro, at any of our Events or online at <http://hyogoajet.org>

Hyogo AJET Presents...

The Annual Calendar of Events 2002 - 2003

- August** Himeji Beer Garden, Himeji
Kobe Night Out, Kobe
- September** Kobe Back to School Beer Garden, Kobe
Seppikosan Camping & Hiking,
Mount Seppiko Hyogo
- October** Holiday Party / Charity Event, TBA
- November** Ruriji Temple Stay, Nanko-cho Hyogo
Mid-year conference after hours bash /
Charity Event, Kobe
- December** Holiday party & Festive Caroling, Kobe
- January** Kinnosaki Onsen Weekend, Kinnosaki Hyogo
- February** Kannabe Ski Trip Weekend, Kanabe Hyogo
- March** Mount Rokko climb & Arima Onsen, Mt. Rokko Hyogo
- April** Hanami Cherry Blossom viewing PARTY at HIMEJI Castle Himeji
- May** THE Hootinanie at Theatre Pochette, Kitano Kobe
- June** Hamasaka BEACH party in HAMASAKA, Northern Hyogo
Climb Mount FUJI Adventure, Mount Fuji TBA
- July** All Hyogo JETS & FRIENDS 'Sayonara' PARTY, Kobe



FYI: The exact dates have not been listed as they are subject to change.

For up-dated information on UP-COMING events please check out:

<http://hyogoajet.org>

Up-coming tentative events not yet listed are: Hanshin Tigers Baseball game, Festivals,
Piggy-back events with Wakayama & Nara, Boat cruise etc. JOIN US!

Atsui desu ne!!!!!!!

By Katia Therault

Yes it's god damn hot! And if bathing in your sweat all day is not your thing, well I'm sure that just like me and hundreds others, you are feeling pretty miserable...especially if you don't have air con at work nor your house! What's the solution? How can you deal with this heat? Here are a few suggestions:

1. Find the closest public swimming pool or Aqua park. There is one in Miki (Hyogo-ken) called "Green Pia" (check www.greenpia.com/miki/new/index.htm, click "sport" and then "outdoor pool" in Japanese though). Miki's Aqua Park is cheap (1000yen) and they have a parking. Or you might want to go to Shigaya Ocean Dome in Miyazaki in Kyushu (0985-21-1177).

P.S. Many schools have a swimming pool. If you ask a P.E. teacher, you might get a permission to use it when there is no swimming club training. Why not! But really, is there anyone using that pool in summer? I have used mine! Awwwwesome!

2. Go to the beach (but before O'bon in August to avoid the invasion of jelly fish) The most famous one is called Suma beach near Kobe (JR Suma station) but it might be crowded in summer and not your idea of a beach experience... so you might want to go to the Japan sea coast up north towards Hamasaka (big nice beach and camping site) and Igumi (small but paradisiac). The northern part of Hyogo is cooler and less humid. It is also very green and beautiful in summer. If you like fish, it's the best place to get tasty ones!

3. Go to the movies! Yes! They have aircon in movie theatres but it might not be full blast. It's usually cooler than outside however. Have you seen "Star Wars: The attack of the Clones" yet? "The Scorpion King" or maybe you'd like to see "Spider man"? Indulge in chilly cola and buttery popcorn!

4. Hang out in department stores and Starbucks Not my favorite option but still efficient. That's just if you have nothing else to do and nowhere else to go! Get one icy frappuccino! That should cool you down!

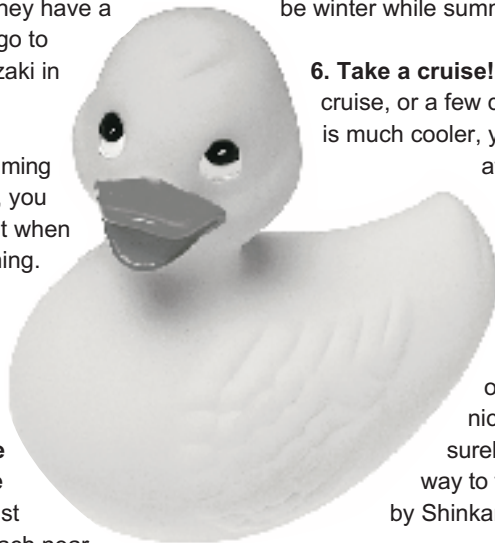
5. Travel to Hokkaido or Travel North...err... South?!?! The best time of the year to escape Hyogo. What about Hokkaido? It's nice and cool in summer, nothing like central Japan! Or Why don't you travel outside Japan up to Russia...or Siberia? Should be cooler...If that doesn't appeal to you, there are New Zealand and Australia where it will be winter while summer in Japan.

6. Take a cruise! A day cruise, a 3 hour cruise, or a few day cruise! The air at sea is much cooler, you might want to take an afternoon cruise from Harbourland in Kobe. It is nice and pleasant. There are also trips from Kobe to Kyushu, please check in any traveling guide or at any tourist information office in Kobe. It's a really nice experience and you'll surely like it! It's also a cheaper way to travel great distances than by Shinkansen.

7. Drink plenty! Drink chilly drinks. It is said that drinking hot drinks and bathing in onsens in summer "cools you down". Quite frankly I don't know how that works because it never has worked for me. When it's 44 degrees Celcius with 75% humidity outside, there's nothing like drinking "ice" and throwing myself in a cold bath. Try it and tell me if it's better than the onsen...

Anyway drinking enough cold water will cool you down but will also help prevent dehydration. Dehydration can cause fatigue and nausea...Always carry your emergency bottle!

Have a great summer!



Started teaching - need a drink (or two)???
Catch up with your new friends and talk
about your first week on the job!
HAJET invites you to join us at the:

Back to School BEER GARDEN

When:
Saturday, September 7th, 2002
5:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Where:
The roof garden of the
SOGO 'BEER RESORT' Kobe.

Event Outline & Information:
Catch up with your new friends and talk
about your first week on the job!

All you can eat & drink [odds and ends]

Girlies 3,000 Yen Boys 3,500 yen

Directions
Sogo Department Store is connected by a
PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE to JR Sannomiya
Station. If you are coming on your own, walk
across the pedestrian bridge [which is
accessible inside the station near the JR
Sannomiya toll booths] to SOGO and take
the elevator up to the top floor.

Optional Meeting place
Hagen Daas Ice Cream Store - Outside the
EAST exit of Hankyu Sannomiya Station
across from the park @ 5:00 p.m.

Contacts:
AJET Social Team
E-mail events@hyogoajet.org

The Personals

Grossly overweight Sumoto farmer, 42 years old
and 23 stone, Gemini, seeks nimble sexpot, preferably
American, for tango sessions, candlelit dinners and
humid nights of screaming passion. Must have own
car and be willing to travel. Box 09/08

Following a sad recent loss, teetotal Harima man,
33, seeks replacement mammy. Must like biscuits
and answer to the name Minnie. Hemeji area. Box
08/73

Awaji man, 25, in desperate need of a ride. Anything
considered. Box 06/03

Heavy drinker, 26, Kobe area, seeks gorgeous sex
addict interested in pints, fags, Glasgow Celtic football
club and starting scraps on Flower Road at three in
the morning. Box 73/82.

Bitter, disillusioned Tanba man lately rejected by
longtime fiancée seeks decent, honest, reliable
woman, if such a thing still exists in this cruel world
of hatchet-faced bitches. Box 53/41

Ginger-haired Tajima trouble-maker, gets shirty after
a few scoops, seeks attractive, wealthy lady for bail
purposes, maybe more. Box 84/87

Artistic Ono woman, 26, petite, loves rainy walks on
the beach, writing poetry, unusual sea-shells and
interesting brown rice dishes, seeks mystic dreamer
for companionship, back rubs and more as we bounce
along like little tumbling clouds on life's beautiful crazy
journey. Strong stomach essential. Box 12/32

Bad-tempered, foul-mouthed old bastard living in a
damp house in the arse end of Miki seeks attractive
21 year old blonde lady with big chest. Box 40/27

Attractive brunette, Kaibara area, winner of Miss
Wrangler competition at Jolene's Nightclub, Kaibara,
in September 1998, seeks nostalgic man who's not
afraid to cry for long nights spent comfort drinking
and listening to old Abba records. Please, Please!
Box 30/41

Sanda man, 27, medium build, brown hair, blue eyes,
seeks alibi for the night of February 27 between 8pm
and 11.30pm. Box 36/41

A Hearty Welcome to all!

Ruth Kent - Yasutomi Town, Shiso-gun

Welcome to Japan! Land of the Rising Sun and Famous yellow moon. Atsui desu ne!

Now, the countryside is a glorious, luminous green. But, before too long the 'momiji' (fireflies) will begin to strut their stuff, setting the trees aflame. Welcome to the land where, sometimes, it feels like time has stopped. You can see elegant ladies delicately mincing along in kimono. And kids in yukata are the cutest! There will be many opportunities to see them, as there seems to be a festival (matsuri) every week in Japan.

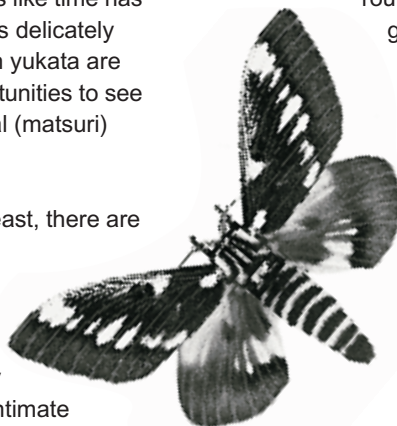
Girls: WARNING, in the country at least, there are almost no single men over 30, BUT men rarely wear a wedding ring. Also, the personality transformation after a few drinks is astounding. Previously quiet men who are too shy to look you in the eye can become intimate companions, but will, on the next working day, return to the aforementioned state of being. Frozen, inanimate face. Can be very confusing.

Welcome to the land where the normal working day is 13 hours and Gambate Kudasai is said ad infinitum. They're a tough lot. Don't mind the kids who fall asleep in your class as they're often only getting 5 or 6 hours sleep a night.

Good luck trying to find your way around as, apart from the main roads, there are no street signs. So, an example of directions might be go straight along route 29 for 10 minutes. Keep

going passed the two Lawson's and the ramen shop. Turn left at the first lot of porn vending machines. Then, make a left at the third rice paddy (watch out for the snakes!).

When you get to the big blue sign, turn right and go up the tiny road for another 200 meters. My house is at the end of that road.



You can expect to become a master at chopsticks and v e r y s l o w English. Polysyllabic words are dame! Your own English ability will decline rapidly.

So, make lots of friends, do lots of activities and enjoy all that Japan has to offer. It'll change you forever.

Nara 'BASARA MATSURI 2002'

It's almost here!!!

The fourth Annual 'BASARA MATSURI' will take place in Nara on the **24th and 25th of August**. This **Dance Festival** sees 30 different teams in various costumes dance down the main street in Nara before one by one putting on a show on stage. For the last two years in a row the Mochido International Team, (a bunch of us JETs) has taken away a prize. Many of the JETs who participated last year have shown interest in joining in again, and after watching, but not participating last year, I personally won't be missing the opportunity this year!

For more information, or to sign up for the international team contact jason_pickens@hotmail.com or go to <http://www.geocities.com/unclejayau/basara/basara.html> (This is the first web site I have made so it is a little slow and will take about 60 seconds to load. Please be patient, it is worth it!)

Contact Jason at the Nara Prefectural Government International Affairs Division
Tel 0742 (22) 1101 ext. 2156 or Fax 0742 (23) 0620.

Hyogo Sets Up Tourist Information Desk

The Hyogo Prefectural Government has established the Hyogo Tourist Information Desk (TID) in an effort to welcome increased numbers of tourists, including those from foreign countries. Set up in the Hyogo Prefectural Industrial Hall in Chuo Ward, Kobe City, TID is designed to send out comprehensive information on tourism in the prefecture, and offers information to tourist agents and the media in foreign countries.

TID will give such information in English, Korean, and Japanese and respond to telephone, facsimile and E-mail inquiries. It will also send out tourist information on Hyogo Prefecture on the Internet, collect the latest tourist information, and develop resources and routes for international tourists.

TID can be reached at Tel. 078-367-4325. Fax 078-361-8087 or at its E-mail info@hyogo-tourism.jp The prefectural government has also installed satellite terminals in 'KOBÉ Supporters Village' in Sannomiya, Kobe City to be in touch with TID and to offer information via television conference system. The village was set up as a base to offer information on the 2002 FIFA World Cup TM to serve as a tourist information office.

Tel: 078-367-4325

Fax: 078-361-8087

URL: <http://www.hyogo-tourism.jp/english/>

Thanks to Prefectural Advisor Mark Wuebbels

New Year's Day & Other Annual Events

| | |
|------------|---|
| Jan 1 | (Shogatsu): New Year's Day |
| Jan 15 | (Seijin-no-hi): Coming of Age Day |
| Feb 3 | (Setsubun): Bean throwing ceremony |
| Feb 11 | (Kenkoku-kinembi): National Founding Day |
| March 3 | (Hina-matsuri): Girl's festival |
| March 20 | (Shumbun-no-hi) Vernal Equinox Day |
| April 8 | (Hana-matsuri)* Buddha's Birthday Festival |
| May 3 | (Kempo-kinembi)* Children's Day or Boys Day Festival |
| July 7 | (Tanabata): The Star Festival |
| Aug13/15th | (O-Bon)* the Festival for the Dead |
| Mid Sept | (Tsukimi) Moon Viewing Festival |
| Sept 15 | (Keiro-no-hi) Respect for the Aged Day |
| Sept 23 | (Shubun-no-hi)* Autumnal Equinox Day |
| Oct 10 | (Taiiku-no-hi): Health sports day |
| Nov 15 | (Shichi-go-san): Festival day for children of 3, 5 and 7 years of age |
| Nov23 | (Kinro-kansha-no-hi): Labor Thanksgiving Day |
| Dec 23 | (Tenno-tanjobi): The Emperor's Brithday |
| Dec 31 | (O-misoka): New Year's eve |

TEACHERS' PIT™



Safe Travel Tid Bits for your adventures abroad

Need ideas for places to get vaccinations before travelling in Asia this summer?

The International Medicine Division of Kaisei Hospital in Nada-ku (Hankyu Rokko Station) (078-871-5201; fax 52069) offers travelers vaccinations for tetanus, hepatitis, cholera, encephalitis and rabies.

Their hours are 09:00 - 11:30 Mon. - Sat.

The AMDA International Medical Information Center (06-6636-2333) is very helpful in referring callers to the nearest clinic (English OK).

Near Tokyu Hands in Sannomiya, the 'Okishio lin' does inoculations for travelers, 09:00 - 13:00 Mon. - Sat., and 16:00 - 18:00 Mon., Tue. and Fri. Call for an appointment (078-331-0980).

In Osaka, near Miyakojima subway station (Midosuji Line), the Osaka Municipal Hospital (Shiritsu Sogo Iryo Center; 06-6929-3631) has a variety of inoculations on hand. There are three appointments times available Mon. - Fri. 13:30, 14:30 and 15:30.

If you are heading out to the wild areas of the world, where disease and impure water threaten, always request information from your travel agent and the country's consulate, if possible.

In Kobe, check out the travel goods section of

- L.L. Bean (078-393-0322),
- Tokyu Hands (078-321-6161) or the new
- Loft in Sogo Department Store in Sannomiya (078-272-6210).

In Osaka, try

- Loft (06-6359-0111),
- HEP Hankyu's outdoors/camping stores or Gare in JR Osaka Station (underground shopping area - follow the signs)

Special thanks to the Kansai Time Out Magazine (ktoedit@kto.co.jp)



Travel Precautions

- When travelling, take only the valuables in your wallet or purse you will need.
- Make copies of all important documents and numbers. Write down both the lost credit card contact phone numbers and the bank group phone number (Visa, Master Card) before leaving on a trip.
- Make copies of your passport photos. Keep all these copies in a suitcase or carry-on bag away from the real items.
- Consider registering all your credit cards. Contact the issuing institution to see if they offer this service or one they can recommend. If your cards are stolen they can be cancelled by simply making one phone call.
- Never pack valuables in a suitcase, which will be checked onto a plane. Suitcase locks are easily broken and airline liability for baggage content on international flights is practically nothing.
- Never leave valuables in an unattended car. Thieves target rental cars knowing the likelihood of valuables inside is higher than other cars.
- Don't carry valuables in a daypack. If valuables are placed in a daypack, always wear the daypack on your chest. It's far easier for a thief to take something from a pocket you can't see than from one you can see. For the same reason never carry your wallet in your hip pocket.
- Don't keep money, traveler's checks and credit cards all in the same pocket. Also create an emergency stash in case something happens (shoes are good!)
- If your passport is stolen, immediately contact your country's nearest embassy. You can save yourself many headaches replacing your passport if you have a photocopy of your passport's first two pages.

Special thanks to Jeffrey Strain from the Kansai Time Out magazine (ktoedit@kto.co.jp)

Computing in Japan - where do I start?????

Internet and ADSL Providers - some with English support in Japan

Dial up Internet Service Providers

There are many dial up ISP (Internet Service Providers) in Japan, some with English support. If you can get someone to help you fill in the online forms in Japanese, try using a Japanese internet provider e.g. Nifty. These companies often have a larger access area. Ask your computer guru for their advice. Generally Internet service charges are 2000 yen a month plus phone charges. These are approx 10 yen per every 4 minutes. Make sure you connect with a provider that can supply a local access number to minimise your costs. Also find out if your phone line provider can offer you any discount rates e.g. an evening rate etc.

ADSL

If your Internet usage is sending your phone bill through the roof you may want to consider getting ADSL. ADSL is a broadband service. It is faster than using a dial up modem, you can receive telephone calls when you are online and the cost is a fixed charge (approx 3200-4900 Yen per month). ISP's usually charge a one-off set up fee – contact your ISP for their details.

All you need is an analogue telephone line and a computer with an ethernet port. You can choose from a range of Internet service providers. E.g. Yahoo BB, Nifty etc. Few companies have English support – so make friends with your computer guru at school. You can apply for ADSL online, so having someone fluent in Japanese who understands computing really helps!

The first thing to do is to find out the name of the phone line account holder if you have not set up the phone line yourself. Your school should be able to help here. Then NTT will do some checks to see if your phone line is suitable. The process does take some time - 10 to 30+ days. If all is well, you should be sent an ADSL modem and a 'splitter' - a device that plugs into it. You plug your computer into one socket and your phone into the other. If you have a Japanese OS computer you can install the driver software provided or if you have an English OS computer – changing your TCP/IP settings should work. Make sure you check this out first with your chosen ADSL provider before you order their

service. There seem to be no problems with English OS computers Windows and Macs with Yahoo BB. Then it is plug in, register and play!

These links are on our website
<http://hyogoajet.org>

ISPs in Japan - Information on internet service providers in Japan which provide English language support.

ISP FAQ - List of Internet Service Providers throughout Japan.

Information about ADSL Service Providers in Japan **eAccess Japan**

Also more information about buying English OS Computers in Japan, (Windows and Macs).

Need books?

Too expensive? Hard to find?

Members of HYOGO AJET can borrow books for FREE.

Choose from over 1000 titles at:
<http://hyogoajet.org>

Then, simply e-mail the librarian at:
librarian@hyogoajet.org

(Or contact **Katie** by phone at 078-597-2566 or mail at 12-1-139 4-chome Kimikage-cho, Kita-ku Kobe-shi, Hyogo 651-1122.)

The books will appear at your door with the return postage already paid.

Alternately, if you are interested in donating books, please contact Katie at the above address.

This service provided to you by HYOGO AJET.

All 4 Charity...

- *Want to do your bit for charity?*
- *Have an idea for a charity event?*
- *Do you want local events to support a cause important to you?*
- *Interested in volunteer work in Japan or overseas?*
- *Then Hyogo AJET can help!*

Whether you are interested in: nominating a good cause for Hyogo Ajet charity events to support, making oni-giri for the homeless, doing a presentation on your home country

for the 'Angel' charity, taking part in a Habitat for Humanity International project or spending time in Vietnam with the Children's Foundation, get in touch with the Hyogo Ajet Charity Co-Ordinator for more information:



Contact: Sophie James

Email: hajet_charity@hotmail.com

Tel: 0799-42-5823

TEACHERS' PIT™





An example of poverty housing in Thailand.

WANTED. . .

Who?: Looking for 15 fearless adventurers to join a **Habitat for Humanity team** bound for **THAILAND**.

Where?: Chiang Mai, Northern Thailand

When?: Approx. December 21st-January 5th
Eight or nine days building and then some rest and relaxation on one of the islands down South.

Why?: Because an estimated 1.5 billion people live in inadequate housing and the richest 258 people's estates equate to the annual income of the world's poorest 2.2 billion.

About Me: I first got involved with HFH in high school when I took a trip to Nogales, Mexico. That experience enlightened me to the fact that housing should be a basic human right not a privilege. Two years later, I decided to join a local HFH group in Oakland, California on occasional Saturdays while I was going to college. I went with my architecture friends. It was always a rewarding experience. I am not by any means an experienced builder. I was a science major. The reason I chose Thailand is because I have witnessed firsthand the degree of poverty. I was teaching English in a school north of Bangkok last year. Also, I have seen the depth families will go in order to provide the basic necessities (sending their daughters to Bangkok or Pattaya to enter the sex industry because it is their only means of survival). I am excited to lead a team to Thailand and the only ingredient missing is YOU!

Please do not hesitate to contact me:

Andrea Garland (Sumoto-Shi, Awaji-shima, Hyogo-Ken)
Phone: **0799-22-3991**
E- mail: **andreasensei13@yahoo.com**

Classified Ads

FOR SALE: 1992 Subaru Vivio,
Kei-car(yellow plate), 35,000km, manual 5-speed, stereo, aircon. Owned for two years, bought off a teacher. SHAKEN until 7/03. Cheap and reliable. 100,000yen ono. Please contact **Olivia, zlivz@hotmail.com**



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NEW this month!

The "SLAM POETRY" poetry group last struck on the 30th of June, at ARCADIA (see the map in Kansai Scene).

The group's new managing director is Charles Billard, and it still provides a great occasion to come and listen, see, perform and/or experience works by local and not so local talents!

For the show on the 30th of June, budding poets were asked to bring along four of their most stunning and/or entertaining poems (not exceeding three minutes). The poems could be in any language, with the audience as the judge.

If you want to participate in the **next event**, please **contact Charles** for details on **090-9889-9523**.

HAJET Committee 2002-2003

| Position | Name | Contact Number(s) | Group & Personal Email |
|---|--------------------|---|---|
| Prefectural Representative | Rachel Tenzythoff | hp: 06-6491-1447 cell: 090-8194-0309 wk: 06-6421-0132 | pr@hyogoajet.org tencentsoff@hotmail.com |
| Hyogo Times Editor | Steve Wilkinson | cell: 090-1955-4195 | times@hyogoajet.org smbwilkinson@hotmail.com |
| Web Mistress & Hyogo Times Design Editor | Fiona Cubie (Fi) | hp: 0787-91-0548 cell: 090-2068-1035 | admin@hyogoajet.org fionacubie@hotmail.com |
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| Tajima Representative | Sabine Sengmueller | hp: 0796-79-4408 cell: 090-5672-7069 wp: 0796-79-2240 | randomgirl01@hotmail.com TajimaJETs@communities.msn.ca |
| Committee Member | Wendy Jones | hp:0795-72-5111 wp:0795-72-0335 | events@hyogoajet.org wendjones@hotmail.com |
| Sponsorship Representative | Vacant | Want to get involved? | Email pr@hyogoajet.org |
| Event Coordinator(s) | All Committee | Dependant on each event. | Check http://hyogoajet.org |

Other Important Contacts

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| National AJET chair: | Anthony Hall | ajetncchair@yahoo.com |
| Vice Chair: | Amelia Barkley | ajetvc@yahoo.com |
| Treasurer: | Donna Kim | ajettreasurer@yahoo.com |
| Database coordinator: | Amanda Cornaglia | ajetdba@yahoo.com |
| Block 7 Representative | Hyogo: Connie Kong | ajetblock7@yahoo.com |
| CIR Prefectural Advisors | | hyogo_PA@yahoo.com |

For more updated information check out: <http://hyogoajet.org>

The Hyogo Times, contains original essays written by Hyogo JETs, teaching ideas, travel pieces and advertisements for events happening in and around Hyogo. In the near future we hope to publish the Hyogo times as pdf files and archive them on our website.

Hyogo Times Submissions

**The closing date for submissions is the 3rd Friday of each month.
Submissions can be e-mailed in plain text format to times@hyogoajet.org**