



THE HYOGO TIMES

The Monthly Publication for HyogoAJET Members

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

August/September 2002 Back to School Issue



Welcome Back to School... The Hot Summer Issue

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

Welcome Back to School...

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Welcome to the September Hyogo Times 'Back to School' Special! I hope everyone had a good summer and is raring to go.

My thanks as always to everyone who contributed articles. A couple have been repeated from the Yashiro issue for the benefit of the renewers! The deadline for the October Hyogo Times is **Friday, September the 20th.**

Please send articles to **Stephen Wilkinson**, Muko-cho 1-54-2-208, Amagasaki, Hyogo 661-0044, or by e-mail to **times@hyogojet.org**

Ganbatte kudasai!
Steve Wilkinson
Hyogo Times Editor



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....

Beer specials at Sally's Bar 9.30- 10.30

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

Welcome back to school everyone...

Giddy up because the school bell is a ringing. Slap on your sock glue, pig tails, baggy pants, k-tai (cell phone) straps and pack one serious bento lunch - because September is going to be one heck of a ride!

Hope your summer was hot, rockin' and memorable especially for all of our new HYOGO Jets - I'm sure the 'MI-MI!' of the Semi's (secada's), the 'bisho-bisho!'(translation = dang hot) heat of the summer and all that 'Calpis' drink you've been inhaling by the pint; not to mention all the 'Asahi Bee-ru' (Beer) you've been guzzling at your local beer gardens, has kept y'all perky and raring to go for September. For those of you who weren't able to attend the Himeji Beer Garden in Himeji city - home of Himeji castle on August 17th - you're in luck. Hyogo AJET has one coming right up for you on **Saturday September 7th** on the rooftop of **Sogo Department store** in the thriving city of Sannomiya, Kobe! Check out the ad in your Back To School Edition and log on to <http://hyogoajet.org> for updates. However, do not fret... for those that do not like to find themselves a bumbling, bubbly mess after 4 hours of beer garden madness, HAJET has a magnitude of cultural, charitable, and adventurous events coming up for you. Take a peek at the ad inside which highlights our **annual Mount Seppiko San camping & hiking & onsen extravaganza event** taking place in the **last weekend of September**. This event has always been a success in the past, even if it rains - we've got ya covered - literally!

Now, some of you might be wondering, 'Why did I get the Hyogo Times this month? I'm not a member?' Well, the gang at HAJET wanted to make sure we spread the word to all 1st, 2nd & 3rd year JET's and wanted to give you a little taste of HAJET and what's coming up this year. We've made a couple of changes, the first being that we've sent the Back To School edition of the Times to your host institution address, less mess when it comes to contact information changes I say. And, the second change being that we've sent the Times to EVERYONE this

Continued next Page

month. The Times from October on will be sent to only HAJET members. So make sure to sign up on line at <http://hyogoajet.org> or contact PR Ten-cents-off at pr@hyogoajet.org I wanted to send out some serious KUDOS to 3 very GENKI committee members who volunteered their time to help out at this years Prefectural Orientation at Yashiro. Rebecca Dean, Isabel Lim & Sabine Sengmueller: THANK YOU! The word on the street is that you did a fantastic job - way to go! And to everyone else out there that had the pleasure of indulging in ALL the scandal that Yashiro ANNUALLY has to offer - hope it was a memorable one. Y'all know who you are! Thanks to all the new ALT's and all the veterans who came out to the Himeji Beer Garden on August 17th - look forward to seeing all your faces in September. For all others that couldn't attend - SHAME ON YOU! We expect to see you at the next HAJET event with your brand spanking new Yukata on. (If you don't have a Yukata, get it now - great sales!)

On a more serious note, September for all our new 120 Hyogo ALT's is going to be quite a whirlwind of an experience. Believe me, we all know how you feel! We've been there. You'll be meeting teachers and students you've never met before, and experiencing a system and way of life that for some may be very new. My advice - take it easy and take one day at a time. Most importantly, ask questions!!! Don't expect everyone to come to you. Some people may very well do that, but for the people around you that may not, approach them, get involved and if you want to experience an authentic experience here - go OUT OF YOUR way to tell people at your school or in your neighborhood that you're eager & excited to learn about this intriguing culture. It may take some time, but you've got lots of it! Also, stay involved, contact US at HAJET any time if you are having any problems and get involved with the ALT's in your area. Discuss your delights, concerns, lesson plan madness, gripes, culture shock – anything that'll help keep you on top. Word to the wise - a heaping bowl of sticky white rice, umeboshi (pickled plum) and miso soup can jump-start any day. Until we meet again, have a good one - enjoy JAPAN to the fullest and see you back again in October - you'll of course ALL be members by then

<wink-nudge> - so you'll have the pleasure of staying involved and informed. (I apologize in advance for any spelling errors of the following farewell's!) Sayonara, Ciao, Au revoir, Annyohasahyo, Cheers, Adios, Spot ya... etc.

Pr Ten-cents-off signing out...

Email: pr@hyogoajet.org

Cell: 090-8194-0309

URL: <http://hyogoajet.org>

HyogoAJET Committee profiles...



HAJET PR:

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

Homeland: 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.

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 all of our events. In this coming year, we'll be hopping around Hyogo involving ourselves in planning many **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.

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 drink & eat [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**

ADVENTURES IN BUREAUCRACY

- Getting you driver's license in Japan

Have you had a run-in with the red-tape? A brush with bureaucracy? We want to hear your stories about getting things done as a foreigner in Japan. This month, Chris W talks about getting a Japanese driver's license.

Not everybody knows this, but if you're driving in Japan, you are only allowed to use an International Driver's License for one year. After your International License expires, you are legally required to get a Japanese driver's license. Simply renewing your international licence may invalidate your car insurance if you are involved in an accident. Having signed up for another year in Japan, my International Driver's License had run out and it was time to get myself a Japanese one. I don't drive much really, don't even have a car – but with the summer holidays I needed to get away, so the license issue became important. The following is a brief explanation of what's in store for you when your time comes.

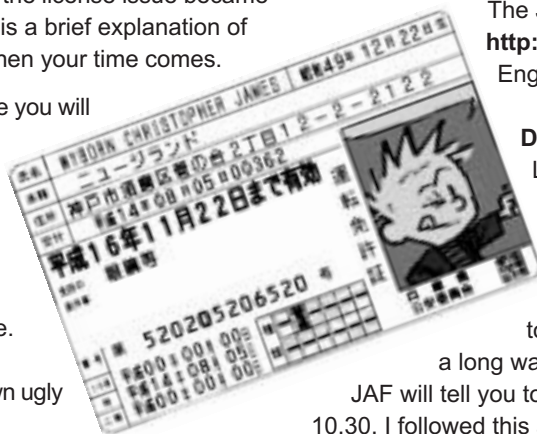
To get a Japanese license you will need;

1. 2 days.
2. A valid license from your home country.
3. A translation of your license into Japanese.
4. A passport-sized photograph of your own ugly mug.
5. 7000 – 10000 yen plus travel expenses.
6. Passport.
7. Alien Registration Card.
8. A pen.
9. A packed lunch, a thermos of coffee, something to read...
10. Knowledge of the rules of the road (New Zealanders, Aussies, Brits excepted)
11. The patience of a saint.

Day One

The first part of the licensing process is having your overseas license translated. You can do this either of two ways; post it to your friendly local embassy or consulate, or find an office of the JAF (Japan Automobile Federation). For New Zealanders, the embassy in Tokyo charge 7000 yen for this service - sorry but I don't know about other countries. The JAF charge only 3000 yen but it means you have to locate the nearest office and go there in person. That's what I did. There is an office near Hanshin Oishi station in Kobe, and they take about 30 – 40 minutes to do the translation. Some of the staff speak English, and are VERY HELPFUL! In addition to the translation, they give you a lot of useful information (in English) about where to go next, and what to do. I can recommend going the JAF route.

The JAF website is <http://www.jaf.or.jp> - there is an English link.



Day Two

Licenses for Hyogo residents are issued at the Prefectural Driver's Licensing Centre in Akashi, (Unten Menkyo Shiken Jo) open Monday to Friday. (Yes, I know that's a long way from Hidaka, Dion). The

JAF will tell you to go there between 9.30 and 10.30. I followed this advice and by the time I got there at 9.32 I was 10th in line. Be early. You are directed to a little room full of people from all over the world who also want Japanese licences. Most of them speak Japanese better than you. The people behind the desks do not speak English. At all. You may want to take someone who speaks Nihongo with you. When these people are done checking your documents and asking you questions, you are given a piece of paper and told to go and pay a lady some money (2400 yen). She gives you a

stamp on the piece of paper, which you take back to the little room you came from. There you are issued with a new piece of paper which tells you to be in a different room at 1.00.

Six vending machine coffees, 7 chapters of your book, and a catnap later....

It's 1 O'Clock. You are herded into a room with 200 or so other people, sat down in neat rows of 4, and the doors are closed behind you. A man at the front of the room speaks in Japanese about something that sounds important. The nice person next to you helps you to write your name and address on a form (this is where you need the pen). Through the window you watch cars going through the driving course. More time passes and the talking stops. One by one, numbers are called and people file into an adjacent room to have their photos taken. As a foreigner, your number is among the very last called. You have your photo taken. It looks bad. You tried to smile but they made you stop. You are sent back to the money lady to pay some more (1800 yen). She gives you a new sheet of paper with a new room number on it, and you are told to wait there.

It's 2 O'Clock. Everybody is tired. Bodies are propped up against vending machines, others are splayed about the hard floor, praying for the end...

It's 2.30. It ends. Your number is called (actually foreigners get called first this time) and you sign or hanko for your license. You go home and have a drink.

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.

Notes;

This is how it works for Australian, New Zealand, EU and (I think!) Canadian license holders. If you are from the US or elsewhere, you also have to sit a written test about Japanese road rules. A guide to passing the test is available from the JAF.

The address of the JAF office in Kobe is 2-4-13 Shikanoshita-Dori, Nada-Ku, Kobe Shi, Hyogo-Ken 657 0044. Phone (078) 871-7563. Nearest station; Hanshin Oishi.

To get to the Driver's Licensing Centre, take a JR train to Akashi Station, and find the bus rank. Take the front-most bus to Unten-Menkyo Shiken-Jo Mae, about a 10 or 15 minute ride. If you aren't sure, look out for Akashi High School on your left – the licensing centre is the next stop. - **Good luck!**

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 HyogoAJET 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!

Reporting Sexual Crimes in Japan: A Faulty System

By Halusia Witkowski

I'm writing this to inform you of a situation which concerns all of us in Japan. Despite the campaign of the last few years in Japan that "Touching Women's Bodies Is a Crime", many of us know from friends, relatives or our own experience that sexual crimes happen shockingly often in this country with an otherwise relatively low crime rate. Before my recent experience, I had no reason to believe that such a crime would be treated with anything other than propriety. But, I've been disillusioned.

On April 24th, in a Sunkus convenience store across the street from my house in Shirasagi Residence in Okamachi, Himeji, Hyogo-ken, while making color photo copies for my teacher, I was the victim of a sexual crime. The events that followed as I tried to deal with the police have left me shocked and dumbfounded at what I believe has been gross injustice and a mishandling of what could have been a simple report and investigation. I will take you through the events briefly, highlighting the weeks of meetings, phone calls, faxes, and extreme psychological stress the mishandling of this case created for me.

I reported the crime at the main Himeji Police Station immediately after work on the day of the crime. I described the man, his vehicle and the crime. An important detail in my report was that he went to the register and paid for his items after the crime. I was told I could follow up with an officer in a few days to find out the results of questioning the clerk (i.e. if the clerk remembers me, if the man was a regular customer, etc.) The next day, April 25th, an Okamachi police officer went to the store and asked two uninvolved part-time clerks about the incident. Having not been on duty during the crime they knew nothing. The police left and never returned or followed up in any substantial way until I wrote a formal letter of complaint to the Mayor of Himeji weeks later. There had been no substantial police activity despite the fact that there were at least 6 video cameras inside the store where the

crime took place, along with my detailed description of the perpetrator's distinct physical features and vehicle.

I wrote the letter of protest to the Mayor of Himeji on May 16th, three weeks after the crime, after trying three separate times to get an update on the case from the Himeji Police Department. Two of the phone calls were even made by my supervisor at the Board of Education, Mr. Iizuka. The response from the police was always "No new information." The third phone call to the police station, the police seemed unaware of the case at all, so my friend who called for me in Japanese made another report in its entirety. Despite my phone calls, I was never contacted by the police or given one scrap of information.

The attitude of the police began to disturb me. I became suspicious that nothing had been done. Personally, I don't think that is acceptable from an agency paid to protect the public. I became concerned for my rights as a resident and a female. I carbon copied the letter to Mayor Horakawa to the US Consulate, the Police Department, my JET Prefectural Advisor and my Himeji Board of Education supervisor, Mr. Iizuka.

There were many resulting phone calls, meetings and upset people. Although I never heard from the Mayor, a series of meetings occurred between the police and my supervisor at the Board of Education. Two of the meetings I attended were May 27th and 28th with Mr. Iizuka in my home with a witness present to discuss the matter of my letter to the Mayor. At that time, five weeks had passed since the crime occurred. The second meeting May 28th was unpleasant. There was a pressured tone and implications made to problems I was causing for the police. I was questioned repeatedly by Mr. Iizuka as to why I felt the investigation had not been handled properly. I did not feel like I was being treated as the victim in the crime. I thought it was

curious to be asked if I had returned to Sunkus to speak to the clerk. The “mediation” on behalf of the police did not go well. I made a request to Mr. Iizuka, my Board of Education supervisor that he no longer contact me regarding anything to do with my police report, as it was a conflict of interest. I sought guidance from the US Consulate by phone due to what I feel has amounted to harassment.

I am still upset about the case and it’s mishandling, and even asked JET about my options to go home. However, JET was unable to release me without penalizing me financially, taking away my last paychecks if I left, and I would only be eligible for half of my pension refund. I reluctantly decide to stay and asked JET to help me get the facts of the investigation on my case from the police. My JET Prefectural Advisor, Mark Wuebbels, and Supervisor, Mr. Iizuka, met on my behalf with Vice-Commissioner Hirose of the Himeji Police Department and several other police representatives on June 3rd. In the resulting report written and explained to me by my Prefectural Advisor, a report in which Mr. Iizuka, a native Japanese speaker, read and approved as correctly reflecting the contents of the meeting, the following information was released:

The police stated that they sent police to reinvestigate the crime after my letter to the Mayor was written. They obtained the register tape from the date and time of the crime in order to create a purchasing “profile” of the criminal. The video system at the store was not useful because the video on the registers is a “live feed” and therefore did not record. The video system that did tape, did not record the area near the copy machine where the crime took place. The clerk did not remember my scream.

I thought this information particularly fishy and almost ridiculous. I had spoken to the clerk immediately following the crime, and felt he had to remember me. I went and spoke with the manager of the Sunkus myself. My close friend who is bilingual went with me. We confirmed with the manager of the store that the police had not returned after their initial stop by the store, nor were there any “live feed” video systems at the Sunkus. All cameras record, and they include the area by the copy machine. They do however, record over

themselves after 7 days. No police ever requested to view the tapes.

Try as they might to distort the facts at hand, the chain of events, and to draw attention to the language barrier to explain discrepancies in the case, the truth cannot be changed even by the Himeji Police. Yet after another attempt to dissuade me from pursuing the truth of the investigation and with the knowledge of the police’s deliberate fabrication, I became very concerned about my rights. I sought the advice of an attorney. My attorney was able to obtain statements almost immediately from the store manager about the timeline of the investigation and the store’s video system. The clerk on duty during the crime was, in fact, first interviewed by the police June 1, 2002, approximately five and a half weeks after the crime took place.

Amazingly, once I retained an attorney, a somewhat more cooperative attitude and several instances of miraculous new investigative activities that “took place soon after the crime” began to surface. I decided to meet with the Police Vice-Commissioner, in the presence of my attorney and JET Prefectural Advisor.

On June 18th, a picture of the “proper police procedure” was painted for us. Although dates that went along with the important components of the police activity timeline are not available to us, nor was I or any in my party ever permitted to see or obtain the police report. Furthermore, once my attorney was able to interview the manager of the Sunkus store regarding the video systems and timeline of police activity, the police Vice Commissioner, just two weeks after the meeting with Mr. Iizuka and my JET Prefectural Advisor, denied that they reported in that meeting June 3rd, that there were: “Two camera systems at the store...The camera on the registers was a live feed so no tape exists while the others cameras which do have a recording system don’t record the area near the copy machine” (where the crime occurred). When asked to confirm what they heard, my Prefectural Advisor stands by his report as accurately reflecting contents of the meeting, while Mr. Iizuka states that he no longer remembers.

At every step of this process, I have been persuaded in one form or another to let this issue drop. I have been denied information from day one. Until I wrote a letter of protest to the Mayor of the City of Himeji, I believe no serious attention was given to this case at all. After I made someone in the public eye aware of their lack of competent response to the crime the facts were misrepresented not only to me but to my Prefectural Advisor and Supervisor so I would be persuaded to give up my inquiry into the police's investigation. If there was no evidence to gather, what could they have been expected to do?

But I believe there was evidence. The perpetrator stood in front of the cash register and paid for goods before leaving the store. What happened to me was real and was a crime. It's unfortunate that the police believed that it was not important enough to follow up on, and then later felt they had to create fabrications in order to cover their tracks. It's a sad reflection of police ethics, professionalism and attitudes to crime in Himeji.

Why am I making such a big deal? I believe crimes, those things perpetrated on people which violate their rights as human beings to live happily and healthily, should be taken seriously by organizations paid by the public to investigate them. I believe all nations, especially industrialized, democratic ones should guard their people's rights. And, I believe that residents should be able to question authorities without fear of repercussions of either non-protection, harassment, or injury to their reputation or themselves.

Although I don't have much of a case in a court of law in Japan, I certainly have a right and responsibility to notify as many people as I can about this situation. I think fear of scandal may be the only motivation for some deep rooted, institutionalized problems to come into the light and take a positive step towards reform in this country.

I believe you have a right to know what has been happening. If I were to continue to live here I would want to be informed of events like this. What I haven't addressed is the reason I believe the investigation was neglected. I have my own, very definite ideas, but I'm sure you are capable of

forming your own opinions. Perhaps the Hell I've raised will do someone some good. As for me, I'm just all the more glad to go home to the United States, where while it's not a perfect place, at least I know my rights and those who violate them will be held accountable.

Counseling Services

AJET Peer Support Line 0120-43-7725

In times of serious stress it can be good to contact a professional counselor or the peer support line. Sometimes isolation, physical or linguistic, can make simple problems very stressful, and sometimes very disheartening.

Rather than letting problems get on top of you, call the peer support line and chat about how to sort things out, or just get the frustrations out of your system. The peer support people are very good listeners, and know a lot about the problems JETs face. For all JETs there are a million stresses that you inevitably go through. Each might seem small or insignificant to an outsider, but such is culture shock that together they can cause an incredible roller coaster of emotions and reactions – even for the strongest of us.

Fellow senior ALTs and ex-JETs that have been through, and survived many similar experiences first hand, staff the peer support line.

The line is available toll free from 8pm – 8am, every night.

ICC – International Counseling Center, Kobe 078-856-2201 (Non-profit organization with professional counselors and psychotherapists)

The Woman's Center, Osaka 06-6930-7666 (Health and counseling services for women. In English: Saturdays, 10am-12pm)

What is ADSL and how can I get it???????

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 - excluding the one-off setup fee). Unlimited access is great if you enjoy listening to your favourite online radio stations from back home or if you download large files regularly e.g. movies!

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).



The Truth Is Out There ... Ruth Kent

Here is a questionnaire on aliens compiled by my sannensei students. Check it out!

Q1. Do you believe in aliens from another planet?

1. Yes

2. No

3. Maybe

Q2. Why do you think so? _____

Q3. For what purpose do they come to our globe?

1. Sightseeing

2. To make friends with us

3. To attack us

4. No purpose

5. Other

6. They exist but they never come to Earth

HEALTH TIPS

From Doctor Dick™

Q: I've heard that cardiovascular exercise can prolong life. Is this true?

A: Your heart is only good for so many beats, and that's it. Everything wears out eventually. Speeding up your heart will not make you live longer; that's like saying you can extend the life of your car by driving it faster. Want to live longer? Take a nap.

Q: Should I cut down on meat and eat more fruits and vegetables?

A: You must grasp logistical efficiencies. What does a cow eat? Hay, grass and corn. And what are these? Vegetables. So a steak is nothing more than an efficient mechanism of delivering vegetables to your system. Need grain? Eat chicken. Beef is also a good source of field grass (green leafy vegetable). And a pork chop can give you 100% of your recommended daily allowance of vegetable slop.

Q: Is beer or wine bad for me?

A: Look, it goes to the earlier point about fruits and vegetables. As we all know, scientists divide everything in the world into three categories: animal, mineral, and vegetable. We all know that beer and wine are not animal, and they are not on the periodic table of elements, so that only leaves one thing, right? My advice: Have a burger and a beer and enjoy your liquid vegetables.

Q: How can I calculate my body/fat ratio?

A: Well, if you have a body, and you have body fat, your ratio is one to one. If you have two bodies, your ratio is two to one, etc.

Q: At the gym, a guy asked me to "spot" for him while he did the bench press. What did he mean?

A: "Spotting" for someone means you stand over him while he blows air up your shorts. It's an accepted practice at health clubs; though if you find that it becomes the ONLY reason why you're going in, you probably ought to re-evaluate your exercise program.

Q: What are some of the advantages of participating in a regular exercise program?

A: Can't think of a single one, sorry. My philosophy is: No Pain-No Pain.

Q: If I stop smoking, will I live longer?

A: Nope. Smoking is a sign of individual expression and peace of mind. If you stop, you'll probably stress yourself to death in record time.

Q: Aren't fried foods bad for you?

A: You're not listening. Foods are fried these days in vegetable oil. In fact, they're permeated in it. How could getting more vegetables be bad for you?

Q: What's the secret to healthy eating?

A: Thicker gravy.

Q: Will sit-ups help prevent me from getting a little soft around the middle?

A: Definitely not! When you exercise a muscle, it gets bigger. You should only be doing sit-ups if you want a bigger stomach.

I hope this has cleared up any misconceptions you may have had about trying to live a longer and healthier life...



Dr Richard Quack™
ABN Amro - Australian Equity
Research Sales

Join the Inter Hyogo football team!

With the new year JET year upon us, so comes one of the most important events of the year...the rebuilding of Inter Hyogo Football (or, for our North American friends, soccer) Club.

Inter Hyogo is a football team composed of JETs (and friends of JETs) within Hyogo prefecture. A great way to meet people, keep your footballing talents up to scratch and to see parts of the countryside that you otherwise might never. From Aioi to Amagasaki, from the southern most tip of Awaji to the wilds of Toyooka, Inter Hyogo have travelled far and wide in search of footballing glory.

Since inception, Inter have gone from being the whipping boys and laughing stock of every senior high school in the prefecture, to being well respected on the football pitch. On more than one occasion have embarrassed football coaches immediately demanded a rematch after losing to the overweight, red-faced might of Inter.

"How much does it all cost?" I hear you ask. Well apart from the small investment in a rather spiffy Inter Hyogo shirt, everything else is free! In the past year games have been every three weeks or so, and are generally against senior high school teams. For more information on Inter, you can email me at stuartandpetra@hotmail.com Also, remember to join the official Inter Hyogo email list by sending a blank email to: interhyogo-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

You can also check out past posts and photographs at the related Yahoo Groups web site: <http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/interhyogo>

With your help, the tradition of Inter Hyogo will continue for another year, as we travel to the corners of Hyogo-ken in search of opportunities to play football, settle scores with teachers and students and to find the best drinking establishment in the prefecture.

I hope to see you all soon! - Stuart Cruickshank
P.S. Supporters are more than welcome!



The Angel Charity



Feel like doing something worthwhile with your time?

Want to put one of your many self-introductions to good use?

Then why not give a talk on your home country to help raise funds for 'The International Angel Association'?

And that's really all it takes. Just a bit of preparation and a couple of hours of your time to give a presentation on your home country, an exciting place you have spent time in, your interesting roots, ethnic background – whatever aspect of your culture that you choose to talk about. The presentation should be in English but can take any format and will be made to a paying audience of keen learner's. And all for a very worthwhile cause:

'The International Angel Association' was established in 1982 under the slogan 'Love All Over The World'. It is a non-profit making organisation, which began in Itami City, right here in Hyogo-Ken. The Angel volunteers serve for humanity, peace and friendship and the aim of the organisation is to raise money for deprived people in developing countries. Mainly working in Bangladesh, but also the Philippines and Sierra Leone, several projects are now underway – assisting with sanitation and health care, orphanage programmes, educational support, women's welfare, fair trade produce, technical and agricultural training.

So if you are willing to spare some free time and give a little of yourself to assist in the work of this local charitable organisation, and thereby help those in need in developing countries please contact me for more information:

Sophie James

Hyogo Ajet Association Charity Co-ordinator

email: hajet_charity@hotmail.com

Work Tel: 0799-42-4433

Home Tel: 0799-42-5823



Beer Gardens, Swimming Pools, and Baseball!

Kansai Beer Gardens

Kobe

Sogo Beer Resort

All you can eat & drink. M: 3,000 Yen F: 2500 Yen.

Open until September 8, 17:00 - 21:30

Tel. 078-221-4181.

5 min. walk from JR/Hanshin/Hankyu Sannomiya Stn.

Kyoto

Takashimaya Beer Garden

All you can eat and drink. M: 3,000Yen F: 2,700 Yen.

Open Jun. 1 - Aug. 31, 17:30 - 22:00

Tel. 078-221-8811. 5 min. walk from Hankyu/Keihan

Shijo Kawaramachi Stn.

Osaka

Fukoku Seimei Bldg.

All you can eat and drink (90 min.) M: 2,950 Yen F: 2,750

Yen. Open until Aug. 31, 17:30 - 22:00

Tel. 06-6313-2120 JR, Hankyu, Hanshin, subway

Umeda Stn. In front of Sonezaki Police Station

Hanshin Department Store

All you can eat and drink. M: 3,400Yen F: 3,000Yen.

Open until Aug. 31, 17:30-22:00 Tel. 06-6345-1201

Hanshin, subway Umeda Stn.

Sports listings

Baseball

Tigers: Call 06-6363-9999

Buffaloes: 06-6583-3231

Blue Wave: 078-333-0063

Summer Outdoor Pools Guide Hyogo

Takarazuka Family Land Pool

Tel: 0797-85-6210 A: 2,000 Yen (includes admission to amusement park)

Takarazuka Tivoli

Free bus service from Hankyu Sakasegawa stn. (every 30 min); Hankyu Itami Stn. (every hour at 50); JR

Takarazuka Stn. (every hour at :45)

Tel: 0797-86-3900 A: 1,250 yen.

Hanshin Park Deluxe Pool

Hanshin Koshien Stn. Tel: 0798-47-6001

Himeji Central Park Tel: 0792-64-1611

A: 2,700 Yen

Kobe Portopia Hotel Roof Garden Pool

Tel: 078-303-5223 A: 5,000 Yen.

To dip into a traditional Japanese ONSEN Check out:

<http://www2.gol.com/users/jolsen/onsen/>

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

Useless Information

A group of journalists recently decided to pool their resources and have published a book of the world's most useless pieces of information. All those snippets of trivia they will otherwise never get to use.....read on for some of those strangely memorable, conversation stopping facts:

A barnacle has the largest penis relative to its size in all the animal kingdom.

Barbie dolls real name is Barbara Milicent Roberts.

More people die of donkey related incidents than aeroplane travel.

A donkey will sink in quicksand but a mule will not.

Diet coke in a can will float but an ordinary can of coke will sink.

A frog has 47 teeth.

Adolph Hitler had no belly button. He had a Jewish grandmother.

Andy Garcia was a Siamese twin.

Walnuts get sun-tanned.

There is more heat in an iceberg than in a match.

Hot water is heavier than cold water.

A pig snout is called a gruntle.

Brought to you by Sophie James – courtesy of her resourceful Mum!

HyogoAJET EVENT!

New HyogoAJET EVENT **CAMPING WEEKEND!**

Hyogo Ajet invites you to spend the **weekend** of **SEPTEMBER 29th - 30th** at Seppiko-san, in the mountains towards the north of Hyogo-Ken:

- Stay in a cabin or tent, enjoy a BBQ party (Veggie friendly)
- Visit the old shrine and take in the stunning mountain views
 - Enjoy hiking, exploring the lush valley forest & soothing your aching muscles in a relaxing Onsen.....

Look out for the details on **<http://hyogoajet.org>**

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



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**



OETRYSLAMPOETRYSLAMPOETRYSL

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
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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**