



**THE
JAPAN
SOCIETY**



Events **2017**

Annual & Special Events

12 Jan	Lecture by Tim Hitchens, former British Ambassador to Japan. At <i>Nomura International</i>
3 Jun	Trooping the Colour 2017 - Special Seats at the Major General's Review
12 Jul	Japan Society Annual General Meeting 2017
2/3 Aug	Tanabata: Japanese Star Festival at Kew Gardens, with the Embassy of Japan and Japan House London
14 Sep	Japan Society Rose Fund – an update from Yuji Suzuki, with <i>Sanaburi Foundation</i>
24 Sep	Japan Matsuri 2017 at Trafalgar Square, with <i>Japan Association, JCCI, Embassy of Japan, Japan House London and the Nippon Club</i>
6 Dec	Japan Society Christmas Party at the Japanese Embassy

Arts & Culture

16/17 Feb	Exploring Japanese Art in Norwich, a visit to <i>Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts and SISJAC</i>
Feb/Mar	Tea Room Project with <i>Chelsea College, UAL and Hashiguchi Architects</i>
1 Mar	Flora Japonica exhibition private view, with <i>The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew</i>
25 Apr	Sheer Pleasure: Frank Brangwyn and the Art of Japan private tour, with <i>William Morris Gallery</i>
11 May	A dialogue between fire and clay: pottery and the appeal of the anagama kiln - an evening with Kazuya Ishida, pottery
13 Jun	Hokusai: beyond the Great Wave private view with curator Tim Clark, with <i>British Museum</i>
22 Sep	Yuko Nasaka and Kim Lim Exhibition private view with Deputy Director Bianca Chu, with <i>Sotheby's S 2 Gallery</i>
23 Sep	Ayakashi, an evening of unnerving Japanese literature on stage, with <i>Doubtful Sound and SOAS Minyo Group</i>
25 Sep	Praemium Imperiale - El Anatsui, at the <i>Royal Academy of Arts</i>
27 Sep	Legacies and innovation in the production of chochin, with craft-maker Kenichi Fushitani from <i>Fushitani Shoten</i>

Business

Lectures & Seminars

5 Apr	Brexit and the City: Economic arguments for leaving the EU – Gerard Lyons, hosted by <i>BDO LLP</i>
6 Nov	Yoshiyuki Ishizaki, Special Adviser to the Fukushima Revitalization Headquarters, <i>TEPCO</i>

Chairman's Lunches and Breakfasts (private, off the record meetings with an informal talk by the guest of honour)

2 Feb	Alok Sharma MP, Minister for Asia and the Pacific at the Foreign & Commonwealth Office, hosted by <i>KPMG LLP</i>
13 Mar	Charles Grant, Director of the Centre for European Reform, hosted by <i>PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP</i>
1 Jun	Stable and Strong? Britain, the election and Brexit, with Philip Stephens, Financial Times, hosted by <i>HSBC</i>
6 Dec	Glen S Fukushima, Senior Fellow at the Centre for American Progress, Washington D.C., hosted by <i>Ernst & Young LLP</i>

In Partnership with Other Organisations

Joint Lunches with the JCCI

14 Feb	Future developments on Climate Change and Energy Transition, with Sir David King, at the <i>National Liberal Club</i>
21 Jun	Special guest Nick Clegg, at the <i>National Liberal Club</i>
7 Sep	The UK-Japan 21st Century Group's 34th Annual Meeting, at the <i>Cavalry & Guards Club</i>

FinTech Seminar Series with Mitsubishi Corporation International (Europe) Plc

25 Jul	The Present and Future of Fintech: a Tool for Financial Inclusion with <i>Doreming</i>
13 Sep	AI in financial services, a case study with <i>Equity X</i>
25 Oct	Security for Open Banking Financial APIs with <i>Authlete</i>
1 Nov	The Present and the Future of Virtual Currencies with <i>Robert M. Learney (Imperial College's Centre for Cryptocurrency Research and Engineering)</i> and <i>Yuichiro Kawasaki (Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group)</i>
14 Nov	Beyond FinTech: who will benefit from an open ecosystem? With <i>Skwile</i>

Others

5 Oct	Japan's way towards strong, sustainable, and balanced growth, with Hiroshi Nakaso, Deputy Governor of the Bank of Japan, hosted by <i>City of London Corporation with Bank of Japan</i>
20 Nov	A Japanese View on World Energy Future: Outlook for Global Energy-Environmental Challenges – Ken Koyama, Chief Economist and Managing Director of the Institute of Energy Economics, Japan, with <i>JETRO and JOGMEC</i>

Lectures

Japan Society Lectures (at the Swedenborg Society unless otherwise stated)

- 16 Jan Silk, Porcelain and Lacquer: China and Japan and their Trade with Western Europe and the New World – Teresa Canepa
- 20 Feb 'New' Abenomics and Japan's Labour Market Policy – Hiroaki Richard Watanabe
- 20 Mar From Dying Race to Indigenous People: the struggle over Ainu representation in modern Japan - Richard Siddle
- 24 Apr From page to screen to page again: writing and reading Japanese film scripts – Lauri Kitsnik
- 26 Apr Reimagining Japanese craft traditions in the modern age - Shinichiro Hashiguchi, at *Chelsea College of Arts*
- 15 May The Meiji Ensoniment: Conflicting Ears and the Decision to Change Japanese Musical Culture – Jonathan Service
- 30 May Japan Room Lecture: The Colourful Festivals of Kyoto – Pauline Chakmakjian. *With Japan Room, The Freemasons' Hall*
- 19 Jun Women in the World of Haruki Murakami – Gitte Marianne Hansen
- 17 Jul Carmen Blacker Lecture 2017: The archaeology of Ritual Sites and the Origins of Japanese Shrines and Festivals – Mamoru Saso (20 July at Cathedral Hostry, Norwich, with *SISJAC*)
- 21 Aug The Art of Nishiki Weaving in Japan. Preservation and Restoration of Yarn Dyed Textiles – Amane Tatumura
- 12 Sep History and Reception of Horoscope Astrology in Japan – Ryuji Kagami
- 25 Sep Fukushima Devil Fish: Susumu Katsumata's Anti-Nuclear Manga – Ryan Holmberg
- 16 Oct Japanese Castles and the Making of Regional, National and World Heritage – Oleg Benesch
- 20 Nov Japan's Foreign and Security Policy Under the 'Abe Doctrine' – Christopher W. Hughes
- 18 Dec The Man who Knew about Furnaces: Thomas Walton (1833-1897), a British glassmaker in early Meiji Japan – Sally Haden

Lifestyle

- 24 Jan Gaea Girls Film Screening and Q&A, with *Royal Anthropological Institute*
- 1 Feb Experience the Art and Craft of Wasanbon, with *Ayumi Uehara*
- 9 Feb A Story of Locality and the Creation of Regional Identity in Japan, from the viewpoint of producer, Hidetaka Ino
- 23 Feb Node Film Screening, with *Royal Anthropological Institute*
- 27 Feb An evening with Alex Kerr, at *Tsuru restaurant*
- 21 Mar Memories of the Ainu Past and Present at SOAS University of London, with *Royal Anthropological Institute*
- 28 Apr Kokedama workshop, create a moss ball plant, with *Stefan Thomas from Tranquil Plants*
- 31 May Dogs Without Names – film screening and Q&A with director and contributors, at *Phoenix Cinema*
- 5 Jun Behind the Scenes at Hankyu Department Store's celebrated British Fair, hosted by *The Frameworks*
- 27 Jun Miso Inspired Supper Club, hosted by Jay Morjaria, with *Clearspring*
- 29 Jun Japan Society Golf Tournament 2017
- 2 Jul Japan Airlines / Football Samurai Academy 5-a-side Tournament
- 7 Aug Japanese Whisky Tasting, at *Anzu Restaurant*
- 17 Aug In conversation with Philip Harper, Japan's first and only British *toji* (sake brew-master), with *British Sake Association*
- 19 Oct London-brewed sake tasting with Izakaya pairing, with *Kanpai London Craft Sake and Okan Ramen*
- 21 Oct Collar Cup Golf Tournament 2017

Book Club (held on the second Monday of each month)

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| 9 Jan | <i>Six Four</i> by Hideo Yokoyama | 10 Jul | <i>I Want to Kick You in the Back</i> by Risa Wataya |
| 13 Feb | <i>Lost Japan</i> by Alex Kerr | 14 Aug | <i>Hiroshima</i> by John Hersey |
| 13 Mar | <i>Record of a Night Too Brief</i> by Hiromi Kawakami | 11 Sep | <i>The Moon over the Mountain</i> by Atsushi Nakajima |
| 10 Apr | <i>Tales of Ise</i> | 9 Oct | <i>The Eternal Zero</i> by Naoki Hyakuta |
| 8 May | <i>Horses, Horses, In the End the Light Remains Pure</i> by Hideo Furukawa | 13 Nov | <i>The Thief</i> by Fuminori Nakamura |
| 9 Jun | <i>The Samurai</i> by Shusaku Endo | 11 Dec | <i>Something Strange Across the River</i> by Kafu Nagai |

Japanese Conversation Group – held on the first Tuesday of every month at The Brewmaster:
An opportunity for Japanese speakers of all nationalities to come together and speak Japanese.

Reaching over 7,000 school children annually

All Year	Japan in Your Classroom School Visits: During 2017, over sixty visits were made to primary and secondary schools in the UK giving children an introduction to aspects of Japanese life and culture. School Links: Continuing to establish new partnerships while providing targeted support to help strengthen existing links through bilateral exchange trips, conference calls and curriculum-based projects. Loan Resources: Cultural artefacts and materials on loan to schools throughout the year. This year we were able to revamp our Japan Activity Chest, adding new items and updating our accompanying resources. The chest now arrives in the form of suitcase, stickered up as if it has just arrived from Japan, filled with toys, clothing, books and more, all from Japan!
March	Visit from Takamatsu Daiichi High School to Newstead Wood School and Bury St Edmunds County Upper School.
23 Mar	Sixth Form & GCSE Students' Japan Day: a global perspective, a door to new opportunities, <i>with University of Manchester</i>
Spring	Tea Room project. In conjunction with Shinichiro Hashiguchi's visit to the UK, workshops were held with Newstead Wood School, St Cuthbert with St Matthias CoFE Primary School and Stratford Girls' Grammar School. Students designed their own tea rooms which they were able to present to the architect in person to hear his feedback. St Cuthbert with St Matthias CoFE Primary School went on to invite the Japan Society to their own Japan themed annual tea party.
July	A group of teachers and students from Chopwell Primary School visited Kitauchi Elementary School in Nara.
Aug	JAL Foundation and the Japan Society launched The 15th World Children's Haiku Contest (entries due by Feb 15, 2018).
Sep	Three performers from Japan Matsuri visited St Cuthbert with St Matthias CoFE Primary School and Bexley Grammar School. A Yose Moji calligrapher with two Daikagura performers gave exclusive shows to each school, followed by workshops for the students.
Oct	A group of teachers and students from Reepham Primary School visited Sakado Azuma Kindergartern in Saitama Prefecture.
9 Nov	Sixth Form Japan Day, <i>organised with Ritsumeikan University and hosted by SOAS</i>
Dec	Wavell School and Farnborough College of Technology hosted Mizuma High School's Taiko group. The Taiko group performed at both schools, as well as running a number of workshops. Students at Farnborough College of Technology filmed the group and are editing the video as part of their project work.

Small Grants

In 2017, the Japan Society Small Grants scheme gave support to 31 grassroots projects in the UK with some £21,000 in funding. Our support is particularly focussed on education and community projects, where a small amount of additional funding can make a big difference. In many cases, the grants enable event organisers to reach a wider audience or to provide opportunities for the public to engage directly with performances or exhibitions.

Sixteen of the grants awarded were for projects taking place in schools or for activity involving young people. Several schools organised cross-curricular events such as a whole school Tanabata festival or Japanese culture week for a particular year group. King Edward VI Community College in Totnes organised an ambitious exhibition much enjoyed by the local community and accompanied by a range of art and craft, music, dance and food workshops for students. At other schools, it was the library which provided the Japan focus with literature workshops or manga clubs for language learners. The British Cartographic Society continued its Restless Earth workshop series using the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami as a case study to learn about disaster response activities: with a small grant enabling additional schools to be visited.

Once again the Society also supported projects involving young people outside the school system. A ten day residential in Winchester provided opportunities for children and young people with learning difficulties to participate in a ten day arts programme focused on Japan. Another project involved high achieving young people and their families to learn new skills and explore Japanese culture in a supportive environment. The Society supported the Kotatsu Japanese animation Festival, which expanded its activity in 2017 and involves local schools, universities and arts institutions.

Other projects supported in 2017 include: The Museum of East Asian Art in Bath which used a small grant to extend the reach of the 'Dressed to Impress: Japanese Men's Fashion' exhibition with a programme of accompanying talks and workshops; the Japanese Garden Society's two day conference, where speakers discussed the spread of Japanese gardens across the world and their adaptation to local conditions; a special screening of the 1926 avant-garde film 'A Page of Madness' with *benshi* narration; and a programme of lectures to accompany 'Japanese Junction' an exhibition of work by emerging Japanese architects and designers.

Small grants also supported community-based Japan festivals in Basildon, Bath, Cambridge, Derry-Londonderry and Kent.