

NUMBER 149

2012

Proceedings is published by

The Japan Society

Swire House

59 Buckingham Gate

London

SW1E 6AJ

Tel: 020 7828 6330

Fax: 020 7828 6331

Email: info@japansociety.org.uk

Website: www.japansociety.org.uk

Chairman:

Sir David Warren, KCMG

Chief Executive:

Heidi Potter

Editor:

Alison Scott

Managing Editor:

Jack Cooke

ISSN 0952 - 2050

Copyright 2013: The Japan Society and individual contributors. Views expressed are those of the authors, and are not necessarily shared by the Japan Society. Material printed in *Proceedings* must not be reproduced without permission.

Proceedings

CONTENTS

- 3 From the Editor**
- 4 Society Organization & Benefactors**
- 7 The Japan Society Year In Review**
- 16 Statement of Financial Activity 2012**
- 18 Japan Society Awards 2012**
- 21 Obituaries**
- 27 Update from Tohoku: November 2012 - Christopher Purvis**
- 33 Tohoku Earthquake Relief Fund**
- 38 Looking back on Japan - Sir David Warren**
- 55 Paragons of Culture: The Soft Power of the Japanese Emperors**
Ben-Ami Shillony examines the role of the Imperial Family in Japan
- 76 Lt. Shirase and the 1910 - 12 Antarctic Expedition**
Hilary Shibata discusses the story of a little known Antarctic adventurer and her centenary translation of the official expedition account

96 Zen: Its Practice and Philosophy for Everyday Life

Tsushimoto Sokun, a Zen master of the Rinzai School, provides insight into the essence of Zen, its traditional practices and discipline

105 Museums in Japan

Sophie Richard explores some of Japan's most distinctive and exciting art museums, with an article on their collections, history and characteristics

120 The New Japan and The Last Samurai

Lesley Downer discusses her latest novel and the conflict that defined Meiji era Japan

136 Nurturing the children of tomorrow

Suzuki Shizuka looks at recent changes to pre-school education in Japan, drawing particularly on the experience of the Sakado Azuma Kindergarten

151 Book and Film Reviews

167 Contributors