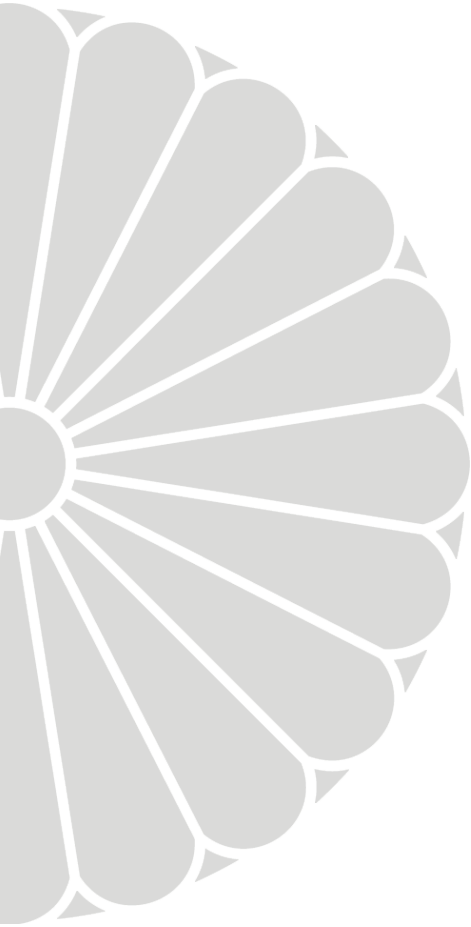




**THE
JAPAN
SOCIETY**



Events **2015**

Annual & Special Events

22 Jan	Japan Society Annual Dinner
2 Feb	Lecture by Tim Hitchens, British Ambassador to Tokyo. <i>At Nomura International</i>
10 Mar	Dorothy Britton Memorial
24 Jun	Japan Society Annual General Meeting
21 Jul	Japan Society Pub Quiz with Satsuma 150 Visitors
5/6 Aug	Tanabata Festival at Kew Gardens with the Embassy of Japan
24 Aug	Tour of the Hitachi Ashford Depot
19 Sep	Japan Matsuri 2015 at Trafalgar Square, with JCCI, Embassy of Japan, Japan Association and the Nippon Club
15 Oct	The Asia Pacific War and its Legacy: A Historical Debate on the 70 th Anniversary of the End of the War
1 Dec	Japan Society Christmas Party at the Japanese Embassy

Arts & Culture

22 Feb	Japan Society Choral Workshop
30 Mar	Private Viewing and Artist Talk: Sketches from the Poem Road – Isao Miura
6 May	Visit to Chelsea Physic Garden with The Hong Kong Society
22 May	Ninagawa Company's Hamlet at the Barbican
29 May	Ninagawa Company's Kafka on the Shore at the Barbican
2 Jun	Kew's Heritage Trees: Private tour with Artist Masumi Yamanaka
12 Jul	Matsuya Nozawa and the World of Joruri: Musical Storytelling
30 Sep	Mme Butterfly: What Happened Next, with Ignacio Jarquin and Chris Roberts
3 Oct	Private Viewing, Artist Talk and Workshop: Life and Hopes for the Future – Ichijoh Shimotani
5 Dec	Drop-In Christmas Crafting Family Day

Business

Lectures & Seminars

28 Jan	Glen S. Fukushima In Conversation – Glen S. Fukushima, Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress. <i>At the Oriental Club</i>
18 Mar	Cybersecurity: The Scale of the Threat and the Answers. <i>At BT</i>
3 Jun	The New World Disorder – Richard Fenning, CEO, Control Risks. <i>At Linklaters</i>
10 Jul	Energy and Climate Change in the Build Up to COP21 – Takashi Hattori, Head of Environment & Climate Change Unit, International Energy Agency. <i>At EY</i>
16 Sep	The UK and the EU: Bill Emmott, author and journalist, in conversation with Mami Mizutori, Executive Director of the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures. <i>At Mitsui & Co Europe plc</i>
29 Sep	The Global Market for Grains, Rice and Oilseeds: Recent Trends and Prospects – Etsuo Kitahara, Executive Director, International Grains Council. <i>At King & Wood Mallesons</i>
26 Oct	The Olympus Scandal: Has Anything Changed Since Then? – Michael Woodford. <i>At Simmons & Simmons</i>
30 Oct	Creating the Future City: Tokyo's Vision and Action – Yōichi Masuzoe, Governor of Tokyo. <i>At the Oriental Club</i>

Chairman's Lunches and Dinners

Private, off the record meetings with an informal talk by the guest of honour

16 Feb	In Defence of Abenomics – Peter Tasker. <i>At BDO LLP</i>
30 Apr	The World's Current Security Situation – Sir Kim Darroch, National Security Advisor. <i>At HSBC</i>
13 Nov	Tracking the Progress of the British Economy – Sir Jon Cunliffe, Deputy Governor, Bank of England. <i>At PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP</i>
3 Dec	The UK and Japan's Strategic Partnership – Michael Fallon MP, Secretary of State for Defence. <i>At EY</i>

In partnership with other organisations

Joint Lunches with the JCCI

4 Feb	A House Divided: A Pre-election Prognosis – Philip Stephens, Associate Editor, Financial Times. <i>At the National Liberal Club</i>
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3 Sep With Members of the UK-Japan 21st Century Group on the occasion of its 32nd Annual Meeting. *At the Cavalry and Guards Club*

10 Dec Japan's Concerns with China, the UK's Concerns with Europe: Do We Understand Each Other? – Robin Niblett, Director, Chatham House. *At the In & Out Club*

Others

11 Feb Japan Securities Summit. *Hosted by the JSDA with ICMA*

23 Jun Brexit: Will Britain Leave Europe? The Real Issues – Denis MacShane. *With JETRO*

6 Jul Invest in Japan: Mie Business Seminar and Business Exchange. *With JETRO and Invest Japan*

Lectures

Japan Society Lectures

At the Swedenborg Society unless otherwise stated

16 Feb Interpreting Japan's Controversial Plutonium Strategy – Peter Wynn Kirby

16 Mar At the Crossroads: Japan and Low-Skilled Foreign Workers – Kristin Surak

20 Apr 150 Years On: The Satsuma Students in Britain and the 'Unequal Treaties' – Andrew Cobbing

29 Apr A Journey into the Fabled World of Japanese Running – Adharanand Finn

18 May Don't mention the War! Writing the Alienated Self in Post-war Japan – Mark Williams

29 Jun Former Prime Ministers in Japanese Politics: Who's Sori Now? – Hugo Dobson

16 & 20 Jul Carmen Blacker Lecture 2015. Amaterasu's Progress: The Ise Shrines in the Public Sphere of Postwar Japan – John Breen (16 July at Cathedral Hostry, Norwich). *With the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts & Cultures*

17 Aug Bakumatsu Kabuki Heroes: Thieves, Cutpurses & Extortionists – Alan Cummings

21 Sep Japan's Demographic Shift: Implications for the Future of Japanese Education and Social Policy – Roger Goodman

14 Oct Wabori: The World of Japanese Tattoo Art – Manami Okazaki

19 Oct Lifetime Employment in 21st Century Japan: Stability and Resilience Under Pressure in the Japanese Management System – Peter Matanle

29 Oct Kyoto's International Links – Pauline Chakmakjian. *With Japan Room*

16 Nov Reimagining Japan's Position on the World Stage in the Early 20th Century – Ian Rapley

Lifestyle

18 Apr Hanami in Kensington Gardens

17 May Members' Trip to World Rugby 7s Finals Day at Twickenham

30 May Trooping the Colour 2015 – Special Seats at the Major General's Review

30 May Collar Cup Golf Tournament

22 Jun Japan Society Golf Tournament

19 Jul 5-a-side Football Tournament. Hosted by Samurai Football Academy

25 Sep Obubu: Green Tea Talk and Tasting with Kyoto Obubu Tea Farms

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.

Book Club

Held on the second Monday of each month

12 Jan *Bullfight* by Yasushi Inoue

9 Feb *Shipwrecks* by Akira Yoshimura

9 Mar *A Tale for the Time Being* by Ruth Ozeki

13 Apr *Woman Running in the Mountains* by Yūko Tsushima

11 May *The Sea and Poison* by Shūsaku Endō

8 Jun *The Setting Sun* by Osamu Dazai

13 Jul *The Diving Pool* by Yōko Ogawa

10 Aug *Black Rain* by Masuji Ibuse

14 Sep *Now You're One of Us* by Asa Nonami

12 Oct *The Cape: And Other Stories from the Japanese Ghetto* by Kenji Nakagami

11 Nov Underground by Taro Yodaoka
14 Dec Penguin Parallel Texts edited by Michael Emmerich

Schools Education

Reaching over 7,000 school children annually

- All Year Japan in Your Classroom School Visits: During 2015, over 50 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.
Japan UK LIVE! The Society's bilingual website continues to encourage cultural exchange between young people in Japan and the UK by removing the language barrier.
Loan Resources: Cultural artefacts and materials on loan to schools throughout the year.
- 23 Mar Japan Conference for Schools with the Japan Foundation at the Embassy of Japan, London: An annual event, this year attended by over 50 teachers taking part in a series of practical workshops alongside discussion groups on topics including school linking; introducing Japanese to the curriculum; sharing teaching resources; and teaching Japanese to dyslexic students. In this year's key note speech Lorraine Cooper, Deputy Head of Maryland Primary School in Newham, reported on her trip to Osaka in 2014 to research methods of teaching critical thinking skills.
- 16-19 Mar County Upper School in Bury St Edmunds hosted another visit, dedicated to cultural and scientific exchanges, from their partner school Takamatsu Daiichi Senior High School from Kagawa Prefecture.
- 13 Jun Maryland Primary School Japan Day, supported by Japan Society and its volunteers, including manga workshops run by professional manga artist Chie Kutsuwada.
- 29 Jul South West London Scouts summer camp Japan Day. Attended by over 200 scouts at Phasels Wood Activity Centre in Hertfordshire, the day included a range of traditional Japanese activities, from taiko to Radio Taisō.
- 9-14 Oct Cropwell Bishop Primary School in Nottingham hosted another homestay exchange with their partner school Komaki Elementary School from Nagano, this year with the support of Heymann Primary School in Nottingham, who are starting to develop their own exchange with Wakatsuki Elementary School also from Nagano City.
- 23 Oct We again worked with Japan Airlines to launch the 14th World Children's Haiku Contest in the UK.
- 5 Nov Sixth Form Japan Day at SOAS: Giving sixth form students throughout the UK an opportunity to experience Japanese culture and learn about Japanese university degree programmes. The day combined cultural workshops with a series of lectures including a key note speech by Sasumu Takiyama, Managing Director and Editor-in-Chief for Nikkei Europe Ltd. The event was attended by over 150 students and for the third consecutive year included representatives from both British and Japanese universities.
- 6-11 Nov We supported Kobe University Secondary School's annual UK homestay exchange with their three partner schools, Cirencester Deer Park School, Alleyn's School in London and The Thomas Hardy School in Dorchester.

Small Grants

As at 30 November 2015, funding totalling £21,000 had been awarded in support of 38 grassroots projects in the UK. In line with the objectives of the grants scheme, most of the activities supported had an educational element, fostered exchange between the UK and Japan, or provided opportunities to bring Japanese culture to a wide group of people.

12 primary schools and 10 secondary schools and youth groups were involved in extended projects, ranging from whole school Japan days to interdisciplinary learning days and enrichment weeks. Japan Society support for these events allows schools to bring in experts to run specialist workshops to complement and enrich curriculum-based studies. A visit by students from a Japanese partner school gave one secondary school the opportunity to run language learning activities with neighbouring primary schools, while a group of teachers spent time preparing together in advance of a series of global education workshops with Japanese counterparts in Fukushima, Tokyo and Kyoto.

Support for 2015's Satsuma 150 celebrations allowed Izaku Taiko Odori and Satsuma Kenshi Hayato to visit primary schools in London and Oxford for special performances and workshops. A project being developed for 2016 will engage primary school children in a series of visual and performance skill workshops inspired by Japanese prints in the collection of Blackburn Museum and Art Gallery. Other arts related projects include community and adult education workshops with visiting Bizen potter, Kazuya Ishida, including a workshop, demonstration and lecture about the Bizen tradition and the potter's experience. Master woodblock carver Motoharu Asaka spent 10 days in the UK, conducting workshops and giving demonstrations and lectures at eight locations including university art departments, printmaking studios and an art and design sixth form college.

Distinct Impressions: Prism 5 brought together 32 emerging printmakers for a shared exhibition including 14 from Japan and 10 from the UK. This was the fifth in a series of events which provide a forum for artistic exchange and education. Muscicity's Reflections of Sumida along London's Southbank presented a new way to experience Japan, allowing people to listen to recordings of Bashō poems in English and Japanese set against a soundscape of Tokyo's Sumida river. Koto workshops and lectures by musicians from Tokyo University of the Arts, provided inspiration for students of performance and composition at the Royal Academy of Music, while Stirling University's Japan Week included language classes, lectures, receptions as well as cultural events and performances. Japan Society small grants also supported Japan festivals in Cambridge, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Kent.