



Consulate Updates

March 2021

Consulate-General of Japan, Brisbane

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Office Opening Hours

Monday to Friday
9:00am – 12:30pm
1:30pm – 5:00pm

Consular Section
(Reception – visa / passports)
9:00am – 12:00pm
1:30pm – 4:00pm

Emperor's Birthday Reception 2021



On Friday, 26 February 2021, our valued friends and colleagues gathered at the Consul-General's Official Residence in Hamilton to celebrate the 61st birthday of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan. We were greeted warmly with addresses from Consul-General TANAKA, the host of the evening, His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC, Governor of Queensland and the

guest of honour, the Honourable Anastacia Palaszczuk MP, Premier of Queensland and Minister for Trade, Mr John-Paul Langbroek MP, representing the Leader of the Opposition and Shadow Minister for Seniors, Communities and Disability Services, and The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of Brisbane, Cr Adrian Schrinner.

Many state ministers, Cr Hill, Mayor of Townsville, Councillors of Brisbane City and other regional councils, Commonwealth parliamentarians, Justice Holms, Chief Justice of

Recommended Websites

Embassy of Japan, Canberra
<http://www.au.emb-japan.go.jp>

The Japan Foundation,
Sydney
<http://www.jpf.org.au/>

Japan National Tourism
Organization
<http://www.jnto.org.au/>

Japan External Trade
Organization
<http://www.jetro.go.jp/>

Japan Exchange Teaching
(JET) Programme
<http://www.jetprogramme.org/>

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of Japan (MOFA)
<http://www.mofa.go.jp/>

Queensland, Ms Carroll, Commissioner of Queensland Police, representatives of the Australian Defence Forces, the Japanese community and cultural associations were among the more than two hundred people who attended.

Recent pictures and video footage of Their Majesties Emperor and Empress and other Imperial household members were displayed. Guests also enjoyed a range of displays showcasing the best of Japanese innovation and produce, from Daikin air conditioning and Japan Rail Central's high speed rail technology, to Japanese beer Kirin and Asahi, and Ito-en Green Tea using Australia-grown tea leaves. To share the culinary delights of Japan, a variety of sake and Japanese wine, as well as Japan-brand beers were offered, accompanied by delectable finger foods such as tempura, sushi and takoyaki. Stalls showcasing the Japan National Tourism Organisation (JNTO), along with sister-cities Kobe and Shunan and sister-state Saitama also provided a chance for all to enjoy Japan here in Queensland.



2021 Office Closure Dates

APRIL

*Friday 2
(Good Friday)*

*Monday 5
(Easter Monday)*

*Monday 26
(ANZAC DAY)*

MAY

*Monday 3
(Labour Day)*

JULY

*Friday 23
(Health and Sports Day)*

AUGUST

*Wednesday 11
(Royal Queensland Show)*

*For the full list,
please click [here](#).*

Contemporary Wood Carved Netsuke Travelling Exhibition Opening Reception

On Thursday, 11 February 2021, Consul-General and Mrs TANAKA Kazunari and Cultural Affairs Consul HAYAKAWA Naohiro attended the opening reception for the Contemporary Wood Carved Netsuke Travelling Exhibition, held at the Caloundra Regional Gallery.

These delicately crafted netsuke (netsuke are intricate woodcarvings designed to be worn on kimono) have been exhibited around the world as part of a travelling exhibition by the Japan Foundation, and we were delighted to be able to help share them with Queenslanders as co-presenters of this exhibition. Thank you to Director Jo Duke and the Caloundra Regional Gallery for hosting these works in your beautiful gallery space, which was exhibited until 13 March, with a sizeable attendance from the Sunshine Coast area and beyond, including Brisbane.



Men's Shed Nerang



The Consul-General expressed his gratitude for the hospitality of members, who welcomed him with a gorgeous display of the centre's Bonsai trees and woodwork. Thanks to their support he was able to take away a great deal of knowledge about the Men's Shed concept. With Japan's aging society, the concept could be hugely beneficial to older communities in Japan. The Nerang Men's Shed has shown us yet another way our two nations can learn from one another.

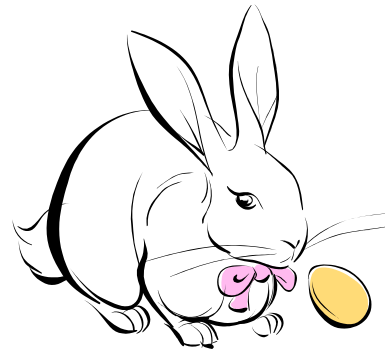
On Wednesday, 3 February 2021, Consul-General TANAKA visited the Men's Shed in Nerang to meet with Mr Len Thompson, Mr Paul Lannen, and other members to learn more about their activities here in Queensland. The Men's Shed movement originated in Australia based on the idea of providing a supportive environment for retired men to get together in an atmosphere of old-fashioned Australian mateship, and is now gaining momentum around the world.



Office Closure Notice

Friday, 2 April 2021

Monday, 5 April 2021



The Consulate-General of Japan in Brisbane will be closed on Friday, 2 April and Monday, 5 April 2021, for Easter. The office will re-open on Tuesday, 6 April 2021.

For a full list of office closure dates for 2020, please visit:

<https://www.brisbane.au.emb-japan.go.jp/en/about/index.html#officeclosure2021>

Great East Japan Earthquake

Thursday, 11 March 2021, marks 10 years since the Great East Japan Earthquake devastated Japan on 11 March 2011.

Coverage of the reconstruction efforts and voices from survivors 10 years on are available in a collection of new and encore documentaries presented by NHK WORLD-JAPAN. Also, a video from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

traces voices about their gratitude for the international support they received.



NHK WORLD-JAPAN: 3.11 - Ten Years On

<https://www3.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld/311tenyears/>

Ministry of Foreign Affairs:

Ten years of reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=irB-PRAAS4>

Read Minister for Foreign Affairs MOTEGI Toshimitsu's statement marking 10 years since the Great East Japan Earthquake here: https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e_000178.html

First Japanese Consulate in Australia

This month marks 125 years since the first Japanese Consulate in Australia was established in Townsville on March 7, 1896.

The diplomatic mission was first headed by Consul NAKAGAWA Tsunejiro, and was created to support the significant number of Japanese citizens working in the sugar cane and pearling industries in Far North Queensland, particularly on Thursday Island in the Torres Strait. While the Consulate in Townsville no longer exists, the ties between Queensland and Japan have continued to grow and we are thankful to have two missions in Queensland today in Brisbane and Cairns.

This is a landmark year for Queensland-Japan relations, as we also mark 150 years since the arrival of Australia's first recorded Japanese settler Sakuragawa Rikinosuke in 1871 (who settled here in Queensland), and 55 years since the establishment of our own Consulate here in Brisbane in 1966.

It is believed that the then-immigration officer took Sakuragawa's first name Rikinosuke to be his family name and spelt it "Dicoski", which sounds like a Slavic name and helped their family escape incarceration during WWII.

We would like to thank the Queensland Japanese community and all Queenslanders for your long-standing support, and look forward to many years of strong relations to come.



The Japanese Consul, with his family and staff, outside the former Japanese Consulate at 11 Victoria Street, Stanton Hill, Townsville c.1970 Photo taken from the City Libraries Townsville Local History Collection.

Hina Matsuri

雛祭り

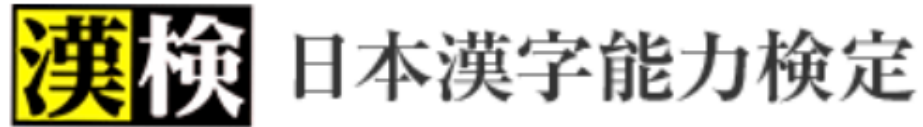


A display of Hina Dolls at the Official Residence

The third of March every year is Hina Matsuri, also called Girls Day or Dolls Day. It's a special day to commemorate the growth, happiness, and prosperity of young girls, and corresponds to the beginning of spring when peach blossoms start to bloom.

To celebrate, Japanese families display Hina Dolls in their homes. Although traditionally seven tiers, if families don't have enough space to put up such an elaborate display, they usually display only the two dolls located on the top tier, known as imperial dolls.

Japan Kanji Aptitude Test in Brisbane



Challenge yourself and test your knowledge of Japanese kanji with the nihon kanji nōryoku kentei (Japan Kanji Aptitude Test)!

The Kanji Kentei Exam is a Kanji (Japanese Chinese character) aptitude test organised and administered by the Nippon Kanji Nouryoku Kentei Kyoukai (The Japan Kanji Aptitude Testing Foundation), a non-profit public interest incorporated foundation authorised by the Government of Japan.

Exams in Brisbane are conducted by Tak's Tutoring, for more details on taking a Kanji Kentei Exam in Brisbane, contact:

E-mail: takstutoring@gmail.com

<http://www.nihongo.net.au/kanken.html>

For more information on other overseas testing venues, visit:

<https://www.kanken.or.jp/kanken/personal/interior/overseas.html>

(Image source: 日本漢字能力検定)

The Consulate-General of Japan newsletter features people-to-people exchanges and friendships between Japan and Australia. If you are involved in sister school friendships, exchanges or Japan-Australia related programs such as the JET Programme and would like to submit an article to be published in our newsletter, please email us at:

jpncg@bb.mofa.go.jp

Consulate Updates – Past Issues

Past issues of “Consulate Updates” (PDF) can also be accessed via the Consulate-General of Japan, Brisbane Website at:

https://www.brisbane.au.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/jicc_newsletters.html

Consulate-General of Japan – Cultural Loans Program

The Consulate-General of Japan, Brisbane offers a Cultural Loans Program!

We have a wide range of Japanese cultural items available for teachers or persons/organisations in Queensland promoting or teaching Japanese culture. Items include DVDs on a wide range of Japanese subjects, toys, CDs, games, calligraphy sets, plastic food, traditional clothing, musical instruments and more! The items are free to borrow; the visual and tactile experience of a cultural prop contributes to a richer classroom experience.

For further information, please visit the link below to access catalogues and forms or call our office on

(07) 3221 5188: <http://www.brisbane.au.emb-japan.go.jp/en/jicc/resources.html>

Like Our Facebook Page!

For the latest news and updates on Japanese culture related events, visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/JapanCons.Brisbane>

You have received this e-mail because your e-mail address is registered with the Consulate-General of Japan, Brisbane’s e-newsletter mailing list. To unsubscribe from this mailing list please e-mail: jpncg@bb.mofa.go.jp

We respect your privacy. We will not disclose your personal details to any third party.

The Consulate-General of Japan, Brisbane is not affiliated with the above events unless stated, and is not responsible for these events or the content of linked websites. For further details on any of the above events, please contact the event organisers directly.

If you know of any upcoming Japan-related events and would like to publicise them in our e-newsletter, please e-mail the details through to us at: jpncg@bb.mofa.go.jp

The final choice of articles will be at the discretion of the Consulate-General of Japan, Brisbane.