



International Kendo - Peter Lee (Miyakonojo ALT at Nishi High School)

Hi, I am Peter and I moved to Miyakonojo from the UK at the end of last year with the JET Programme. There are many reasons why I wanted to experience living in Japan and one of them is Kendo.

I grew up in the suburbs of London, so I have always been exposed to different cultures. My favourite thing to do was visit the many museums. London has many world class museums, my favourite being the British Museum – it is filled with artefacts from all over the world! The museum has a section dedicated to Japan which includes artworks, swords and samurai armour. I am pretty sure this is where my interest in kendo came from...

In 2008 I joined a London university kendo club; it is a great way to try kendo as you can borrow the club's equipment without all the upfront costs. The best thing about training at a university club is the diversity of people you meet, the club had students from all over the world. Through Kendo, I have been



Shudokan Dojo's team for the National Invitational army taikai, 3rd Dan Adrian Durham (Left), Peter Lee (Middle), and 3rd Dan Rob Tyrell (Right). Invites are only sent to clubs that help with Army Kendo activities and development.

able to hear stories from friends from Asia, America, all over Europe and everywhere in-between.

The international kendo association has a motto, "crossing swords and crossing borders" – it sounded a bit silly at the start,

but now this resonates with me a lot. Kendo has allowed me to travel all around the UK attending competitions and seminars and now that I am in Japan, I have joined my school's Kendo club, helping me build some better connections with my students. Kendo has helped me grow as a person, giving me more confidence to try new things and push myself to get better. It also doesn't hurt that it is a great way to exercise, certainly beats running a few km on a treadmill!



Farewell practice for an International student and teaching returning to Fukuoka.



Peter and friends welcoming their teammate Ryotaro Tanaka back from Fukuoka. That's the team Great Britain captain in the back!



Shudokan Dojo group photo, taken after a regional tournament in Cheltenham, England.



MIA news

Miyakonojo International Association

Miyakonojo International Association
6-21 Himegi-cho, Miyakonojo-shi,
Miyazaki-ken, Japan 885-8555
TEL 0986-23-2295
FAX 0986-23-3223
<http://miyakonojo-mia.com>
E-mail mia@btvm.ne.jp

Aussie Bites! (An Unforgettable Beach Wedding & Australia Tour, MIA Member Ruriko Kodama)



Via South Korea, I arrive in Sydney. In Japan, it is late autumn. My destination and goal is to attend my first ever beach wedding.

On the day I arrived in Sydney, as a treat to myself, I boarded a dinner cruise. The scenery at sunset, the night time view of Sydney from the boat, along with live music and delicious food... As if I was in a dream, all of my stress from travelling suddenly drifted away. The following day, I took a taxi to the beach where the wedding would take place. We went barefoot from the building where the reception took place to the beachside. From the bridesmaids to the style of the wedding, I was seeing it all for the first time in my life; it was like a scene from a movie. Thank you for inviting me to your wedding Tim!

From the next day onwards, since I was already in Australia, I decided to make the most of my time and went sightseeing.

I joined a winery tour, and happened upon a website for "Jack's Japanese Tours", and so I asked to be taken to the Blue Mountains, King's Table, and the zoo. As it turned out, this Australian running the tour previously worked as an ALT in Miyazaki Prefecture! I suddenly went from being in a foreign nation to home, and both

the scenery and the conversations we had have become wonderful memories. The night before I left Sydney, I was invited to a party at Tim's home; everyone was still revelling in the afterglow of the wedding from just a few short days ago. In their garden, there was a large George Foreman grill that had been gifted to Tim, which his father made full use of in preparing our meat for the occasion. The smiles on the faces of all the people gathered there, the pleasant conversation, the hospitality of the hosts, it was all fantastic! It all left such a deep impression, there was no way I could avoid being enraptured by it all. These are all such treasured memories for me.

I love Australia!



Information & Notices

◆ Notice Regarding Trivia Night 2022

The World Beer & Trivia Night planned for Saturday September 10th has, due to the increased spread of COVID, unfortunately been cancelled. We apologise to all of our members who were looking forward to the event, and ask for your understanding and cooperation.

◆ Mallmall Library International Corner

On the first floor of Miyakonojo's Mallmall Library, a space has been dedicated to our friendship cities, Mongolia's Ulaanbaatar and China's Jiangjin district in Chongqing, the content of which is regularly updated. If you're headed to the library, please check it out!

Inquiries: Internationalisation Promotion Office
Phone: 0986-23-2295
E-mail: intl@city.miyakonojo.miyazaki.jp

◆ The MIF Foreigner Emergency Support Seminar in Miyakonojo City is Looking for Volunteers!

On September 10th, MIF (the Miyazaki International Foundation) is holding a Foreigner Emergency Support Seminar (for details on the seminar itself, please see this month's MIA News Japanese notices). Towards the end of the seminar, MIF would like to have foreign residents of Miyazaki Prefecture inspect and give feedback on the easy Japanese used by participants.

If you are free on the day and believe that you would be able to help, please contact MIF directly:

Location: Miyazaki City Carino Plaza B1F
Phone: 0985-32-8457
FAX: 0985-32-8512
E-mail: miyaiinfo@mif.or.jp



Movies info

C-Plaza Cine-port (Tel: 0986-24-2571)

17-9 Nakamachi, Miyakonojo, Miyazaki Map-Code (GPS): 117 488 540*55



- Elvis (Japanese Sub)
- Fullmetal Alchemist: The Final Chapter - Scar the Avenger (Japanese)
- Shin Ultraman (Japanese)
- Dragonball Super: Super Hero (Japanese)
- Top Gun: Maverick (Japanese Sub)
- Kingdom 2: Harukanaru Daichi e (Japanese)

- Minions Fever (Japanese Dub)
- Buzz Lightyear (Japanese Dub)
- *The 1st of every month is ¥1,100 for everyone.
- *Every Wednesday is 'Ladies' Day', all ladies ¥1,100.
- *The cinema is closed every Tuesday.
- *For session times visit: <http://movie.walkerplus.com/th286/schedule.html> (Japanese)