

Japanese – the Orkney Way





EMEC and AQUATERA

The beginning ...

2013 – first contact with Kamaishi Super Science High School by EMEC and Aquatera in Japan. Information about alternative energy after the 3/11 disaster a priority for Japan

2014 – Aquatera and OIC host first visit by Kamaishi students. Japanese students come again in 2015 and 2016.

2014 – Stromness Academy introduces Japanese Language and Culture as a Friday activity

Japanese at Kirkwall Grammar School

KGS short course began in 2015 and is now in its third year

Fiona Lawtie, one of the teaching team, is working towards full accreditation as a teacher of Japanese and Spanish

KGS also has a popular Manga Club run by science teacher Julie Ferguson



KGS Japanese short course students learn to make sushi

Orkney and Kamaishi students build a wind turbine

Orkney has benefited from the encouragement and strong support of the Consulate General of Japan in Edinburgh and the Japan Foundation



Japanese in the Orkney Primary Schools



Photo courtesy of The Orcadian

Consul General's visit prompted ideas for Children's Day events which took place in 2017

Workshops and assemblies were held at 5 schools

Approximately 500 pupils and staff participated

Children enjoyed making origami KABUTO, singing KOI NOBORI song, making KOI NOBORI from shopping bags and dressing up in Japanese clothing. They also learned how to write their names in KATAKANA



Photos : RN

Japanese in the Community: **Orkney Library**



Photo courtesy of The Orcadian

Orkney Library supported a full day of free public events on the theme of Children's Day, in which some 500 people took part

Following on from the success of that day, Orkney Library is now hosting a monthly Origami Workshop, free and open to all ages and levels of ability

Orkney College



The first adult Japanese conversation class was taught by Fiona Lawtie from January of this year, and had 12 students, one of whom, a veterinary nurse, was planning her third trip to Japan

Japanese and Orkney's Cultural Life: **Music and the Arts**



Music is central to Orkney culture, as attested by its many diverse and renowned music festivals. Here, HIBIKI SHAMISEN prepare to play with local musicians Douglas Montgomery and Gemma McGregor and with KGS students.

In addition to workshops for music students at both secondary schools, HIBIKI also gave two free public performances, one of which was at the **Pier Arts Centre**. Home to a nationally significant collection of 20th century British Art, the **Pier** has a long standing connection to Japan, and has hosted a variety of artists, public lectures and events, including cultural exchange workshops for Kamaishi and Orkney students



Hibiki Shamisen visit to Orkney came about due to their participation in Japan Foundation sponsored conference in London

Future Plans : 2018 Orkney Schools Project

Japan has been chosen as the theme for the 2018 Schools Project in Orkney, which will take place in May of next year

Planning for this is already underway, and each school will be preparing its own programme, while also coordinating with the Education Department of the OIC

Japanese language and culture will of course be included in the topics studied, but history and geography will also be important areas to explore

Maintaining and Expanding Ties with Japan

We look forward to new opportunities to forge links with Japan, while also growing our relationships with existing colleagues and friends



Photo: Reunion at Kamaishi Super Science School, Scottish Leaders trip to Japan, sponsored by Japan Foundation

We hope to create more opportunities for exchanges between Orkney and Japan



どうもありがとうございました

Thank you for your interest
in Japanese the Orkney way