



Japanese Studies Association of Australia

December 2013 Newsletter

www.jsaa.org.au/

Editor: Catherine Hallett



Image: Kenroku-en, Ishikawa Prefecture

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From the Executive Committee

Languages and Cultures Network for Australian Universities (LCNAU)

The Languages and Cultures Network for Australian Universities (LCNAU) is an organisation which advocates languages in universities. They have just become incorporated and we encourage you to consider joining. LCNAU have provided invaluable support for our colleagues at the University of Canberra, La Trobe University, and Curtin University to lobby for the survival of their programs. For further information about LCNAU and to become a member, please visit the LCNAU [website](http://www.lcnau.org.au/).

Obituary

It with great sadness that the JSAA Executive acknowledges the passing of Mr Leslie Russell Oates, who lectured at the University of Melbourne for many years.

Conferences

Call for Papers

Sydney International Conference on Japanese Language Education

The Japanese Studies Association of Australia is delighted to host SYDNEY-ICJLE2014, a joint conference for the International Conference on Japanese Language Education (ICJLE) and the National Symposium: Japanese Language Education, in Sydney. The deadline for proposal submission February 15, 2014. Further information can be found at: [English](#) / [日本語](#)

Asian Studies Association of Australia 20th Biennial Conference "AsiaScapes: Contesting Borders"

The Asian Studies Association of Australia (ASAA) is pleased to announce that its 20th Biennial Conference will be held at the University of Western Australia, Perth. The deadline for abstracts is November 29, 2013 (for panels) and February 7, 2014 (for individual papers). Further Information can be found at: [English](#) (only)

Call for Papers Closed

For further information on conferences taking place that are related to Japan and Japanese Studies for which the closing date for submission of abstracts has passed please visit [Conferences](#) on the JSAA website.

Positions Vacant

FEATURE POSITION: Professor of Japanese Studies, University of Melbourne

The Asia Institute is the University of Melbourne's key centre for studies in Asian languages and cultures. The Japanese program within the Asia Institute is currently seeking an experienced University Professor. The Professor of Japanese Studies will be expected to make major contributions in the areas of research, academic leadership, administration and professional development, and teaching excellence at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. In addition, the incumbent will contribute to the leadership and overall governance of the Asia Institute. The closing date for applications is December 15, 2013. For further information on the position, please visit the University of Melbourne's [website](#).

Other Positions

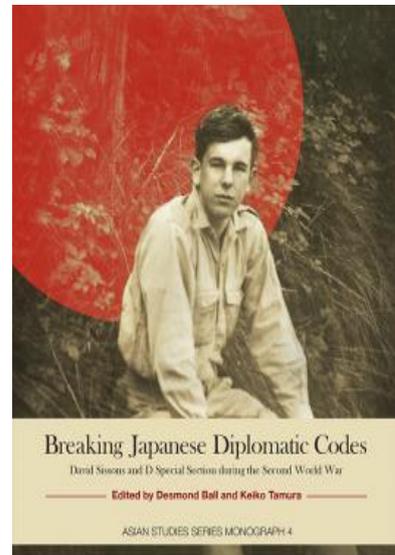
For an expanded listing of positions available please visit Positions Available ([Academic Positions](#) / [Postdocs, Fellowships](#) / [Other](#)) on the JSAA website.

New Publication

FEATURED PUBLICATION: *Breaking Japanese Diplomatic Codes: David Sissons and D Special Section during the Second World War*, Edited by Desmond Ball and Keiko Tamura

During the Second World War, Australia maintained a super-secret organisation, the Diplomatic (or 'D') Special Section, dedicated to breaking Japanese diplomatic codes. The Section has remained officially secret as successive Australian Governments have consistently refused to admit that Australia ever intercepted diplomatic communications, even in war-time.

This book recounts the history of the Special Section and describes its code-breaking activities. It was a small but very select organisation, whose 'technical' members came from the worlds of Classics and Mathematics. It concentrated on lower-grade Japanese diplomatic codes and cyphers, such as J-19 (FUJI), LA and GEAM. However, towards the end of the war it also worked on some Soviet messages, evidently contributing to the effort to track down intelligence leakages from Australia to the Soviet Union. To read more about *Breaking Japanese Diplomatic Codes* please visit the [New Publication](#) page on the JSAA website.



Breaking Japanese Diplomatic Codes: David Sissons and D Special Section during the Second World War, Edited by [Desmond Ball](#) and [Keiko Tamura](#)

Published: September 2013; Publisher: ANU E Press; ISBN 9781925021073 (Print version) \$28 (GST inclusive), ISBN 9781925021080 (Online): To order a copy or for more information, see [ANU E Press](#).

Other Publications

For a list of recent book publications by JSAA members, please visit [New Publications](#) on the JSAA website.

Featured Scholar

Meg Russell, University of New South Wales

Meg Russell is a sociology PhD candidate in the School of Social Sciences at the University of New South Wales. Her PhD research involves the socio-visual analysis of kawaii fashion subcultures in Harajuku, Shinjuku and Shibuya in Tokyo, specifically Gothic Lolita, Gyaruru, Decora, Fairy Kei and Shironuri styles. She uses semiotics, public event description, and interviews with models and designers in the field to decode the visual stories of these subcultures and how they negotiate gender and power. Meg's research aims to refine the Birmingham School's visual approach to subcultural studies & so address the gap in the literature regarding feminine subcultures. To read more about Meg and her research please visit [Featured Scholar](#) on the JSAA website.



Future Featured Scholar

If you would like to be the Featured Scholar in the JSAA Newsletter, please contact the JSAA Postgraduate Representative [Thomas Baudinette](#)

Other

Israeli Association for Japanese Studies Newsletter

The IAJS is pleased to announce the publication of their second newsletter. The current issue includes news and updates about the association and articles about the translation of Japanese literature to Hebrew. To read the second issue please visit the [IAJS website](#).

Okinawan Dance Theatre: Tales of the Southern Winds

Following the success of this year's Glorious Ryukyu performance comes the Australian debut of Tale of the Southern Winds — a stunning dance theatre work by all-female Okinawa Song & Dance Theatre Ensemble, 'Chura'. The islands of Okinawa, formerly known as the kingdom of Ryukyu, are nestled in the sub-tropical blue seas of Southern Japan. This lyrical and powerful performance captures the essence of life in the islands of Okinawa: the cultural richness, colourful history, distinctive sound and breathtaking natural beauty. There will be two shows: [Sydney](#) (December 14) and [Melbourne](#) (December 17). Tickets: Adults (\$15), Concession / JF Member (\$10). For more information please visit the Japan Foundation [website](#).

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