



# PLAZA NEWS



Miyazaki International Foundation

Questions, comments, postings, or for information in Plaza News: Miyazaki International Foundation, B1 Carino Miyazaki, Tachibanadori Higashi 4-8-1, Miyazaki City 880-0805 Tel: 0985-32-8457 Fax: 0985-32-8512 Email: [miyaiinfo@mif.or.jp](mailto:miyaiinfo@mif.or.jp) Homepage: <https://www.mif.or.jp/>  
Open: Tuesdays to Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Closed: Sundays, Mondays, National Holidays and December 29 to January 3



## ◎Plaza Holiday Closing

The Miyazaki International Plaza will be closed from May 2nd (Sun) to May 5th (Wed).



## Japanese Language Course :Beginner Level 1・2 \*Registration Required

The Miyazaki International Foundation will be hosting beginner level 1&2 Japanese courses for foreign residents.

◇Date & Time : Jun.1<sup>st</sup> (Tue) to Sep.2<sup>nd</sup> (Thu), 2021

Every Tuesday and Thursday (25 sessions in total)

Level 1 : 1:30 pm - 3:20 pm

Level 2 : 10:10 am - 12:00 pm



◇Location: CARINO Miyazaki B1

◇Target: Level 1: Those learning Japanese for the first time.

Level 2: Those who can read Hiragana and Katakana.

◇Course Fee: FREE

◇Fee for course materials : ¥2,376

◇Inquiries & Application: Miyazaki International Foundation

## Saturday English Chat First Term Beginner, Intermediate & Advanced \*Registration Required



Let's enjoy chatting in English with people from various countries!

◇Dates & Times

●Beginner: 6/12, 6/26, 7/10, 8/7, 8/21, 9/4

●Intermediate & Advanced: 6/19, 7/3, 7/17, 7/31, 8/14, 8/28

Saturday 6 sessions in total

10:30 am - 11:30 am

◇Location: Carino Miyazaki B1

◇Limit: Beginner 8 Intermediate & Advanced 8

(If there are more applicants than spaces, we will give priority to patrons and first-time participants.)

◇Application Deadline

Beginner: June 2<sup>nd</sup> (Wed)

Intermediate & Advanced: June 9<sup>th</sup> (Wed)

◇Fee: patrons and students 1,000yen (6 sessions)

non-members 3,000yen (6 sessions)

middle school students and under 500yen (6 sessions)

◇Target:

Beginner: Those who have just started learning English

Intermediate & Advanced: Those who can make basic conversation in English

◇To Apply: Apply in person, by phone, FAX, or by e-mail and provide your name, contact number, and e-mail address. When applying by e-mail, please include "English Chat Beginner" or "English Chat Intermediate & Advanced" in the subject line.

◇Inquiries & Application: Miyazaki International Foundation

※Depending on the COVID-19 situation, sessions may be held using Zoom instead.

## International Chat Sessions (Chinese) First Term \*Registration Required

How about a chat in Chinese with Sky from Singapore, and some native-speaking volunteers from other countries?

◇Dates & Times : 6/8, 6/15, 6/22, 6/29, 7/13, 7/20

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Tuesday 6 sessions in total



◇Location: Carino Miyazaki B1

◇Limit : 5

(If there are more applicants than spaces, we will give priority to patrons and first-time participants.)

◇Application Deadline: 5/22 (Sat)

◇Fee: patrons and students 1,000yen (6 sessions)

non-members 3,000yen (6 sessions)

middle school students and under 500yen (6 sessions)

◇Target: Those who can make basic conversation in Chinese

◇To Apply: Apply in person, by phone, FAX, or by e-mail, and provide your name, contact number, and e-mail address. When applying by e-mail, please include "Chinese Chat" in the subject line.

◇Inquiries & Application: Miyazaki International Foundation

※Depending on the COVID-19 situation, sessions may be held using Zoom instead.

## International Chat Sessions (Korean) First Term \*Registration Required

How about a enjoyable chat in Korean with Yujin from South Korea, and some native-speaking volunteers?

◇Dates & Times: 6/3, 6/17, 7/1, 7/15, 7/29, 8/5

Thursday 6 sessions in total

◇Location: Carino Miyazaki B1

◇Limit : 5

(If there are more applicants than spaces, we will give priority to patrons and first-time participants.)

◇Application Deadline: 5/21 (Fri)

◇Fee: patrons and students 1,000yen (6 sessions)

non-members 3,000yen (6 sessions)

middle school students and under 500yen (6 sessions)

◇Target: Anyone who can exchange greetings and make basic conversation in Korean.

◇To Apply: Apply in person, by phone, FAX, or by e-mail and provide your name, contact number, and e-mail address. When applying by e-mail, please include "Korean Chat" in the subject line.

◇Inquiries & Application: Miyazaki International Foundation

※Depending on the COVID-19 situation, sessions may be held using Zoom instead.



## Japanese Practice Sessions

**\*FREE, No Registration Required**

◇**Dates & Times:** 10:30 am ~ 11:30 am  
 [Wed] 5/12, 5/19, 5/26 [Fri] 5/7, 5/14, 5/21, 5/28  
 ◇**Location:** CARINO Miyazaki B1F  
 ◇**Inquiries:** Miyazaki International Foundation



## Now Recruiting Volunteers

The Miyazaki International Foundation has established the "International Exchange Volunteer Registration System" with the aim of promoting grassroots international exchange, and is looking for volunteers from all over the prefecture to help out with the various international exchange projects that take place in Miyazaki.

We are recruiting volunteers for the following positions:

### Volunteer Interpreters

Besides projects and events organized by the MIF, volunteer interpreters may be asked to interpret at international exchange events organized by local authorities

### Volunteers to Assist Foreign Residents During Natural Disasters

volunteers help to assist foreign residents of and visitors to Miyazaki Prefecture in the event of a natural disaster.

### Host Family Volunteer

The purpose of this volunteer program is to encourage residents of Miyazaki Prefecture to participate more actively in international exchange activities, and to further deepen mutual understanding and friendship between prefectural residents and people from overseas.

For details, please see the section on the Miyazaki International Foundation website: "interested in volunteering."



## A few words from our new assistant director

My name is Yuko Kou, and I joined the Miyazaki International Foundation in April.

In Japanese, my name is read Kou Yuko, which is a palindrome - whether you read the Hiragana forwards or backwards, I'm still Kou Yuko!

I can't speak any foreign languages fluently, but I love to have a good nice chat and enjoy good food. I'm looking forward to meeting you!



## Free distribution of old books and magazines

The International Plaza will be giving away old publications such as "The Japan News". Copies are limited, so please drop by early and have a look.

◇**Date & Time:** May.1<sup>st</sup> (Sat) to May.29<sup>th</sup> (Sat)

◇**Location:** CARINO Miyazaki B1F

Miyazaki Prefecture International Plaza

◇**Inquiries:** Miyazaki International Foundation



## What's the date this month?

### May 5th = Children's Day

This is a day to celebrate the fact that all children have grown up to become big and healthy.



## 《May Event》

Event	Date & Time	Venue	Contact
Hanashoubu Matsuri	May 29 <sup>th</sup> (Sat) – Jun 6 <sup>th</sup> (Sun) 10:00 am – 4:00 pm	Awakigahara Forest park Shimin no Mori Miyazaki City	Shimin no Mori Management Office 0985-39-7308
Kodomo no Kuni Spring Rose Festival	Until May 30 <sup>th</sup> (Sun) 9:00 am - 5:00 pm	Kodomo no Kuni Miyazaki City	Kodomo no Kuni 0985-65-1111



## An Englishman in Miyazaki



"Sir 肉じゃが!?"



Miyazaki Prefecture CIR  
Marsh Graham

Hi everyone! I hope you're all keeping well. This month, I'd like to take a few moments to pay homage to someone from my native land who I think of whenever anyone mentions simmered meat and potatoes in this country. I give you; Mick Jagger!

Besides unfortunately sounding a bit like 肉じゃが (Nikujaga), Sir Mick is perhaps more famous as the lead singer of the Rolling Stones (one of my very favourite British bands, although everyone I've spoken to in Japan seems to think they're American...), has had a huge influence on London fashion, produced and starred in movies, does a lot of charity work to promote teaching music in schools, was once exiled to France and apparently wrote his own autobiography back in the 80's without realising it. It's not been published, but it's definitely one to keep an eye out for - he's led quite the life, and is still keeping busy at 77. The main reason I mention him here is because he recently released a single he'd recorded with Dave Grohl (of Foo Fighters and Nirvana fame)

under lockdown (at the time I'm writing this, people still aren't allowed to move freely - or much at all - in the UK), which stuck out for how similar his experience of being locked down was to everyone else's. I guess people assumed that, as a rock star, he'd be doing more interesting things. What made me smile, though, is that his song was the first thing I'd heard from the UK that actually dared to imply there will be an end to the pandemic. I'd been telling people back home since this all started that someday it will be nothing more than a vaguely stressful memory, and yet, somehow, deep down, I don't think I truly believed it myself until I heard it from Uncle Mick. The answer, then, is clear - I should have just asked him to begin with! How about you all? Do you turn to any unusual places for advice (sage or otherwise) in times of crisis?