



# PLAZA NEWS



Miyazaki International Foundation B1 Carino Miyazaki, Tachibanadori Higashi 4-8-1, Miyazaki City 880-0805

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Open: Tuesdays to Saturdays, 10:00 am to 7:00 pm Closed: Sundays, Mondays, National Holidays and December 29 to January 3



## Plaza Holiday Closing

The International Plaza will be closed from May 3<sup>rd</sup> (Tue) to May 5<sup>th</sup> (Thu) for the public holidays.

\*The MIF will also be closed on May 1<sup>st</sup> (Sun) and May 2<sup>nd</sup> (Mon)



## Online Japanese Language Course Beginner1 · 2 · 3 · Beginner to Intermediate

### \*Registration required

Learn some essential Japanese to help you be more active in your local community! Anyone who is living in Miyazaki Prefecture and able to use Zoom can take part.

#### <Beginner1>

- ◇**Date & Time:** May 6<sup>th</sup> (Fri) to Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup> (Wed)  
Every Wednesday and Friday 10:00 am - 12:00 pm  
An orientation session and 25 lessons
- ◇**Target:** Those learning Japanese for the first time
- ◇**Class Size:** 8 people ◇**Textbook fee :** ¥2,640

#### <Beginner2>

- ◇**Date & Time:** May 10<sup>th</sup> (Tue) to Aug. 4<sup>th</sup> (Thu)  
Every Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 am - 12:00 pm  
An orientation session and 25 lessons
- ◇**Target:** Those who can read Hiragana and Katakana
- ◇**Class Size:** 10people ◇**Textbook fee :** ¥2,640

#### <Beginner3>

- ◇**Date & Time:** May 9<sup>th</sup> (Mon) to Aug. 8<sup>th</sup> (Mon)  
Every Monday and Thursday 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm  
An orientation session and 25 lessons
- ◇**Target:** Those who can already read and write Hiragana and Katakana, and make simple conversation in Japanese
- ◇**Class Size:** 10people ◇**Textbook fee :** ¥2,640

#### <Beginner to Intermediate>

- ◇**Date & Time:** June 6<sup>th</sup> (Mon) to Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> (Mon)  
Every Monday 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm  
An orientation session and 15 lessons
- ◇**Target:** Those who has completed the Beginner Level 2 or 3 Courses held by the MIF, or anyone with JLPT N5 or the equivalent ability in Japanese
- ◇**Class Size:** 10people ◇**Textbook fee :** ¥2,420
- ◇**Application Deadline:** May 27<sup>th</sup> (Fri)



#### ★Course Fee: Free

\*Participants will need to buy their own textbook

★**Application:** <https://forms.gle/1hs3QmVh465cauS49>

★**Inquiries:** Miyazaki International Foundation

## Japanese Practice Sessions \*Free, No Registration required

- ◇**Dates & Times:** 10:30 am - 11:30 am  
[Wed] 5/11, 5/18, 5/25 \*No practice on 5/4  
[Fri] 5/6, 5/13, 5/20, 5/27
- ◇**Venue:** CARINO Miyazaki B1F
- ◇**Inquiries:** Miyazaki International Foundation



## Japanese Language Course Beginner1 · 2 \*Registration required

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

◇**Date & Time :** May 10<sup>th</sup> (Tue) to Aug. 2<sup>nd</sup> (Tue)

Every Tuesday and Thursday (25 sessions in total)

Level 1 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Level 2 10:10 am - 12:10 pm

◇**Venue:** 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

◇**Textbook fee :** ¥2,376

◇**Inquiries & Application:** Miyazaki International Foundation



## Introduction of Japanese language volunteers \*Registration required, Free

Foreigners or Japanese returnees in Miyazaki who wish to study Japanese language will be introduced to registered Japanese language volunteers upon request. Study location, hours, and contents will be decided by the learner and the tutor themselves.



◇**Inquiries & Application:** Miyazaki International Foundation

## Now recruiting volunteers for chat sessions in English, Chinese or Korean!

We are currently recruiting volunteers to help with our English, Chinese and Korean chat sessions. If you are interested in helping out, please get in touch!



◇**Dates & Times:**

<English> 10:30am-11:30am, Saturday mornings from June to August

<Chinese> 10:30am-11:30am, Saturday mornings in June and July

<Korean> 6:00pm-7:00pm, Thursday evenings in June and July

\*Please contact us for more information.

◇**Venue:** Carino Miyazaki B1F

\*English Chat sessions will be held online (using Zoom)

◇**Who can Volunteer:** Anyone who has no difficulty speaking English, Chinese or Korean. \*You don't have to be a native speaker to volunteer!

◇**Inquiries & Application:** Miyazaki International Foundation

## English Chat Sessions First Term

### \*Registration Required

Let's enjoy chatting in English with people from various countries. The course will be held online. Anyone who is living in Miyazaki Prefecture and able to use Zoom can take part.



#### <Beginner>

◇**Dates & Times:** 6/4, 6/18, 7/2, 7/16, 7/30, 8/27 Saturdays  
6 sessions in total 10:30 am - 11:30 am

◇**Venue:** Online (Zoom)

◇**Limit :** 10(If there are more applicants than spaces, we will give priority to patrons.)

◇**Target:** Those who have just started learning English

◇**Application Deadline:** May 19<sup>th</sup>(Thu)

#### <Intermediate&Advanced>

◇**Dates & Times:** 6/11, 6/25, 7/9, 7/23, 8/6, 8/20 Saturdays  
6 sessions in total 10:30 am - 11:30 am

◇**Location:** Online (Zoom)

◇**Limit :** 10(If there are more applicants than spaces, we will give priority to patrons.)

◇**Target:** Those who can make basic conversation in English

◇**Application Deadline:** May 26<sup>th</sup>(Thu)

★**Fee:** patrons and students 1,000yen (6 sessions)  
non-members 3,000yen (6 sessions)  
middle school students and under 500yen (6 sessions)

\*After the application deadline, we will send successful applicants a notice of acceptance and payment details by email. After receiving these, please either bring the tuition fee to the International Plaza in person, or pay by bank transfer.

★**To Apply:** Apply in person, by phone, or by e-mail and provide your name, address, contact number, and e-mail address.

★**Inquiries & Application:** Miyazaki International Foundation

## We are recruiting patrons!

### Annual membership fee

Individual:2,000yen Group:10,000yen



If you become our patron...

- You will receive "International Plaza News," our monthly newsletter
- You will receive "South Wind," our semiannual magazine
- You will be given priority registration for our lectures and workshops
- You will be given discounts for our lectures and workshops
- (Only available for Groups) Website will be linked to our homepage

◇**Inquiries :** Miyazaki International Foundation

## Talk with the CIRs ♪

### \*Free, Registration Required



How about having a chat in Japanese or another language with the Coordinators for International Relations from the Prefectural Government?

★A chat with Marsh from England (Japanese & English)

◇**Date & Time :** May 20<sup>th</sup> (Fri) 6:00pm - 7:00pm

◇**Venue:** CARINO Miyazaki B1 Miyazaki International Plaza

◇**Deadline:** May 17<sup>th</sup> (Tue)

\*We accept applications by phone, E-mail or in person.

\*Everyone is welcome to come along, but in order to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, we have to limit the number of participants to about 4 people. Priority will be given to those who have participated less frequently.

\*Please note that this chat may be subject to change or cancellation depending on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic.

◇**Inquiries & Application:** Miyazaki International Foundation

## Donations for Victims of the Humanitarian Crisis in the Ukraine

The Miyazaki International Foundation is currently collecting donations for the Japanese Red Cross appeal for aid for victims of the situation in the Ukraine.

◇**Date:** Until late May 2022 10:00 am to 5:30 pm  
(not available Sundays, Mondays or Public Holidays)

◇**Location:** CARINO Miyazaki B1

• Miyazaki International Plaza

• Miyazaki Support Center for Foreign Residents Counter

◇**Others:** If you would like to donate directly to the Red Cross, please see their website for further details.

<https://www.jrc.or.jp/contribute/help/ukraine/>



## Local Announcements

### <Nichinan>

### Nihongo benkyō kai \*Free

Enjoy a little light-hearted Japanese language study by practicing some daily conversation with the Coordinator for International Relations from Nichinan City Hall!

◇**Date & Time :** Available 7:00pm-8:30pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of every month, starting May 19<sup>th</sup>.

◇**Venue :** Sokyakusojin Center

◇**Fee:** Free to take part, no reservations required – just turn up!

◇**Inquiries & Application:**

General Affairs Section, Nichinan City Hall

TEL 0987-31-1113 FAX 0987-23-1853

Email [kokusaikouryu@city.nichinan.lg.jp](mailto:kokusaikouryu@city.nichinan.lg.jp)



## An Englishman in Miyazaki



### "Repaired by a Love of Broken Things ♪"



Miyazaki Prefecture CIR  
Graham Marsh

Hi everyone! I hope you're all keeping well. I know I've written here before about my (slightly guilty) passion for tinkering with and repairing things (the ジャンク品 section in my local second-hand store gets a lot of custom from me, and my workshop is well-documented as my safe space) and I know it's kind of outdated, with all the planned obsolescence and cries of "just buy a new one," that echo throughout modern society, but who hasn't heard a kid (quite possibly even their own inner child) say at some point; "I don't want a new one - I want *that* one back!"? It's at precisely those times when the idea of fixing things gains some popularity.

To that end, and just in case you literally do have a child nearby making exactly the above comment, did you know that Miyazaki has a toy hospital? It's a group of volunteers that repair broken toys for kids - the volunteers have an incredibly broad skillset between them, and they set up shop at various events and places around the prefecture. From ancient and treasured teddy bears to much more modern but equally treasured pet robots; if it's broken, they'll fix it up. They even teach classes to get kids interested in making and fixing things, too!

The real point of this rambling monologue though, dear readers, is that nothing is unrepairable - when people say that something can't be fixed, what they really mean is that they think it wouldn't be worth the time, money and effort that it would take to fix it. When someone has a strong sentimental attachment to something, however, it overrides the issue. That's one reason why you see people pour a lot of time and money into restoring old cars and that kind of thing. Not too long ago, someone asked me why I was bothering to overhaul an old record-playing jukebox when I could just listen to MP3s on shuffle through my phone. The answer was simple - because I like the jukebox! That's completely aside from that kind of primal satisfaction that comes as a bonus from fixing something, too. So, next time something you like breaks, and you don't want to use it as an opportunity to change it out for something different, have a think about repairing instead of replacing. It's a lot easier than you might think – if an idiot like me can do it, anyone can!