Give yourself a gift - Join Hyogo AJET!!!!!!
Meet more people, make more friends and do more stuff this year!

Is it worth it???
Perhaps you’re asking yourself, “Is it worth it?” You know, anyone can come to an AJET event. You don’t have to be a member. But, without any members we can not plan any events, nor can we offer the services that have been part of the Hyogo JET community for years. So, take a look at what we have to offer, and see if it is worth the money.

"What do I get???
First of all, you should have already joined National AJET. It’s free this year and although it is not a labor union, it is the only voice that JETs have when trying to implement general and universal changes to the JET Programme. Unfortunately, your humble, local chapter doesn’t wield such power in government offices. We can however, help you adjust to your new lifestyle in Japan by providing a variety of services and events to keep you sane and entertained.

Events
(ONLY HAJET members receive discounts to many of these events)
• Parties!!!!!
• Cultural Outings (temple tours/stays, festivals etc.)
• Pub Crawls and Beer Gardens
• Outdoor events (camping, skiing, hiking, BBQs, Mt. Fuji, onsens, cherry blossom viewing)
• Charity Fundraisers (Talent show, Tibetan JHS students)

Services
• HAJET Library - A postage paid library service with over 1000+ titles for members.
• Hyogo Times - A monthly newsletter created and edited by Hyogo JETs and distributed only to AJET members. Includes essays, recipes, humor, puzzles, important information, event listings etc.
• Sempai Support System - New JETs are paired with 2nd or 3rd year JETs living in their area. Sempai are there to help new JETs adjust and socialize.
• Hyogo Living Guide - A handy, free manual written by Hyogo JETs containing the secrets about and meaning of life for those living in Hyogo. Distributed to all first year JETs at Yashiro Orientation. Plus a NEW City guide and Tajima guide
• HAJET Web site - A convenient place to find information about HAJET events, post messages, and find out about all sorts of stuff that makes life in Japan easier. Check it out http://hyogoajet.org

For more information call Rachel Tenzythoff
Prefectural Rep at 06-6491-0309
or email pr@hyogoajet.org

Working Hard For You!
HAJET is pleased to offer a variety of events to meet the tastes of the many different people who make up the HAJET community. The volunteer committee is working hard to plan activities that you will enjoy. If you do not see something that interests you, JOIN ANYWAY, and contribute your ideas. Chances are there are other JETs who would be interested in doing the same things as you. Be the one to speak out. Be an active voice in Hyogo. By doing so, HAJET can continue evolving and offering programs that satisfy the ever-changing Hyogo JET community.

Something You Can Be Proud Of!
Programs that help new JETs adapt, charity fundraisers, cultural events, professional assistance, and parties contribute to the sense of community and purpose that sometimes can be lacking when one finds himself or herself in a foreign situation. Join today, and let’s enjoy a year filled with good times.

Join in Tokyo, at Yashiro, at any of our Events or online at http://hyogoajet.org

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>New Members</th>
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*In order to qualify, you and your partner must officially reside at the same address.
Hyogo AJET Presents...

The Annual Calendar of Events
2002 - 2003

August
Himeji Beer Garden, Himeji
Kobe Night Out, Kobe

September
Kobe Back to School Beer Garden, Kobe
Seppikosan Camping & Hiking,
Mount Seppiko Hyogo

October
Holiday Party / Charity Event, TBA

November
Ruriji Temple Stay, Nanko-cho Hyogo
Mid-year conference after hours bash / Charity Event, Kobe

December
Holiday party & Festive Caroling, Kobe

January
Kinnosaki Onsen Weekend, Kinnosaki Hyogo

February
Kannabe Ski Trip Weekend, Kanabe Hyogo

March
Mount Rokko climb & Arima Onsen, Mt. Rokko Hyogo

April
Hanami Cherry Blossom viewing PARTY at HIMEJI Castle Himeji

May
THE Hootinanie at Theatre Pochette, Kitano Kobe

June
Hamasaka BEACH party in HAMASAKA, Northern Hyogo
Climb Mount FUJI Adventure, Mount Fuji TBA

July
All Hyogo JETS & FRIENDS 'Sayonara' PARTY, Kobe

FYI: The exact dates have not been listed as they are subject to change.

For up-dated information on UP-COMING events please check out:
http://hyogoajet.org

Up-coming tentative events not yet listed are: Hanshin Tigers Baseball game, Festivals,
Piggy-back events with Wakayama & Nara, Boat cruise etc. JOIN US!
Atsui desu ne!!!!!!!

By Katia Therault

Yes it’s god damn hot! And if bathing in your sweat all day is not your thing, well I’m sure that just like me and hundreds others, you are feeling pretty miserable…especially if you don’t have air con at work nor your house! What’s the solution? How can you deal with this heat? Here are a few suggestions:

1. Find the closest public swimming pool or Aqua park. There is one in Miki (Hyogo-ken) called “Green Pia” (check www.green-pia.com/miki/new/index.htm, click “sport” and then “outdoor pool” in Japanese though). Miki’s Aqua Park is cheap (1000yen) and they have a parking. Or you might want to go to Shigaya Ocean Dome in Miyazaki in Kyushu (0985-21-1177).

P.S. Many schools have a swimming pool. If you ask a P.E. teacher, you might get a permission to use it when there is no swimming club training. Why not! But really, is there anyone using that pool in summer? I have used mine! Awwwsome!

2. Go to the beach (but before O’bon in August to avoid the invasion of jelly fish) The most famous one is called Suma beach near Kobe (JR Suma station) but it might be crowded in summer and not your idea of a beach experience…so you might want to go to the Japan sea coast up north towards Hamasaka (big nice beach and camping site) and Igumi (small but paradisiac). The northern part of Hyogo is cooler and less humid. It is also very green and beautiful in summer. If you like fish, it’s the best place to get tasty ones!

3. Go to the movies! Yes! They have aircon in movie theatres but it might not be full blast. It’s usually cooler than outside however. Have you seen “Star Wars: The attack of the Clones” yet? “The Scorpion King” or maybe you’d like to see “Spider man”? Indulge in chilly cola and buttery popcorn!

4. Hang out in department stores and Starbucks Not my favorite option but still efficient. That’s just if you have nothing else to do and nowhere else to go! Get one icy frappuccino! That should cool you down!

5. Travel to Hokkaido or Travel North…err… South?!?! The best time of the year to escape Hyogo. What about Hokkaido? It’s nice and cool in summer, nothing like central Japan! Or Why don’t you travel outside Japan up to Russia…or Siberia? Should be cooler…If that doesn’t appeal to you, there are New Zealand and Australia where it will be winter while summer in Japan.

6. Take a cruise! A day cruise, a 3 hour cruise, or a few day cruise! The air at sea is much cooler, you might want to take an afternoon cruise from Harbourland in Kobe. It is nice and pleasant. There are also trips from Kobe to Kyushu, please check in any traveling guide or at any tourist information office in Kobe. It’s a really nice experience and you’ll surely like it! It’s also a cheaper way to travel great distances than by Shinkansen.

7. Drink plenty! Drink chilly drinks. It is said that drinking hot drinks and bathing in onsens in summer "cools you down". Quite frankly I don’t know how that works because it never has worked for me. When it’s 44 degrees Celcius with 75% humidity outside, there’s nothing like drinking “ice” and throwing myself in a cold bath. Try it and tell me if it’s better than the onsen…

Anyway drinking enough cold water will cool you down but will also help prevent dehydration. Dehydration can cause fatigue and nausea…Always carry your emergency bottle!

Have a great summer!
Started teaching - need a drink (or two)???
Catch up with your new friends and talk about your first week on the job!
HAJET invites you to join us at the:

Back to School BEER GARDEN

When:
Saturday, September 7th, 2002
5:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Where:
The roof garden of the SOGO 'BEER RESORT' Kobe.

Event Outline & Information:
Catch up with your new friends and talk about your first week on the job!

All you can eat & drink [odds and ends]
Girlies 3,000 Yen  Boys 3,500 yen

Directions
Sogo Department Store is connected by a PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE to JR Sannomiya Station. If you are coming on your own, walk across the pedestrian bridge [which is accessible inside the station near the JR Sannomiya toll booths] to SOGO and take the elevator up to the top floor.

Optional Meeting place
Hagen Daas Ice Cream Store - Outside the EAST exit of Hankyu Sannomiya Station across from the park @ 5:00 p.m.

Contacts:
AJET Social Team
E-mail events@hyogoajet.org

The Personals

Grossly overweight Sumoto farmer, 42 years old and 23 stone, Gemini, seeks nimble sexpot, preferably American, for tango sessions, candlelit dinners and humid nights of screaming passion. Must have own car and be willing to travel. Box 09/08

Following a sad recent loss, teetotal Harima man, 33, seeks replacement mammy. Must like biscuits and answer to the name Minnie. Hemeji area. Box 08/73

Awaji man, 25, in desperate need of a ride. Anything considered. Box 06/03

Heavy drinker, 26, Kobe area, seeks gorgeous sex addict interested in pints, fags, Glasgow Celtic football club and starting scraps on Flower Road at three in the morning. Box 73/82.

Bitter, disillusioned Tanba man lately rejected by longtime fiancee seeks decent, honest, reliable woman, if such a thing still exists in this cruel world of hatchet-faced bitches. Box 53/41

Ginger-haired Tajima trouble-maker, gets shirty after a few scoops, seeks attractive, wealthy lady for bail purposes, maybe more. Box 84/87

Artistic Ono woman, 26, petite, loves rainy walks on the beach, writing poetry, unusual sea-shells and interesting brown rice dishes, seeks mystic dreamer for companionship, back rubs and more as we bounce along like little tumbling clouds on life's beautiful crazy journey. Strong stomach essential. Box 12/32

Bad-tempered, foul-mouthed old bastard living in a damp house in the arse end of Miki seeks attractive 21 year old blonde lady with big chest. Box 40/27

Attractive brunette, Kaibara area, winner of Miss Wrangler competition at Jolenes Nightclub, Kaibara, in September 1998, seeks nostalgic man who's not afraid to cry for long nights spent comfort drinking and listening to old Abba records. Please, Please! Box 30/41

Sanda man, 27, medium build, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks alibi for the night of February 27 between 8pm and 11.30pm. Box 36/41
Good luck trying to find your way around as, apart from the main roads, there are no street signs. So, an example of directions might be go straight along route 29 for 10 minutes. Keep going passed the two Lawson’s and the ramen shop. Turn left at the first lot of porn vending machines. Then, make a left at the third rice paddy (watch out for the snakes!). When you get to the big blue sign, turn right and go up the tiny road for another 200 meters. My house is at the end of that road.

You can expect to become a master at chopsticks and very slow English. Polysyllabic words are dame! Your own English ability will decline rapidly.

So, make lots of friends, do lots of activities and enjoy all that Japan has to offer. It'll change you forever.

Nara 'BASARA MATSURI 2002'
It's almost here!!!

The fourth Annual 'BASARA MATSURI' will take place in Nara on the 24th and 25th of August. This Dance Festival sees 30 different teams in various costumes dance down the main street in Nara before one by one putting on a show on stage. For the last two years in a row the Mochido International Team, (a bunch of us JETs) has taken away a prize. Many of the JETs who participated last year have shown interest in joining in again, and after watching, but not participating last year, I personally won’t be missing the opportunity this year!

For more information, or to sign up for the international team contact jason_pickens@hotmail.com or go to http://www.geocities.com/unclejayau/basara/basara.html (This is the first web site I have made so it is a little slow and will take about 60 seconds to load. Please be patient, it is worth it!)

Contact Jason at the Nara Prefectural Government International Affairs Division
Tel 0742 (22) 1101 ext. 2156 or Fax 0742 (23) 0620.
Hyogo Sets Up Tourist Information Desk

The Hyogo Prefectural Government has established the Hyogo Tourist Information Desk (TID) in an effort to welcome increased numbers of tourists, including those from foreign countries. Set up in the Hyogo Prefectural Industrial Hall in Chuo Ward, Kobe City, TID is designed to send out comprehensive information on tourism in the prefecture, and offers information to tourist agents and the media in foreign countries.

TID will give such information in English, Korean, and Japanese and respond to telephone, facsimile and E-mail inquiries. It will also send out tourist information on Hyogo Prefecture on the Internet, collect the latest tourist information, and develop resources and routes for international tourists.

TID can be reached at Tel. 078-367-4325. Fax 078-361-8087 or at its E-mail info@hyogo-tourism.jp

Thanks to Prefectural Advisor Mark Wuebbels
Safe Travel Tid Bits for your adventures abroad

Need ideas for places to get vaccinations before travelling in Asia this summer?
The International Medicine Division of Kaisei Hospital in Nada-ku (Hankyu Rokko Station) (078-871-5201; fax 52069) offers travelers vaccinations for tetanus, hepatitis, cholera, encephalitis and rabies. Their hours are 09:00 - 11:30 Mon. - Sat.

The AMDA International Medical Information Center (06-6636-2333) is very helpful in referring callers to the nearest clinic (English OK).

Near Tokyu Hands in Sannomiya, the 'Okishio Iin' does inoculations for travelers, 09:00 - 13:00 Mon. - Sat., and 16:00 - 18:00 Mon., Tue. and Fri. Call for an appointment (078-331-0980).

In Osaka, near Miyakojima subway station (Midosuji Line), the Osaka Municipal Hospital (Shiritsu Sogo Iryo Center; 06-6929-3631) has a variety of inoculations on hand. There are three appointments times available Mon. - Fri. 13:30, 14:30 and 15:30.

If you are heading out to the wild areas of the world, where disease and impure water threaten, always request information from your travel agent and the country's consulate, if possible.

In Kobe, check out the travel goods section of
• L.L. Bean (078-393-0322),
• Tokyu Hands (078-321-6161) or the new
• Loft in Sogo Department Store in Sannomiya (078-272-6210).

In Osaka, try
• Loft (06-6359-0111),
• HEP Hankyu’s outdoors/camping stores or Gare in JR Osaka Station (underground shopping area - follow the signs)

Special thanks to the Kansai Time Out Magazine (ktoedit@kto.co.jp)

Travel Precautions

• When travelling, take only the valuables in your wallet or purse you will need.
• Make copies of all important documents and numbers. Write down both the lost credit card contact phone numbers and the bank group phone number (Visa, Master Card) before leaving on a trip.
• Make copies of your passport photos. Keep all these copies in a suitcase or carry-on bag away from the real items.
• Consider registering all your credit cards. Contact the issuing institution to see if they offer this service or one they can recommend. If your cards are stolen they can be cancelled by simply making one phone call.
• Never pack valuables in a suitcase, which will be checked onto a plane. Suitcase locks are easily broken and airline liability for baggage content on international flights is practically nothing.
• Never leave valuables in an unattended car. Thieves target rental cars knowing the likelihood of valuables inside is higher than other cars.
• Don't carry valuables in a daypack. If valuables are placed in a daypack, always wear the daypack on your chest. It's far easier for a thief to take something from a pocket you can't see than from on you can see. For the same reason never carry your wallet in your hip pocket.
• Don't keep money, traveler's checks and credit cards all in the same pocket. Also create an emergency stash in case something happens (shoes are good!)
• If your passport is stolen, immediately contact your country's nearest embassy. You can save yourself many headaches replacing your passport if you have a photocopy of your passport's first two pages.

Special thanks to Jeffrey Strain from the Kansai Time Out magazine (ktoedit@kto.co.jp)
Computing in Japan - where do I start?????

Internet and ADSL Providers - some with English support in Japan

Dial up Internet Service Providers
There are many dial up ISP (Internet Service Providers) in Japan, some with English support. If you can get someone to help you fill in the online forms in Japanese, try using a Japanese internet provider e.g. Nifty. These companies often have a larger access area. Ask your computer guru for their advice. Generally Internet service charges are 2000 yen a month plus phone charges. These are approx 10 yen per every 4 minutes. Make sure you connect with a provider that can supply a local access number to minimise your costs. Also find out if your phone line provider can offer you any discount rates e.g. an evening rate etc.

ADSL
If your Internet usage is sending your phone bill through the roof you may want to consider getting ADSL. ADSL is a broadband service. It is faster than using a dial up modem, you can receive telephone calls when you are online and the cost is a fixed charge (approx 3200-4900 Yen per month). ISP’s usually charge a one-off set up fee – contact your ISP for their details.

All you need is an analogue telephone line and a computer with an ethernet port. You can choose from a range of Internet service providers. E.g. Yahoo BB, Nifty etc. Few companies have English support – so make friends with your computer guru at school. You can apply for ADSL online, so having someone fluent in Japanese who understands computing really helps!

The first thing to do is to find out the name of the phone line account holder if you have not set up the phone line yourself. Your school should be able to help here. Then NTT will do some checks to see if your phone line is suitable. The process does take some time - 10 to 30+ days. If all is well, you should be sent an ADSL modem and a ‘splitter’ - a device that plugs into it. You plug your computer into one socket and your phone into the other. If you have a Japanese OS computer you can install the driver software provided or if you have an English OS computer – changing your TCP/IP settings should work. Make sure you check this out first with your chosen ADSL provider before you order their service. There seem to be no problems with English OS computers Windows and Macs with Yahoo BB. Then it is plug in, register and play!

These links are on our website
http://hyogoajet.org

ISPs in Japan - Information on internet service providers in Japan which provide English language support.

ISP FAQ - List of Internet Service Providers throughout Japan.

Information about ADSL Service Providers in Japan eAccess Japan

Also more information about buying English OS Computers in Japan, (Windows and Macs).

Need books?

Too expensive? Hard to find?

Members of HYOGO AJET can borrow books for FREE.
Choose from over 1000 titles at: http://hyogoajet.org

Then, simply e-mail the librarian at: librarian@hyogoajet.org
(Or contact Katie by phone at 078-597-2566 or mail at 12-1-139 4-chome Kimikage-cho, Kita-ku Kobe-shi, Hyogo 651-1122.)

The books will appear at your door with the return postage already paid.
Alternately, if you are interested in donating books, please contact Katie at the above address.

This service provided to you by HYOGO AJET.
All 4 Charity...

- Want to do your bit for charity?
- Have an idea for a charity event?
- Do you want local events to support a cause important to you?
- Interested in volunteer work in Japan or overseas?
- Then Hyogo AJET can help!

Whether you are interested in: nominating a good cause for Hyogo Ajet charity events to support, making oni-giri for the homeless, doing a presentation on your home country for the ‘Angel’ charity, taking part in a Habitat for Humanity International project or spending time in Vietnam with the Children’s Foundation, get in touch with the Hyogo Ajet Charity Co-Ordinator for more information:

Contact: Sophie James
Email: hajet_charity@hotmail.com
Tel: 0799-42-5823
WANTED. . .

Who?: Looking for 15 fearless adventurers to join a Habitat for Humanity team bound for THAILAND.

Where?: Chiang Mai, Northern Thailand

When?: Approx. December 21st-January 5th
Eight or nine days building and then some rest and relaxation on one of the islands down South.

Why?: Because an estimated 1.5 billion people live in inadequate housing and the richest 258 people’s estates equate to the annual income of the world’s poorest 2.2 billion.

About Me: I first got involved with HFH in high school when I took a trip to Nogales, Mexico. That experience enlightened me to the fact that housing should be a basic human right not a privilege. Two years later, I decided to join a local HFH group in Oakland, California on occasional Saturdays while I was going to college. I went with my architecture friends. It was always a rewarding experience. I am not by any means an experienced builder. I was a science major. The reason I chose Thailand is because I have witnessed firsthand the degree of poverty. I was teaching English in a school north of Bangkok last year. Also, I have seen the depth families will go in order to provide the basic necessities (sending their daughters to Bangkok or Pattaya to enter the sex industry because it is their only means of survival). I am excited to lead a team to Thailand and the only ingredient missing is YOU!

Please do not hesitate to contact me:
Andrea Garland (Sumoto-Shi, Awa-jima, Hyogo-Ken)
Phone: 0799-22-3991
E-mail: andreasensei13@yahoo.com

FOR SALE: 1992 Subaru Vivio, Kei-car(yellow plate), 35,000km, manual 5-speed, stereo, aircon. Owned for two years, bought off a teacher. SHAKEN until 7/03. Cheap and reliable. 100,000yen ono. Please contact Olivia, zlivz@hotmail.com

NEW this month!

The “SLAM POETRY” poetry group last struck on the 30th of June, at ARCADIA (see the map in Kansai Scene).

The group’s new managing director is Charles Billard, and it still provides a great occasion to come and listen, see, perform and/or experience works by local and not so local talents!

For the show on the 30th of June, budding poets were asked to bring along four of their most stunning and/or entertaining poems (not exceeding three minutes). The poems could be in any language, with the audience as the judge.

If you want to participate in the next event, please contact Charles for details on 090-9889-9523.
# HAJET Committee 2002-2003

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<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Contact Number(s)</th>
<th>Group &amp; Personal Email</th>
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<td>All Committee</td>
<td>Dependant on each event.</td>
<td>Check <a href="http://hyogoajet.org">http://hyogoajet.org</a></td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Other Important Contacts**

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<thead>
<tr>
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**For more updated information check out: http://hyogoajet.org**

The Hyogo Times, contains original essays written by Hyogo JETs, teaching ideas, travel pieces and advertisements for events happening in and around Hyogo. In the near future we hope to publish the Hyogo times as pdf files and archive them on our website.

**Hyogo Times Submissions**

The closing date for submissions is the 3rd Friday of each month. Submissions can be e-mailed in plain text format to times@hyogoajet.org