



# MIA news

Miyakonojo International Association

Miyakonojo International Association  
6-21 Himegi-cho, Miyakonojo-shi,  
Miyazaki-ken, Japan 885-8555  
TEL 0986-23-2295 FAX 0986-23-3223  
http://miyakonojo-mia.com  
E-mail mia@btvm.ne.jp

## MIA Information

### ◇Cooking Adventure – Aussie Style!

Miyakonojo's Australian CIR, George Goonan, will take you on a culinary expedition through Australian cuisine. We look forward to seeing you there! Please note that this session is in Japanese only.

**Date:** October 5<sup>th</sup> (Sat), 10:00AM-1:00PM

**Location:** – Miyakonojo Community Center

**Fee:** MIA members – 800 yen

Non-members – 1100 yen

Please bring an *apron* and a *pen or pencil*.

Participation is limited to the first 20 people who sign up and priority is given to MIA members.

**Planned menu:** Traditional Home-Style Meat Pies.

### ◇World Festa in Miyakonojo

MIA is looking for organizations, individuals, and volunteers living in Miyakonojo or Mimata to participate in the 11<sup>th</sup> annual World Festa in Miyakonojo.

●**Date:** Sun, 19<sup>th</sup> January 2020

●**Time:** 12:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

●**Venue:** MJ Hall (Booths will be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)

●**Event content:** The World Festa's purpose is to promote international exchange, international cooperation and multiculturalism through interaction with foreigners.

●**Recruiting:** MIA is looking for help with the following:

1) *Country booths* (foreigners manage a booth about their country and organize interactive activities)

2) *Organizations' international display* (panel displays of international activities)

3) *Individual or group stage performers* (dance, band, singing, skit, etc. Performances are 3-10 mins)

●**Note:** The size of each booth varies by how many booths participate. Set-up and practice will occur the day before (18<sup>th</sup> Jan) and the morning of the Festa (19<sup>th</sup> Jan). Clean-up happens immediately following the end of the event at 5:00 P.M. There is a limited budget for booth costs to be covered by MIA.

●**Applications / Inquiries:** Applications are required and it is possible to do both a booth and stage performance. Please send your name, your group's name (if applicable), what you are interested in, and any questions to mia@btvm.ne.jp

●**Application deadline:** Fri, 15<sup>th</sup> November

### ◇Community Safety Workshop and Discussion for Foreign Residents

●**When?**

Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2019  
10:00 A.M. - 13:00 P.M.

●**Where?**

Miyakonojo Chuo Community Center (*kouminkan*)  
(Address: Himegicho 7-8)

●**What is it?**

Study: Learn about life in Miyakonojo.

Discussion: Talk with various people living in Miyakonojo.

Lunch: Eat emergency rations (food for natural disasters).

●**Who?**

Foreigners living in Miyakonojo and their families. Children are welcome, but please note that there are no childcare facilities.

●**How much?**

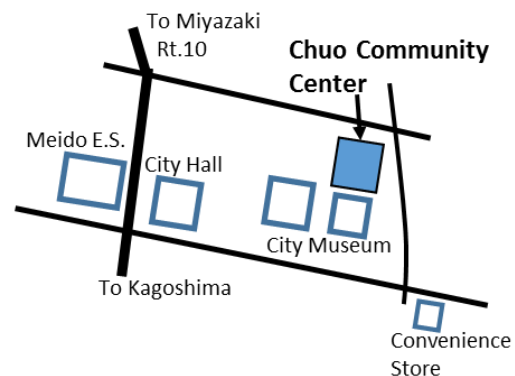
It's free!

●**Application**

Please telephone or email MIA using the details below. We speak Japanese, English, and Chinese.

TEL 0986-23-2295

E-mail mia@btvm.ne.jp



## 2019 World Beer and Trivia Night

The World Beer and Trivia Night is back once more! We'll be introducing beers from around the world, whilst testing your knowledge of all things local & global as teams of 6 go head-to-head in our trivia night.

- **Date:** Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>
- **Time:** 18:30–21:00 (Doors open at 18:00 and we start promptly at 18:30 so don't be late!)
- **Location:** Main Hotel 5F (8-9 Kanmachi)
- **Restrictions:** Please note this is an adult event as alcoholic beverages will be served, so registration is limited to those 20 years and older.

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- **Participation Fee:** Members—2800 yen  
Non-members—3300 yen  
(Includes light snacks and coupons for 3 bottles of beer.)
- **You must buy tickets in advance by applying in person.** Priority is given to those who buy tickets first. Tickets are not available on the day of the event.
- **Capacity:** Limited to the first 66 people who sign up (11 groups of six people). You may apply individually or as a team. Partial teams will be joined with other individuals.
- **Inquiries / Tickets:** Contact MIA by phone or email.



## A Trip Throughout Japan *Jeanette & Patrick Goonan (Parents of Miyakonojo CIR)*

George, Miyakonojo's English-speaking CIR, had his parents visit the Miyakonojo area for a period of 3 weeks during May, which was followed by 2 weeks of joining a tour group going around other parts of Japan. The following are their thoughts on their visit.



### How was your stay in Miyakonojo?

Had a great time in Miyakonojo, found the locals to be very friendly, and even managed interaction with many folk despite the language barrier. Staff at stores and restaurants were very patient.

### How was your stay in Japan overall?

Preferred the country cities to the major cities, although there are the must see places in Tokyo etc., being country people we prefer less crowded venues, slower pace, natural views.

### What recommendations do you have after your visit?

Be prepared for the absence of English in many areas. Try to learn some basic Japanese phrases. Have a mobile Wi-Fi system so you can use your phone for communication and location. Guided tours are great but you can't see everything, so plan a return trip. Take every opportunity to immerse yourself in the community.

### What was your most memorable moment?

Can't really think of a particular most memorable, but some stand out were:

- Planting rice with the school children.
- Watching the eruption on Sakurajima from Kagoshima.
- Walking and driving through the countryside in Miyakonojo.
- Dinner at the Okonomiyaki restaurant (Okonomiyaki Ikki, Miyakonojo).
- Meeting George's work colleagues.
- Mt. Fuji.
- Shirakawa-go village.

### What would you do more/less of?

Think we had a really good balance, we did see a lot of temples, but each had its own merit. More interaction with people in smaller groups rather than with large tour group.



### Any advice you would give potential travelers?

- Always arrange airport transfers especially when you fly in at night.
- Double check accommodation and flight details, eg. When arriving at Tokyo, which airport are you arriving at?
- Be prepared for seasonal changes.
- Public transport is exceptional, but so too is the number of patrons.
- If you hire a car, be prepared to struggle finding parking.

### Anything else you wish to add/any parting words?

We'll be back!



### Movies info

C-Plaza Cine-port (Tel: 0986-24-2571)  
17-9 Nakamachi, Miyakonojo, Miyazaki Map-Code (GPS): 117 488 540\*55



- *One Piece: Stampede* (Japanese)
- *Fast and Furious Presents: Hobbs and Shaw* (Japanese Dub)
- *Diner* (Japanese)
- *Aladdin* (Japanese Dub)
- *The Secret Life of Pets 2* (Japanese Dub)
- *Toy Story 4* (Japanese Dub)

- *The Lion King* (Japanese Dub)

\*The 1st of every month is ¥1,100 for everyone.

\*Every Wednesday is 'Ladies' Day', all ladies ¥1,100.

\*The cinema is closed every Tuesday.

\*For session times visit: <http://movie.walkerplus.com/th286/schedule.html> (Japanese)