

# GIFU BULLETIN

Vol. II | No. 3

Featuring News, Events, and Updates from Around the Geefs

January-February 2015



## News – The JET Programme Video Contest

CLAIR has been and is currently holding a video contest aimed at current and former JETs with the theme “Japan’s Local Communities as Experienced by JET Participants”.

The deadline for submissions is the 10th of March with voting currently ongoing up until the end of next month.

All current and former JET participants are eligible. If you don’t feel your cinematographic skills are up to chops then you are currently able to view and vote for your favourite entries at the following link:

[https://jetvideocontest.com/system/international/pc/?contest\\_pk=2](https://jetvideocontest.com/system/international/pc/?contest_pk=2)

Get your cameras ready.

## Getting Your Driver’s License Converted

For all JETs in possession of an International Driver’s Permit for driving here in Japan, it is important to remember that it is only valid for one year after issuance. Following this it is necessary for you to convert to a Japanese driver’s license if you wish to continue driving in Japan.

All JETs are required to take a driving theory test in order to convert their license but US and South African JETs must also undergo a practical driving test which is held at an examination centre in Mitahora, Gifu City.

There is nothing I could say better than this former Gifu JET ALT so if you want all the info you could shake a *sakura* and have a look at this handy dandy link:

<https://www.ocf.berkeley.edu/~jscott/gifuinfo/jdl.html>

## Upcoming Events

Now **until May 31<sup>st</sup>**

*[Exhibition of Pictures the castles of Gifu](#)*

@ Gujo Hachiman Castle

Now **until April 3<sup>rd</sup>**

*[Mino City Hina Matsuri](#)*

(See the dolls, have a chance to wear kimono, Stamp rally)

Now **until April 3<sup>rd</sup>**

*[Gujo Hachiman Hina Matsuri](#)*

(About 3,000 dolls) @ [Gujo Hachiman Hakurankan](#)

**March 6<sup>th</sup>**

*[Ji-kabuki](#)*

@ Higashimino Fureai Center  
Kabuki Hall, Nakatsugawa  
Arrive by 9:30

\*Booking Required at Least  
Three Days in Advance\*  
(English Translations  
Provided)

## Teaching Tip

If you haven’t been drawing up lesson plans of late get back to sketching out a couple over the end of year vacation. I always find them enlightening when compared critically with what I have achieved in class. Is your lesson plan realistic? Is there something you could be doing more of in class? Am I optimising my English use? Even a short time spent critically reflecting can do wonders for your teaching.

## Gifu Prefectural BOE Spotlight: "A once in a lifetime encounter"

He was very shy and afraid of speaking in front of other people. Naturally that meant that he tried to speak English as little as possible and avoided speaking English even when chances to do so presented themselves to him. Whenever his name was called in class, his face would become as red as an apple. He always looked for the chances to run away from opportunities to speak English.

( Enter Life Changing Event )

He later became an English teacher and taught his students how wonderful it is to meet people from all over the world. He shared stories of his amazing experiences abroad and encouraged his students to go out into the world to explore different cultures and see Japan from a different perspective.

Now, I have two questions:

Q1 Who is he?

A1 "It's me, Hiroki Hayano, your JPA."

Q2 What do you think was the life changing event?

A2. "As a University student he was lucky enough to meet an American man named Mark. Mark's Japanese was not so good then, but he taught young Mr. Hayano how wonderful it feels to communicate with other people. Mr. Hayano gradually opened his heart and his mind to communicating with people that he didn't know very well, and he worked up the courage to travel to the USA by himself. There he had many more great experiences communicating with people in English."

A single encounter may seem fleeting, but even a single encounter can greatly influence the life of another. Gifu JETs, thank you for coming to Gifu. And thank you for sharing your cultures with your students and the people you work with every day. It may be difficult to see right now, but through these precious encounters you are impacting the lives of others every day. Please keep this in mind and maybe one day someone will be writing about how you changed their life.

Hiroki Hayano

Teacher Consultant | Japanese Prefectural Advisor

Gifu Prefectural Board of Education

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*A once in a lifetime encounter*



### What did you think?

Is there something you want to see in the next bulletin?

Do you have any pictures or announcements you would like us to share?

Let us know what you think of the bulletin and what you would like to see in future issues by emailing us at [gifupas@gmail.com](mailto:gifupas@gmail.com)

### Japanese Phrase of the Month

Kiite gokuraku mite jigoku

聞いて 極楽 見て 地獄

Hearing heaven, seeing hell.

(Imagination goes a long way)