

JRC News

Newsletter of the Japan Research Centre, SOAS

No. 47

April 2002

**Japan Research Centre
SEMINARS
Wednesdays at 5pm**

1 May
Room G50

**Professor Glen Hook
(Sheffield University)**

Japan in East Asian Regionalisms

8 May
Room G3

**Professor Akio Kobayashi
(Sophia University/Sainsbury Institute)**

**The gloom of a novelist in modern Japan:
Natsume Sôseki and English literature**

From the Chair of the Japan Research Centre

Greetings from Chicago, where I am teaching for three months. Winter turned to summer here in the space of just three days, giving me a new perspective on the Japanese insistence with seasonality. Being absent from London, I could not welcome the newly arrived JRC visitors (the list of guest academics is given at the back of this Newsletter), but on behalf of the Centre I would like to wish them a fruitful and enjoyable time at SOAS, the same, of course to all returning staff and students.

The JRC programme is somewhat reduced, as always, in the summer term. There are only two talks this time. Members are reminded, however, that the lecture series of the Japan Society is open to all, free of charge, and a list is also included below.

Belated congratulations are owing to Professor Chris Howe on his election as a Fellow of the British Academy.

Finally, this is my last term as Chair of the Centre. From the end of the long vacation we will require a replacement, and anyone who would like to be considered is welcome to put themselves forward. I will also canvas informally for names. According to our new constitution, if no chair can be found then the Centre becomes defunct – which of course is to be avoided at all costs.

Timon Screech

Seminar Speakers

Glenn D Hook is Professor of Japanese Studies and Director of the Graduate School of East Asian Studies, the University of Sheffield. His publications include *Militarization and Demilitarization in Contemporary Japan* (1996 Routledge), *Japan's Contested Constitution. Documents and Analysis* (2001 Routledge, co-author), *Japan's International Relations: Politics, Economics, and Security* (2001 Routledge, co-author) and *The Political Economy of Japanese Globalization* (2001 Routledge, co-editor).

Akio Kobayashi, PhD, is Professor of English Literature at Sophia University, Tokyo. From April 2002 until March 2003 he is at the Sainsbury Institute, and will be based in Norwich. His main interests are 18th century English literature and British culture. His publications include *The Coffee House in Britain* (1984), *Chapbooks in 18th century England* (1987) and *Scotland in the Stuart and Hanoverian Periods* (2000).

New Japan oriented degree

The Centre for Financial and Management Studies at SOAS is starting a new degree this September, an MSc in International Management for Japan. The degree will be taught with an option to study an advanced module in Japanese language for business reading and students will take at least one course at the Clore Management Centre, Birkbeck College.

Japan Society Lectures

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| Tuesday, 7 May | Professor Arthur Stockwin (Nissan Institute, University of Oxford)
Issues of democracy, and attempts to reshape Japanese politics |
| Monday, 10 June | Christopher Purvis (Japan 2001)
Japan 2001 in retrospect |

The above lectures take place at 6.30 in the Oriental Club, Stratford Place, just off Oxford Street, almost directly opposite Bond Street station (Club rules require gentlemen to wear jacket and tie). The JRC is a Corporate Member of the Japan Society, but in any case lectures are open to the public.

-
- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Monday 20 May | Professor Nick Oliver (The Judge Institute, Cambridge University)
Radical change or business as usual? Japanese business systems - the case of the auto industry |
|---------------|---|

This lecture will take place at the City of London Club at 12.00 for 12.30; there is a charge of £27 for the accompanying lunch. The Business Group is open to members of the Japan Society (which includes all members of the JRC), but anyone wishing to attend should confirm by email to: events@japansociety.org.uk or telephone 020 7828 6330.

Webpage: www.japansociety.org.uk

Nissan Institute Seminars
5.00pm, Fridays
Lecture Theatre, Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies,
27 Winchester Road, Oxford

- 26 April Dr Ayumi Takenaka, Dr Mark Rebick, Dr Roger Goodman (Nissan Institute and St Antony's College)
 Symposium: Developments in the Japanese economy and society in the early 21st century
- 3 May Dr Tetsuo Ogawa (St Antony's College)
 The Japanese approach to long-term care for older people
- 10 May Professor Charles Fenwick (College of New Jersey and St Antony's College)
 Toward the construction of a general opportunity structure theory of criminality and crime: comparisons East and West
- 17 May Professor Rikki Kersten (Universiteit Leiden and St Antony's College)
 Embracing August 1945: Yoshimoto Takaaki's philosophy for transwar Japan

Enquiries to: Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies, Oxford University, telephone 01865 274570, fax 01865 27457, email: jane.baker@nissan.ox.ac.uk

Scramble: The Latest Japanese Video Works
Monday 27 May, 6.30pm
Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre

This one-night art event showcases the latest video works by young, cutting-edge Japanese artists including Saki Satom, Yasu Ichige, Mika Funaki and Masato Wakabayashi. The UK Premier of a documentation on Iepe Rubingh's subverting and controversial 'Joker' performance in Tokyo will be screened. The event will conclude with a discussion hosted by the curators Hana Sakuma and Ken Kondo.

Conferences

The Linguistic Society of Korea International Summer Conference 2002 will be held at Kyung Hee University, Seoul, Korea, **5-7 August**. Details are on the web at:
<http://web.kyunghee.ac.kr/~lsk2002/>

The Linguistic and Phonetics Conference 2002 will be held at Meikai University, Urayasu, Chiba, Japan, **2-6 September**. Details are on the web at:
<http://www.adn.nu/~ad31175/lp2002/lp2002main.htm>

JRC Academic Visitors

Dr Yorimitsu Hashimoto, Yokohama National University

September 2002 to August 2003

Dr Yoshio Ise, Osaka University

March 2002 to January 2003

Dr Akira Kamiyama, Meiji University

April 2002 to March 2003

Dr Tokujirô Kubo, Doshisha University

March 2001 to March 2003

Professor Paul McCarthy, Surugadai University

July to September 2002

Dr Mugiko Nishikawa, Konan University

September 2001 to August 2002

Dr Mariko Sakurai, Chiba Keizai College

April 2001 to March 2003

Professor Yuriko Takahashi, Sophia University

April 2000 to March 2003

Mr Daisuke Tsuji, Kansai University

April 2002 to March 2003

Dr Fukiko Yoshi, Tottori University

August 2002 to July 2003

JRC Members

Research and travel

Dr John Breen, East Asia Department, gave the following papers

‘Yasukuni: Soto kara no kanten’ (Perspectives on Yasukuni from the outside) to the Osaka

Kokusai shukyo doshi kai (International Religious Alliance of Osaka), 12 October;

‘Gojokyo omedeto gozaimasu: Iemochi shogun no Bunkyu 3 nen joraku’ (Welcome to Kyoto:

Iemochi shogun’s progress to the imperial capital in 1863) to the Meiji ishin shi gakkai

(Society for the Academic Study of the Meiji Restoration), Osaka, 16 November;

‘Meiji tenno to Oshu koshitachi – Isakura shisetsudan no zenshi’ (The Meiji emperor and foreign

diplomats: the pre-history of the Iwakura Embassy) to the Iwakura shisetsudan

130shunen kinen gakkai (Conference to Commemorate the 130th Anniversary of the

Iwakura Embassy), Tokyo, 23 November;

‘Yasukuni o torimaku hitobito: “mondai” izen no Yasukuni jinja’ (The people in Yasukuni:

Yasukuni before the problem), at Ashikabi kai, Tokyo, 22 December 2001.

Professor Christopher Howe, Economics Department and CeFiMS, visited Tokyo, Kyoto and Osaka for research and preparation of the new MSc in International Management for Japan which starts in September. In Kyoto he was a guest of the Economics Department at the university. In Osaka he met the Secretary-General and Staff of the Kansai Dôyûkai with whom an open Kansai Forum in 2003 is being organised.

Dr Hiroto Hoshi, East Asia Department, gave a seminar Theta Marking and Phrase Structure Building in Japanese, at Tôhoku Gakuin University, Sendai, 14 September.

Dr Hoshi will join the University of the Basque Country as visiting professor from April for one to two years.

Dr Barbara Pizziconi, East Asia Department, delivered a paper at the Second Conference on Japanese Linguistics and Language Teaching, Naples, Italy, 20-22 March 2002.

Dr Timon Screech, Art and Archaeology Department and Sainsbury Institute, delivered a special lecture at the Conde-Ducque Art Centre, Madrid, February; lectured on the Nikko Mausoleum at Harvard University, USA, February; and is teaching at the University of Chicago, USA, 24 March–30 June.

Publications

John Breen, 'Yasukuni: sotokara no kanten', *Izumi*, 1 and 2, 2002.

Alan Cummings, 'The Golden Pavilion', in James R Brandon, Samuel L Leiter (eds), *Kabuki Plays on Stage*, vol. 1: *Brilliance and Bravado, 1697-1766*, University of Hawaii Press, 2002.

— 'The Temple Gate and the Paulownia Crest', in James R Brandon, Samuel L Leiter (eds), *Kabuki Plays on Stage*, vol. 2: *Villainy and Vengeance: 1770-1800*, University of Hawaii Press, 2002.

— 'The Revenge at Tengajaya', in James R Brandon, Samuel L Leiter (eds.), *Kabuki Plays on Stage*, vol. 2: *Villainy and Vengeance: 1770-1800*, University of Hawaii Press, 2002.

Hiroto Hoshi, 'Theta Theory and Word Formation in Syntax', Nagoya University Kakenhi Kenkyûjo, 2002.

— 'Theta Marking and Phrase Structure Building in Japanese', Department of Linguistics, SOAS, University of London, 2002.

Timon Screech, republication of *The Western Scientific Gaze and Popular Imagery in Later Edo Japan* (Cambridge University Press, 1998) in a second edition by Routledge-Curzon, under the new title, *The Lens Within the Heart: The Western Scientific Gaze and Popular Imagery in Later Edo Japan*, 2002.

— Polish translation of *Sex and the Floating World*, Reakcion Books, 1999, as *Erotyczne obrazy japonskie, 1700-1820*, Universitas, Cracow, 2002.

Contributions to JRC News

Voluntary contributions towards the cost of mailing the JRC News are very welcome.

We suggest the following guidelines:

Corporate subscribers: £50 Individuals: £10 Students/Concessions: Free

Please make your cheque payable to SOAS and send to the Japan Research Centre.

Subscriptions are for one year.

We would like to thank readers who have already sent in contributions.

JRC News - mailing list update

To assist us in keeping the JRC mailing lists (postal and electronic) up-to-date, please send any changes by completing the slip below or email details to <bl1@soas.ac.uk>

- I wish to de-subscribe from the postal mailing list and be included on the email list
- Include my new address on the postal mailing list
- I wish to be included on the email list

NAME

ADDRESS

.....

.....

.....

EMAIL ADDRESS

.....

Japan Research Centre

School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS)

University of London

Thornhaugh Street

Russell Square

London WC1H 0XG

Telephone 020 7898 4892

Email bl1@soas.ac.uk

Fax 020 7898 4489

www.soas.ac.uk/Centres/Japan/

Chair Dr Timon Screech (ts8@soas.ac.uk)