

# MOVIE

TOHO CINEMAS Niihama (AEON Mall)

November 9 ~	Bohemian Rhapsody	English
February 8 ~	First Man	English
March 1 ~	Green Book	English
March 8 ~	Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse	English
March 8 ~	The Mule	English
March 15 ~	Captain Marvel	English
March 22 ~	Bumblebee	English
March 29 ~	Dumbo	English

## Information Service

Internet: <http://niihama-aeonmall.com>

Tape (24 hrs): 050-6868-5019(in Japanese)

Movies might be changed without notice. Please check.

## March events

### ★ Fire fighting Demonstration & Ceremony

Date: Sunday, March 3rd 9:00~12:00

Place: Yamane Citizens Ground

Activity: Training, Spraying water, Commendation

### ★ Cu Café at Akagane Museum

“Alaska: Land of the Midnight Sun”

Date: Friday, March 15th 18:30~

Speaker: Charles Marshall

Admission: Free, includes one drink

Tel: 31-0305

This newsletter is published by SGG, a volunteer group that helps foreigners living in Niihama. If you need any advice, information, or support, please contact SGG. SGG would welcome any suggestions, questions, or ideas for monthly articles.

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\*The editors for this month are K. Kaida & T. Kashimoto

# ONE POINT JAPANESE

いろいろなオ/マトペ

A: **ぽかぽか** いい **天気** ですね。 Pokapoka ii tenki desu ne.  
(It's nice warm weather, isn't it?)

B: **そうですね**。コートが **要らない** くらいですね。  
Sō desu ne. Koto ga iranai kurai desu ne.  
(That's right. You almost don't need a coat.)

A: **春の** **花** が **咲き始め** りと、**何となく** **ウキウキ** しますね。  
Haru no hana ga sakihajimeru to nantonaku ukiuki shimasu ne.  
(When spring flowers begin to come out, we feel excited somehow.)

B: **そうそう**。昨日も **花の苗** を **たくさん** **買** ってきました。  
Sōsō. Kino mo hana no nae o takusan katte kimashita.  
(Exactly. Yesterday I bought a lot of flower seedlings.)

A: **3月** に **なると**、**そういう** **人** が **ドツと** **増** えるそうですよ。  
Sangatsu ni naru to, sō iū hito ga dotto fueru sō desu yo.  
(I hear there's a rush of people like that when March starts.)

A: **明日** は **いよいよ** **合格発表** だね  
Ashita wa iyoiyo gōkaku happyō da ne.  
(Finally, the examination results will be announced tomorrow!)

B: **あー**、**ドキドキ** する〜。 Aa dokidoki surū.  
(Ah, my heart is pounding!)

A: **絶対** **大丈夫** だよ! Zettai daijōbu da yo.  
(You'll be fine, for sure!)

A: **合格** **おめでとう**! Gōkaku omedeto! (Congratulations on passing!)

B: **ありがとう**。**ホッと** した〜。 Arigato. Hotto shita.  
(Thank you. I'm so relieved!)



A: **久しぶり** ですね。 **お元気** でしたか。  
Hisashiburi desu ne. Ogenki deshita ka.  
(It's been a while. Have you been OK?)

B: **ええ**、**何とか**。 **春休** みに **孫** たちが **来** て、**バタバタ** していました。  
Ee, nantoka. Haru yasumi ni magotachi ga kite batabata shiteimashita.  
(Yes, somehow. My grandchildren came for spring vacation, and it was hectic.)

A: **食事** の **準備** が **大変** だったでしょう。  
Shokuji no junbi ga taihen data desho.  
(Preparing meals must have been tough!)

B: **そう** なんです。 So nan desu yo. (You're right about that!)  
**でも**、**何でも** **モリモリ** **食** べてくれるので、**楽し** かったですよ。  
Demo, nan de mo morimori tabete kureru no de, tanoshikatta desu yo.  
(But they ate everything so enthusiastically, it was fun.)

< by Niihama Nihongo no Kai >

NNK also provides Japanese lessons for foreigners living in Niihama.

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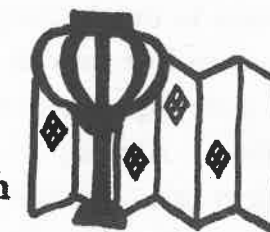
# What's New?

Niihama City

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# 3



Return to the North

Charles Marshall

As I stepped off the plane at New Chitose Airport, the first thing that I saw was the world blanketed in pale white snow. The first thing I felt was a slight breeze, bringing the fresh Hokkaido air back into my nostrils as joy and excitement welled inside me. It had been almost a year and a half since I'd last seen this gorgeous land and the next five days were looking ahead of me. I'd returned home to Hokkaido.

Before I began my life here in Niihama, I'd actually lived in another place in Japan. Specifically, I'd lived in Sapporo, in the far northern prefecture of Hokkaido. I attended college there for a year as a foreign exchange student, attending the Hokkaido University of Education from October of 2016 until August of 2017. At the time I'd been nervous, as I'd only ever been to one other foreign country, Germany, and when I started my foreign exchange my Japanese skills were, to put it lightly, abysmal. I was worried about culture shock, that I would not be able to make my friends, and that my studies would end up not improving my Japanese at all and I'd be stuck where I was before I came, feeling like it was a wasted experience.

But even a month or two in I'd been struck with how strikingly similar Hokkaido was to my home state in America, the state of Alaska: tall mountains and beautiful forests, delicious food, and nice weather. Even the winters were something I looked forward to when they occurred, as winter was always one of my favorite times of year in Alaska, with it's stark beauty and white and grey scenery. It felt like home and allowed me to be able to get my mind off of home, and to begin exploring. Soon I had visited many great places, ate delicious foods, seen concerts and shows, visited historical sites both in Hokkaido and the rest of Japan that I'd never thought I'd have the chance to see in

person, and made lots of friends at both my university as well as nearby Hokkaido University. It was one of the best years of my life, filled with great experiences.

So, when my year of study abroad was up, I promised myself that one day I'd return to Hokkaido, either as a tourist or to live there. Hence why I applied for the JET Program. While Niihama was not my first choice, I've grown to enjoy living here, and think it's a rather pleasant place to live overall. Plus, I have the opportunity to travel all over Japan, opportunity I try to take advantage of to the fullest. Already I've visited 13 prefectures, done another Tokyo trip, another Osaka trip, and finally got around to visiting Nagoya. But there was always something that'd I'd been keeping on the back burner and it was time to finally accomplish it. So, from February 7<sup>th</sup> until the 12<sup>th</sup>, I went up to Hokkaido.

My basic plan was simple: I'd be staying with Ms. Suzuki, who'd been my host mom for a weekend, and from there I'd go explore old places I'd enjoyed spending time at when I lived here, catch up with a few friends, and finally see a couple new things that I hadn't seen yet. It was also most fortuitous, since the weekend I went up was also the last weekend of the Snow Festival for this year, which would be the second time I'd be able to attend it. With my outline of a plan I got started.

The days that followed were filled to the brim with all manner of fantastic sights, sounds, and tastes. I saw the bright lights and massive snow sculptures of the Snow Festival, contrasted against the warm, comforting glows of the candlelit canals and streets of Otaru, all in the cold with white snow cascading around me. I visited historical sights aplenty, famous buildings such as the Clock Tower, Akarenga, Sakaimachi Street, and the Hokkaido Museum. I ate everything I could get my hands on, from Otaru seafood, Sapporo soup curry, fried chicken from street stalls and SeicoMart, ice cream, Indian food, and Thai food. Every meal was a delight. And lastly, I reunited with friends I hadn't seen for a while (in some cases it had been years). The memories I made there are ingrained into my head, as well as the friends, old and new that I met up with.

Even as I was sitting in Shin Chitose Airport, laden with souvenirs and chocolate, waiting for my flight to return me to Matsuyama and then Niihama, I couldn't help but already miss Hokkaido. This beautiful prefecture holds quite a few of my memories, both good and bad. And because of that it a little piece of my heart will always

belong to it, regardless of where in the world I end up living later in life. And while I had to return, I know eventually, maybe later this year or next, I'll begin planning once again, planning another return to the North.

Hi! My name is Charles Marshall, I'm an ALT with the JET Program working at two elementary schools and one middle school. I'm from Alaska and you can sometimes find me out at Mega-Haruya bookstore, or studying at Starbucks in the mall. Maybe even eating out with friends or doing karaoke! It's nice to meet you all.

## The 29th Annual Niihama Global Party "Just One World!"

Niihama's 29th Global Party was held at Women's plaza on February 10th with the theme of "Just One World!". 345 guests and organizers from 10 countries took part in the event. The party started with Wadaiko Drumming by Ohnishi Shachuu. Guests wearing colorful traditional outfits were able to meet people from different cultures and eat various sweets from many countries. Students from Niihama Minami High School introduced Besshi-Dozan. On stage, various countries' dances such as Indonesian, Malaysia, Balinese, Philippine Dances were performed. People enjoyed doing Cupid Shuffle Dance and Bamboo Dance together.

Folk dance by Yosakoi Dance team was also performed. Niihama Commercial High School students served tea ceremony.



### The Number of the Participants

Nationality	male	female	Total
Canada	3		3
China	1	1	2
Indonesia	20	39	59
Malaysia	2		2
The Philippines	2	9	11
Russia	1	3	4
The U. K.	1		1
The U. S.	2	1	3
Vietnam		1	1
	32	54	86
Japan		259	259
<b>Total</b>			<b>345</b>

Learning for the Future  
(from Ehime Shimbun January 21, 2019)



The medals for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics will be produced from materials from urban mines\*. In an elementary school in Niihama at the end of last year, an event was held to experience the process of metal recovery from used cellular phones. The staff member in charge of the event said, "Even when the students become adults, they may recall the medal making experience and take recycling as quite a natural part of society," implicitly saying that medal making is only the beginning of the matter.

The participants were 5th grade children of the elementary school. They will be in their twenties 10 years after of the Olympics in Tokyo. The year 2030 coincides with the last year of the United Nations campaign called "SDGs" (Sustainable Development Goals).

The Niihama municipal board of education is promoting Education for Sustainable Development at elementary and junior high schools. The essential points of ESD should nurture the thinking power to resolve future problems by studying the past and present problems. Niihama is a city which experienced and embodied sustainable development by conquering the copper mine exhaust gas problem, reforestation and promoting prosperity after the mine closure. The key for a sustainable society may exist in the wide and discerning viewpoint of predecessors who tackled environmental problems, regional vitalization, etc.

\*The phrase urban mine (literally from Japanese "Toshi kozan") was the creation of Prof. M. Nanjo of the Institute of Mineral Dressing and Refining at Tohoku University, who insisted that waste containing metal parts are generally higher in metal content than their original ore, thus should be collected.



Information in English & Chinese on the Web

\*What's New?

\*How to sort garbage and trash

Visit  <http://www.city.niihama.lg.jp>

Clair:\*Multilingual Living Information

<http://www.clair.or.jp/tagengorev/en/index.html>