

Letters and Essays from Sydney 2.0 – Volume 6

~ Season's Greetings ~

15 December

We will soon bid farewell to 2022.

I would like to thank everyone who has kindly assisted me since I arrived to take up my post almost three months ago in September. I have met so many people that already the *meishi-ire* folder I use to store business cards is almost completely full. Thanks to these meetings and the conversations I have had on each occasion, my start to work here has been comfortable and smooth.

I am so grateful to everyone who has made time for me.

Since arriving in Sydney, I have been out and about as often as possible to experience the city for myself.

As a first step, I have made a point of going around to different historical buildings, museums and galleries. I have visited the ANZAC Memorial, the Australian Museum (the shark special exhibition was on), the Art Gallery of NSW, the State Library of NSW, the Museum of Contemporary Art, the Museum of Sydney, the Australian National Maritime Museum, the Powerhouse Museum, Customs House, the Ken Done Gallery in The Rocks and Vaucluse House. When I visited Sydney Town Hall, I was kindly guided around by a councillor. Incidentally, Victoria Barracks was closed when I went. There are still many spots I have not been able to visit yet, so I hope to gain more insights as I see new places.

For me, my posting to Sydney has made 2022 a year to remember. It is my first time to work in the southern hemisphere, and I am looking forward to experiencing my first ever Christmas and New Year in the middle of summer.

I wish you happy holidays and hope that 2023 is a wonderful year for you all.

Have a Marvellous Christmas and New Year !

