

Staying in & reaching out

The COVID-19 situation has meant that workplaces have had to reconsider how, when and where their people work. The Consulate-General of Japan in Sydney is no different. It quickly adopted measures, including dividing the workforce into teams and initiating working-at-home, to ensure that people could work safely and still deliver essential services.

A crucial part of the Consulate's work is providing various administrative services to Japanese people living in NSW and the NT, and the consular section has been particularly affected. It had to introduce shorter counter service hours and bookings, opening the counter in the mornings only, as part of efforts to help prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

But **the need to communicate remained a top priority**. Monitoring and providing the latest information in Japanese language via various channels was and is paramount.

Facebook, Twitter and consular email notifications have all played key roles in reaching out to keep people up to date with changing circumstances. This will continue for the foreseeable future and **we urge people to continue to follow our social media**, sign up for the monthly Japanese-language メールマガジン and remember that major announcements are also posted to our website in the special COVID-19 section on our home pages.

www.sydney.au.emb-japan.go.jp
(Japanese and English)



@CGJSYD



@CGJapanSyd



@CGJapanSydney — Consul-General Kiya's Twitter

*As we all had to **stay in**, organisations worked quickly to **reach out** virtually to people and there has been some excellent online content created.*

We have already shared many of these via Facebook, but here are some that we strongly suggest you consider checking out if you haven't done so yet!

And of course, for fans of Japan in regional areas, these online resources are welcome anytime.

This just scratches the surface!

SEIKATSU KOGEI

OBJECTS FOR INTENTIONAL LIVING



FULL EXHIBITION ONLINE NOW

In Sydney ...

The Japan Foundation's **SEIKATSU KOGEI** exhibition was put online for people to enjoy virtually. With the easing of restrictions people can once again visit the gallery (check website for latest details).

jpf.org.au/events/seikatsu-kogei/

Interstate and Overseas ...

The National Gallery of Victoria's virtual tour of its **JAPANESE MODERNISM** exhibition is excellent —

www.ngv.vic.gov.au/virtual-tours/japanese-modernism/

And in the UK, the V&A's 5-part curator-led YouTube tour of its **KIMONO: KYOTO TO CATWALK** exhibition is also first-rate —

www.vam.ac.uk/exhibitions/kimono-kyoto-to-catwalk
[main site]

NHK World-JAPAN On Demand ... more of a rediscovery really, this site has excellent video content on current social trends, traditional and pop culture and some great travel videos that allow you to explore Japan from home—all 47 prefectures!

www3.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld/en/ondemand/special/yourplaylists/

Visit Japan (JNTO) has been posting and sharing materials so inviting that they have produced some bittersweet reactions in the comments from people who enjoy the content but regret they can't be in Japan! There is an international version plus local versions, and here's the one for Australia —

www.facebook.com/VisitJapanAU/

Online Japanese learning ... coming into its own.

Checking out Japan Foundation is a given, but they also have a new free online textbook to add colour to your life in Japan called **IRODORI** —

www.irodori.jpf.go.jp/en/index.html

You can find more information about the various Japan Foundation online learning resources via —

www.jpf.go.jp/e/index.html

Don't forget the Japan Foundation Sydney's online **VIDEO MATSURI** contest which is a great way to get school students to use their Japanese creatively. This year, it's a **SUITO** or water bottle which must feature in each submission. The deadline is 1 September 2020.

www.jpf.org.au/language/for-learners/contests/video-matsuri/

