

# Crosstalk

February - CROSSROADS Language Studio's Newsletter - 2004

## Be my Valentine!

For some it's a day of love, for others it's a day of hope! On February 14<sup>th</sup> lovers everywhere will be sending cards or flowers to the objects of their **affections**. Many of them won't put their names on the cards, signing only with the traditional 'from your valentine' or a mysterious question mark. 

This celebration of secret love began in 5<sup>th</sup> century Rome, and was **inspired** by the story of St Valentine.

The Roman **Emperor** Claudius II (also known as 'Claudius the **cruel**') believed that married men made bad soldiers, and so he **banned** all marriages in his land.

However, people were still continuing to fall in love, and so the Roman **priest** Valentine began to secretly  marry those couples that came to him. When Claudius found out he sent Valentine to prison, and it is believed that while in prison Valentine himself fell in love with the **jailer's** daughter, and sent her a love letter,

which he signed 'from your valentine'.

Claudius later had Valentine **beheaded** on February 14<sup>th</sup>, which was the date of an ancient Roman love festival.

It is for these two reasons that we celebrate love on this day.

History is full of famous lovers, and here are a just a few of them;

 **Don Juan** – A hero of Spanish **folklore**, it is believed that during his **youth** he had been the lover of 1000 women! 

 **Romeo and Juliet** – A boy and girl who had to keep their love a secret because their families were at war with each other. Their secrecy caused a **series** of **misunderstandings**, ending in a **tragic** death for both of them.

 **Casanova** – An Italian adventurer, who tried to become a priest but was **expelled** at 16 for '**misconduct**'. He then tried many other jobs (soldier, spy, etc), and became famous for his **wit** and **charm**, especially with the ladies!

**Happy Valentine's Day!** 

## Glossary

(These words are in **color** in the story)

<b>affections</b> 好意、愛情	<b>inspired</b> 起因とされる	<b>Emperor</b> 皇帝	<b>cruel</b> 残酷な
<b>banned</b> 禁止した	<b>priest</b> 司祭	<b>jailer's</b> (牢獄の) 看守の	<b>youth</b> 青年時代
<b>beheaded</b> 首をはねられた	<b>folklore</b> 伝承の民話	<b>tragic</b> 悲劇的な	
<b>series</b> 連続	<b>misunderstandings</b> 誤解	<b>wit</b> 機知	<b>charm</b> 魅力
<b>expelled</b> 追放される	<b>misconduct</b> 非行		

# A Word From Us



**Joshua Says:** Again, sadly, we are saying goodbye to one of our favourite teachers. After over two years with us, Joanna is now on her way home, via a short stop-over in Thailand. We are all going to miss her cheerful, intelligent personality around the place very much. But you will still be able see her and take lessons from her again. Jo will be part of our net-lessons program, teaching you and your friends from England!

**Junko Says:** We always like to encourage our students to experience living overseas at least once in their lifetimes. But, where to go? Some overseas teaching and home-stay programs are very good and some are not so good. Here's a great idea! How about studying and visiting with Jo in England?! Home-stay and lessons all in one! If you are interested, pop into the office and I'll tell you all about it.



**Grace Says:** Now that I've become accustomed to Matsuyama, and have some extra free time, I plan to do some sightseeing. I want to see Matsuyama Castle of course, Ishite Temple, the Dogo area and some art galleries and museums. Once the warmer weather arrives, I'd also like to visit the Seto Islands, which I've heard are breathtaking.

**Saara Says:** Hello everyone! I have just arrived from snow-covered Finland! Japan has always been a mysterious place in my mind with your traditions and culture. I'm excited to have the opportunity to come here to teach at Crossroads and to experience it all. I hope that this year will be full of wonders and great learning experiences for all of us.



**Greg Says:** This month saw another co-worker fly back to her homeland. After working with Joanna for more than two years, it was sad to say farewell. Thanks Jo for great times, happy smiles and that quick British wit of yours. You will be missed but not forgotten!

**Joanna Says:** Greetings from Thailand!! I decided to travel around Thailand for 3 weeks to enjoy some sun and relaxation, before heading back to England. It's HOT here! 32 degrees Celsius...and rising! I'm hoping to head north in the next few days to find gibbons, which are a very special kind of ape, and also very cute! I had a wonderful last few weeks in Matsuyama, and I'll miss the city and its people lots and lots.



**Yuka Says:** Time passes quickly, and I had to say goodbye to Joanna at the end of January. She has been very kind to everyone and I'm sure we'll all miss her soft smile and charming voice. But every good thing must come to an end. Thank you, Joanna. I had a great time with you. I hope you enjoy your stay in Thailand. Keep well until we meet again!

# A Word From You

**Chisako says:** I went on my second trip to Cambodia for my winter vacation. Cambodia has excellent ruins – Angkor Wat and Bayon. They gave me a deep impression of how poor Cambodia is, but the people are very kind and work hard. I recommend that you travel to Cambodia!



## SCENES FROM JO'S GOODBYE PARTY!



## Notice Board

**Congratulations to;**  
**Kaori and Daisuke – They have both passed the first stage of their driving license!**

## Net News

**NET LESSONS:** Are you too busy to come to CROSSROADS for English lessons? Try our lessons *on the internet!*

It's CROSSROADS in your home! You get CROSSROADS' great teachers, materials, even classmates, *on-line!* Call for details.

**NET SITE OF THE MONTH:** Check out your Chinese zodiac sign at the link below;

<http://www.chinatoday.com/culture/zodiac/zodiac.htm>

**NET NOTEBOOK:** Take a look at the internet activity notebook in our open-house. You'll find games, news and English learning sites.

## Easy English Lesson

**On time, In time, Out of time...** 

*Time* is everywhere in English! Here are a few of the different ways of using it:

**On time** - Not late, Not early;

“The trains in Japan always leave on time”.

“She'll be late – she's never on time!”.

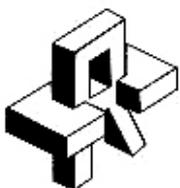
**In time** - To arrive just before something happens – to not be late;  
“You're just in time to join us for lunch”.

“I hope we get there in time for the movie”.

**Out of time** – To have no remaining time;

“I couldn't finish the test - I ran out of time”.

“I better start packing – I'm almost out of time!”



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