

CROSSROADS

CROSSROADS Language Studio's Newsletter, March 2010

"BEWARE THE IDES OF MARCH..."



A Roman senator

According to Shakespeare, a soothsayer uttered these words as a warning to Julius Caesar. Caesar paid little heed and was assassinated on that day, the 15th of March, in 44BC. So, is the Ides of March a bad-omen day?

Not so. To the Romans, and even up to Shakespeare's time, the Ides of March was simply a date – the 15th of March. In fact, every month in the ancient Roman calendar had an "Ides", although not always falling on the 15th.

The original Roman calendar was essentially a lunar calendar and used a somewhat complicated method for keeping track of the days in the year.

The 12 months were organized around three days in each month which served as reference points for calculating the other days in the month. In addition to the Ides, there were Nones and Kalends. The Ides fell on the fifteenth day of March, May, July and October, and on the thirteenth day in the other months; the Nones fell on the seventh day of March, May, July and October, and on the fifth day in the other months. The Kalends was always the first day of each month. So, in a full year there were twelve Ides, twelve Nones and twelve Kalends.

It worked like this: If you wanted to meet your friend on March 13th, you'd say something like, "Ok, Lucius, see on Ides 3 at 6:00pm". Lucius would know the day the Ides fell on (the 15th) and count backwards (including the 15th) three days. In fact all dates were calculated in the same way – i.e., counting backwards from one of these three reference points (days), the Ides of the month, the Nones and the Kalends.

Nothing ominous about any of this except, perhaps, that the Kalends days were the days a Roman citizen was supposed to pay the bills each month. In fact, it was probably more common to hear something like, "beware the Kalends of March" than "beware the Ides of March"! But such is the power of Shakespeare that we only know of the Ides of March.



An ancient Roman calendar

Kalends has another point of interest for us. It is the Latin root word for what we call "calendar" in English today.

Net News

NET LESSONS: Try our *lessons on the Internet!*

It's CROSSROADS in your home or office! You get CROSSROADS' great teachers, teaching programs, even classmates, *on-line!* Call for details: **089 9217595**

NET SITE OF THE MONTH:

Here is a short note on the Ides of March:

www.wisegeek.com/what-are-the-ides-of-march.htm

NET NOTEBOOK: Don't forget to take a look at the Internet activity notebook in our open-house. You'll find games, news and English learning sites.

Some Thoughts for the Month



Joshua Says: I am pleased to welcome a new teacher to Crossroads. Jonathan has joined us from England where he has been teaching English at college for some years. Jonathan is also a musician and has an MA in music composition. He has taught music at colleges in England too. We're all looking forward to a long and enjoyable experience working together.

Junko Says: Well, the new "Open-House" is almost ready! We're very pleased with the design and we hope you will enjoy using of it – it's free for all our students! There's a new kitchen where you can even make cappuccino and espresso coffee if you like, and we will have a daily program of movies and TV to watch on the new, big, screen. The internet is still available, as is the library (when we get some shelves up). It is my hope you will all use this space and come in as often as you like (not just on lesson day) to enjoy this unique, "international" environment.



Jonathan Says: Hello everyone! I've been teaching at Crossroads for a few weeks now and I love it; it must be the best job I've ever had. As well as teaching friendly and interesting people I get to play my guitar in the Open House! Do come along and listen, and if you want to learn guitar with me – that is, English and guitar – please ask (and don't forget the Performance Night on March 27th: I'll be playing for about 30 minutes).

Greg Says: I read a GREAT story the other day about an amazing man named Dick Hoyt. As of 2005 (when the story was published) he had taken part in 206 triathlons including 6 Hawaiian Ultra triathlons, 64 (42km) marathons (including 24 consecutive Boston marathons), 78 half marathons (21km) and biked and ran across the USA in 1992 (3,735 miles in 45 days). All of these feats were completed while pushing his disabled son in a wheelchair or towing him in a dinghy for the swim in the triathlons. This man is a great example of "anything is possible".



Kevin Dit: Nous voila déjà en mars ! Que le temps passe vite... Le temps commence à se réchauffer et le printemps commence à montrer le bout de son nez ! Dans quelques semaines, nous pourrons aller observer les fleurs de cerisier ! C'est toujours une période un peu particulière au Japon non ? Et c'est aussi une période particulière a CROSSROADS, puisque mars marque également la fin du trimestre, et la soirée qui va avec ! N'oubliez pas de venir vous amuser ce 27 mars ! Je me demande si certains de nos étudiants essaieront de chanter en français ? N'oubliez pas non plus l'ouverture prochaine du café international... avec un peu de chance vous y trouverez peut-être de la pâtisserie française...

NOTICE BOARD

THE END OF TERM PARTY

This term will be...

ON: Saturday, 27-03-'10
STARTING: 7:30pm
WHERE: here at Crossroads

Performances, Karaoke,
A Special Guitar
Recital by Jonathan,
Drinks, and...
FUN!!

Invite your friends and
family to join us.

Don't miss it...!

Meet our new teacher
Jonathan Jackson



Jonathan is from Leicester in central England. Not far to the north of Leicester is Nottingham, famous for Robin Hood and his merry men of Sherwood Forest. Leicester is also associated with two Kings of England, one mythical and the other historical, that were subjects of Shakespearean plays. The first is King Lear and the second is the infamous Richard III.



Jonathan has a Master's Degree (MA) in music composition and has been teaching both music and English at college level in England. He has played a number of instruments but his forte is the guitar which he can play in a number of styles – classic, jazz, blues, etc. Jonathan also composes and has had a number of his works published.

クロスローズの好きなコースで英語を学ぶ。

"GENERAL (ジェネラル) コース

英語+実践練習

60分 x 2回/週:

1学期-4ヶ月毎にレベルが上がる
クロスローズのメインプログラム

90分 x 1回/週:

忙しい方のための週1レッスン

プライベート(個人)

月2回からレッスン回数自由選択

セミプライベート(セミ個人):

月3回からレッスン回数自由選択

クロスローズで学べるその他の外国語

フランス語 - スペイン語 - ドイツ語 - イタリア語 - ロシア語 - 中国語 - 韓国語

COSMOPOLITAN (コスモポリタン) コース

英語+実技を通した実用練習、だから誰でも分かる、自然に上達する。

英語でギターを習う

英語で歌う

英語で料理

英語でマジック

ピアノ

英語劇

ヨガ

NET(ネット) レッスン

グループOR プライベート

レッスン料 ¥4,725/月~
詳細はお問合せ下さい



KIDS' (キッズ) クラス

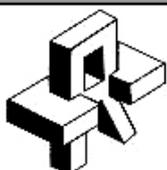
グループOR プライベート



MOTHER & CHILD

(マザー&チャイルド)

グループOR プライベート



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