

Crossroads

CROSSROADS Language Studio's Newsletter July, 2013

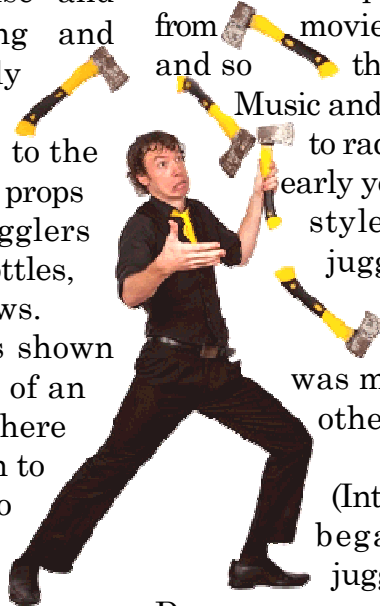
JUGGLING

Juggling is a form of exercise and entertainment based on throwing and catching objects. The most commonly known type is "toss juggling". Jugglers often use the term "props" to refer to the objects they juggle. The most common props are balls, clubs and rings. Some jugglers use more dramatic objects such as bottles, knives, fire torches or even chainsaws.

The earliest record of juggling is shown in a picture on a panel in the tomb of an unknown prince in ancient Egypt where female dancers and acrobats are seen to be throwing balls. Juggling has also been recorded in many early cultures including Chinese, Indian, Greek, Roman, Norse, Aztec and Polynesian civilizations.

In Europe, juggling was considered to be an acceptable diversion until the decline of the Roman Empire where it fell out of favour. Throughout the Middle Ages, most texts were written by religious clerics who frowned upon 'gleeman' (people who juggle) accusing them of base morals or of practicing witchcraft. As a result, jugglers in this era would only perform in marketplaces, streets, fairs, or drinking houses ("Pubs"). They would perform short, humorous and bawdy acts and then pass a hat or bag around the audience for tips.

The first modern circus opened in 1768 and employed jugglers to perform acts along with horse and clown acts. As variety halls and music theatres became more popular in the 19th century, jugglers were employed to fill the intermissions between music acts, performing in front of the curtain while sets were changed.



In the early to mid-20th century, variety, music, theatre and vaudeville shows decreased in popularity due to competition from movie theatres, radio and television and so the popularity of juggling suffered.

Music and comedy transferred very easily to radio but juggling could not. In the early years of television, when variety-style programming was popular, jugglers were often featured. But developing a new act for each new show, week after week, was more difficult for jugglers than other types of entertainers.

In the early 1950s the IJA (International Juggling Association) began as a club for performing jugglers. Later, World Juggling Day was created as an annual day of recognition for the hobby, with the intent to teach people how to juggle, to promote juggling or for jugglers to get together and celebrate. Traditionally, it is held on a Saturday in mid July.

Since the 1980s, a juggling culture has developed and is rapidly on the rise. The scene revolves around local clubs and organizations, special events, shows and other activities. In recent years there has also been a growing focus on juggling competitions.



Article by Matthew

Net News

NET LESSONS: Are you too busy to come to CROSSROADS?....Try our *lessons on the Internet!*

SITE OF THE MONTH:

Would you like to learn how to juggle? Take a look here:
<http://learnhowtojuggle.info/>

Some Thoughts for the Month



Joshua Says: The hot summer has arrived and everybody is sweating after only a few steps outside in the heat. I think this is turning out to be the hottest summer I have experienced since coming to Japan so many years ago. I can tell I'm not alone in thinking this. Many of our students are feeling the heat too. I just hope it doesn't tire you too much!

Junko Says: "Jetstar Airlines", the low cost carrier, started a service to Matsuyama last month. Although, at this stage, there is only one return flight a day between Matsuyama and Narita, they offer a one-way ticket for only 4,590 yen. This is almost the same price as going to Takamatsu or Kochi by JR! The next time you go to Tokyo, why not try this service and tell us what you think about it?



Matthew Says: There are a few hobbies that I have neglected over the winter and spring and so am starting them up again, these are juggling, swimming and piano. It's tricky playing piano in a swimming pool while juggling but some seem to enjoy the show. I need a new swimming hat though because those dirty old yellow ones at the community centre are minging.

Dylan Says: The Beatles were an English rock band formed in Liverpool in 1960. Their best-known lineup, consisting of John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison, and Ringo Starr, became the greatest and most influential act of the rock era, introducing more innovations into popular music than any other rock band of the 20th century.



Stephanie Dit: Bonjour à tous ! Je suis Stéphanie. Je suis française et je viens de m'installer à Matsuyama pour une année afin de découvrir le Japon et votre très belle culture ! Je serais ravie de vous faire découvrir mon pays et partager avec vous quelques bonnes recettes françaises ! Peut-être nous croiserons nous sur le marché du samedi soir cet été !

NOTICE BOARD

REMINDER

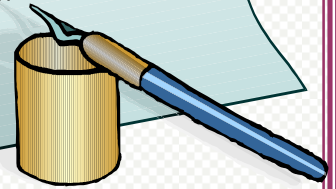
It's Hot! And that means
it's getting near **BBQ** time again!

Keep an eye open for dates and other details
coming soon. See you there!!



A THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Life is like an onion:
the years pass like
peeling off layers
one at a time, and
sometimes you weep.



And... why not check out all the
great Working Holiday Visa deals
available for many of our students?

There are many countries that will
welcome you. Get all the details
from Junko in our office

Pet's Corner

Here's an interesting family of pets. The two smallest members are called Dill and Dull. Holding the beam they are performing on is Pursy, and Wink is supporting everyone while riding a bike. Wink used to be the only household pet in the Wilkinson family, but one day Mr. Wilkinson noticed some mice running around the house. He tried everything to get rid of them, but nothing worked. So, he decided to get a cat to chase them away and this is when Pursy was invited to join the Wilkinson family. But Pursy has a rather gentle nature and instead of doing his job, he became friends with Dill and Dull, the mice. It wasn't long before Wink joined the gang and they started to play around together every day, getting into all kinds of mischief. Then, Mr. Wilkinson noticed something odd about the way they were playing. They seemed to be "practicing" something. As he watched he became amazed at the things they could do. Pretty soon they were performing all sorts of tricks (see photo). This developed into a professional act and Mr. Wilkinson now takes them all over the country to perform their tricks. But the funny thing is, Mr. Wilkinson claims he has never trained them! He says they learnt it all entirely by themselves!!



Don't forget... Our **SPECIAL 1+1 Campaign offer! Up to 50% off!!**

See our notice board, or ask Junko in our office, for the details.

