



## A foot in the door...*Hiroshima Jōhō a-Netto*

By **ANDREW DEMPSTER** February 2018

Uprooting your life and moving to a different country is difficult. No question about it. You leave family and friends, and find yourself in a new country, new city, faced with new challenges that you have chosen to undertake in a new language, quite often by yourself. Facing these challenges head on is what can make the experience so rewarding. However, one thing I was not entirely prepared for was giving up my hobbies...How do you continue doing what you love in a country where you do not know many people, let alone know the facilities that would allow you to do so?

Well, let me tell you. I actually stumbled across this information in a previous column of Community Connections titled "*Hiroshima Jōhō a-Netto: An Online Treasure Trove of Community Information*", which was written by one of my predecessors, Karlee Keyser, back in August 2015. It was thanks to that article that I found a way to further develop my interest in woodworking.

It offers a great way to continue hobbies or find new interests, get involved in volunteer groups in your community, as well as provides information about a whole host of events. That is why I feel I should once again champion the website in this edition of Community Connections!

There is only one problem: the website is only offered in Japanese...

In this article, I will give you a basic run down of how to navigate the site. Head over to <http://www.a-net.shimin.city.hiroshima.jp/anet/index.html> to get started.



For the sake of walking through an example, let's say you are a budding watercolour artist that is looking to find other like-minded folk in your community. Start off by heading to "Groups · Clubs (団体・サークル)" either at the top of the page, or down the side where you can go directly to "Art · Culture (芸術・文化)".

You will be taken to a list of categories. Clicking on “Art (美術)” will take you to more specific options relating to the fine arts, such as “Western painting”, “Design”, and “Japanese painting”. You guessed it, click on “Western painting (洋画)”. You will end up at a page resembling the picture to the right, with a list of different groups and their activities. In this instance we are looking for “Watercolor (水彩画)”. Once you’ve scrolled through and found what you’re looking for, you will be confronted head on with information about the group.

## Groups • Clubs

Top > Groups-Clubs > Art-Culture > Art > Western Painting

### Refine Search by Area

You can also search by area.

Please click the name of the area you would like to look at.

- ▶ Naka-ku   ▶ Higashi-ku   ▶ Minami-ku   ▶ Nishi-ku
- ▶ Asaminami-ku   ▶ Asakita-ku   ▶ Aki-ku   ▶ Saeki-ku
- ▶ Outside the city



1 ~ 70 件目 / 70 件中

- 1 **三篠水彩会** New!  
講師の指導のもと水彩画を勉強しています。 2018年01月22日更新

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- 2 **パレット・油絵**  
水彩画を通して会員相互の親睦を図ります。 2017年07月09日更新

Narrow your search to certain locations by clicking on the ward of your choice, either from the list or the map of Hiroshima City.

- |            |                            |
|------------|----------------------------|
| ■ 活動内容 :   | ■ Activities :             |
| ■ 活動日時 :   | ■ Time and place :         |
| ■ 活動場所 :   | ■ Where :                  |
| ■ 会員 :     | ■ Members :                |
| ■ 会員層 :    | ■ Target membership :      |
| ■ 会費 :     | ■ Membership fee :         |
| ■ 入会条件 :   | ■ Admission requirements : |
| ■ 設立時期 :   | ■ Established :            |
| ■ 一言 P R : | ■ About us :               |

The information listed usually follows the picture to the left. This can be quite daunting, but head over to <http://ejje.weblio.jp/> or <http://jisho.org/> (or your preferred online dictionary) and start plugging in vocabulary to try to make sense of it all. It'll be worth it!

Remember, the Hiroshima Peace Culture Centre offers a CIR consultation service on the fourth Wednesday of every month (reservations are required). If you are looking for more help finding your new hobby, or even with anything else related to Hiroshima, get in touch!