

In England, on December 31st, the New Year's Honours List is announced. Honours of different types are given out to people in recognition of their services to their country. The most well-known, internationally, may be the knighthood, which allows the recipient to add 'Sir' (or 'Dame' in the case of a woman) to their name. A recent example is Sir Paul McCartney.





Queen Elizabeth II

Queen Elizabeth bestowing honours on some of her favourites

Net News

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Here's a short piece on the Queen's homours list: http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Nl1/Newsroom/DG_193300 CROSSSROADS ON MIXI: Check it out! http://mixi.jp/show_profile.pl?id=30381548

The Victoria Cross is the highest military honour for bravery 'in the face of the enemy' (there is an equivalent award for civilians). It is rarely awarded. A from recommendation an officer. supported by three witnesses, is required before a case can be considered. The case of Lloyd Allan Trigg is unique in that his award was granted solely on the basis of evidence supplied by the enemy; there were no surviving witnesses to his bravery from his own side. Though an experienced pilot, Trigg was flying a Liberator, a plane he had never flown before, over the Atlantic in November 1943 when he engaged a German U-boat. His aircraft received several hits from the submarine's anti-aircraft guns and burst into flame but Trigg refused to break off his attack. He dropped his bombs. sinking the submarine, but his plane dived into the sea, killing all on board. Some of the German crew were able to escape using a rubber dinghy which broke free from the Liberator when it crashed and were later picked up by the Royal Navy. The German captain reported the incident and recommended Trigg for an award. He later said, 'Such a gallant fighter as Trigg would have been decorated in Germany with the highest medal or order'.

In May 1998, Trigg's medal was sold at auction in London for £120,000 (Y15,720,000), the equal highest price ever realised for a Victoria Cross at that time.

Article by Jonathan





Joshua Says: We are at the start of yet another year. Have you all made your New Year's resolutions? I hope so – something like, "I will study even harder this year" ...? In general, times have been difficult in Japan for everyone in recent years, but this year we could finally see a come-back. I hope so, and I wish all our students and friends the best of good fortune in the coming year, and beyond!

Junko Says: It seems that finally real language globalization has landed on Japan's shores. Many big companies are deciding to have English meetings in-house to raise their staff's level of English, and some are even sending all new recruits on short, overseas study courses. English is becoming Japan's second language in a real sense, especially in business. Having a clear purpose for studying English is so important and I'm sure this movement will encourage many more people to study.





Jonathan Says: I was puzzled to hear Gangsta rap issuing from the speakers of the baby clothes section of Jusco recently. Notorious for its explicit lyrics, music of this type often carries a warning label on the CD case. I know children are growing up quickly nowadays but...

<u>Greg Says</u>: Happy New Year to everyone at Crossroads. Last month I traveled to Australia but instead of lapping up the Aussie summer's sunshine, we experienced 3 weeks of on-againoff-again rain. One hour north of Brisbane they experienced 3 weeks of non-stop rain and it was a very sad feeling to see the city under water recently on the news. What's worse is that the rainy season hasn't even begun there yet!!





Kevin Dit: Bonne année a tous ! 2010 est maintenant terminée, et j'ai entamé l'année 2011 avec un petit rhume, ça commence bien ! Je ne sais pas encore de quoi sera fait l'année 2011, j'espère seulement qu'elle sera belle, pour vous comme pour moi. En France comme au Japon, nous avons pour habitude de prendre de "bonnes resolutions", quelles sont les votres pour cette année ? J'espère qu'étudier le français fait partie de la liste !

