

Crossroads

CROSSROADS Language Studio's Newsletter, May 2012

BICYCLES

There is an International Cycling week in May and as Matsuyama is a cycling city the bicycle is an appropriate subject for May.

Bicycles were invented in the 19th century and now there are estimated to be around one billion worldwide (There are around half as many cars).

The first bicycle, known as the “Dandy Horse”, was invented and patented in January 1818 by a German gentleman named Baron Karl von Drais. It had no chain or pedals.

In the early 1860s, the Frenchmen Pierre Michaux and Pierre Lallement added a mechanical crank drive with pedals to a bigger front wheel and called it the “Velocipede”. The French creation was made of iron and wood and was later developed into the “penny-farthing” named after English coins to represent the size of the wheels; a “penny” was a large coin and a “farthing” a very small coin. These bicycles were very difficult to ride due to their very high seat and poor weight distribution (see photo). In 1888, Scotsman John Boyd Dunlop introduced the first pneumatic tyre, which soon became universal. Soon after, the rear freewheel was developed, enabling the rider to coast. Derailleur gears and hand-operated cable-pull brakes were also developed during these years. By the turn of the century, cycling clubs flourished in Europe and North America, and touring and racing became widely popular.



The bicycle is the most efficient human-powered means of transportation in terms of the energy a person uses to travel a given distance. Up to 99% of the energy a cyclist transfers to the pedals is transmitted to the wheels, although the use of gearing mechanisms may reduce this by 10–15%. A cyclist traveling at around 15–25 km/h uses the same amount of energy required to walk. In addition, the carbon dioxide generated in the production and transportation of the food required by the cyclist, per k/m traveled, is less than 1/10 that generated by energy efficient cars.



Some countries such as Spain, New Zealand and Australia require children and/or adult cyclists to wear helmets. Mandatory helmet wearing is controversial in the cycling world, because although it reduces head injuries it makes cycling seem more dangerous and cumbersome and so some argue that it actually reduces the number of cyclists on the streets.

Article by Matthew

Net News

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

* Call for details: **089 9217595**

SITE OF THE MONTH:

Here's a good site on the history of the bicycle:

<http://library.thinkquest.org/J002670/past2.htm>

Some Thoughts for the Month



Joshua Says: I always hope to get contributions to our newsletter's P.3 from students whenever one of you has something of interest to offer. For example, news of a recent trip overseas, a feature on your pet (with photos), a poem or a story from the more creative among you, something about your favorite hobbies; In fact, anything that would be of interest to your classmates and the other students at Crossroads. So, what about it?

Junko Says: Recently, EF has developed many one-week overseas study programs for busy adults. You can study in N. America, England, Australia, N Z, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, China, etc. The costs range from ¥60,000 to ¥70,000 and include 20 lessons plus home-stay and meals. Whenever you do something new you can widen your horizons, so we recommend you take this chance to go on one of these short study-courses, if you can.



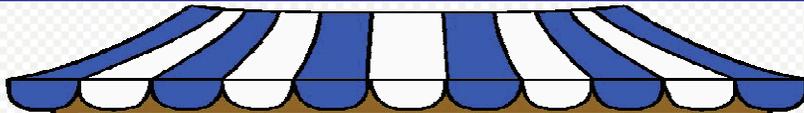
Matthew Says: What book are you reading at the moment? How many books do you read a year? How much time do you spend reading? I recently discovered a wonderful website which allows you to catalogue the books you have read, are currently reading and wish to read in the future. It also allows you to set yourself reading goals and targets. It's called "goodreads.com".

Ludovic Dit: En ce moment, en France, c'est les élections. Le 6 mai, deuxième tour : François Hollande contre Nicolas Sarkozy. Mon choix ? Je n'aime pas M.Hollande : il est gros et mou. Mais je déteste Nicolas Sarkozy : il est nul, et a fait beaucoup de mal a la République et aux Français. Donc le 6 mai : dehors Sarkozy !



Arno Dit: Le mois de juin annonce le début de l'été. En France, le 21 juin, on fête "la fête de la musique". Dans toutes les villes de France, des groupes de musiciens et d'artistes sont dans les rues pour réjouir le public ! Les gens se promènent dans la ville, souvent en famille ou entre amis. On reste jusqu'au soir très tard, et regarde les groupes. Vraiment génial

NOTICE BOARD



The OKAIDO Saturday Night Street-Market...

It starts again next month and we have our regular spot available as usual, so if any of you would like to sell or display something in the market – for free – just check in with Junko and we will arrange something for you!



Meet Craig, our new English teacher. Craig is from Edinburgh in Scotland and has taught English for the past 5 years in Vietnam and Costa Rica.

He is coming to Crossroads to join our teaching staff, and you will be able to meet him soon as he will start lessons with us from next month.

Craig's original background was in business and finance before he became an English teacher.

He has a passion for sports, particularly football and baseball, and he also enjoys cooking!

TALENT QUEST

Our Next End-of-Term Party...

...will be held on Saturday 27th of July and we are looking for anyone with "Hidden Talents"! So, if you can sing, play an instrument, dance, juggle, do magic tricks, whistle a Beatles tune, whatever, and you would like to be in the program, sign up! You'll have a blast! And so will your classmates!! For details on how to join in, ask your teacher, or Junko in our office.



Courses you can join at CROSSROADS

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+実技を通じた実用練習、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

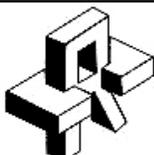
グループOR プライベート



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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