

A community information paper created from interviews by the people who live in Azabu and created by them.

Fascinated by Artistic Azabu ⑤



Name of street furniture artwork: "Where did this huge stone roll from? Where does the water in this river flow to? Where am I headed in the future?"

A town that never ages

Currently a resident of Nishi-Azabu, Mr. Katsuhiko Hibino has also lived previously in Roppongi, making him deeply familiar with the Azabu region. After being asked about his image of Azabu, Mr. Hibino said, "Despite its local character of not having a main terminal station, Azabu is a central city; the region has a mature atmosphere that is neither old-fashioned nor stale. Vivacious, ageless adults continuously gad about, filled with aspirations."

"Ageless" is a word that perhaps expresses the essence of the Azabu region perfectly. Despite the region's strong grown-up image, the reason it also has such an image of freshness and innovation is precisely because it is ageless.

• Street furniture artwork on Roppongi Hills Keyaki-zaka-dori St.

—Please tell us about the theme of this artwork and your image of the Azabu-roppongi region.

Mr. Hibino: When Keyaki-zaka was completed, I imagined a work that allows people to sit and watch the flow of cars and pedestrians along the road based on indelible scenes from my childhood of sitting on rocks in the Nagara-gawa Riverbed in Gifu Prefecture, where I grew up, just watching the river flow by for long stretches of time.

Actually, I also tried sitting on Mr. Hibino's work, and the moment I sat down, I felt a tremendous sense of nostalgia. For an instant, you forget that you are here in Roppongi. Moreover, it is very comfortable to sit on. I felt like I wanted to sit here forever.

—With what aspects of creating the work did you have difficulty?

Mr. Hibino: I had difficulty with the texture, and I also took a great deal of care with the shape to ensure that it looked natural.

It may be difficult to discern from photographs, but Mr. Hibino also applied the color shading with a sense of naturalness in mind.

• Roppongi Art Night

This year is the fifth time this event has been held, and Mr. Hibino is acting as artistic director for the second consecutive year.

—How are you planning to color the town of Azabu (Roppongi) this year?

Mr. Hibino: Working with local residents, I hope to increase the number of works on display, and I want to further expand the circle of people involved, with everyone thinking together to create the event. One of my characteristics is my concept of everyone creating something together, and so I think that's the part in which I was asked to participate (as director). I am planning for not only those

who attend the event on the day but also people who have been living here in Roppongi for many years to come together to color this town so that Roppongi Art Night itself becomes a single work of art.

Mr. Hibino has been approaching shops in local commercial districts, elementary schools, and junior high schools, etc. He says, "I want many, many more people to participate."

However, I think that Mr. Hibino's basic concept of everyone creating something together is steadily taking root. This can also be seen from the pop art around Imoarai-zaka Slope that was featured in the previous issue (No. 26) of The Azabu. Each shop is showing a budding consciousness of art; little by little, the town is beginning to have color. Never mind being ageless—the town is actually regaining its youth.

Perhaps Roppongi had internalized its art culture, but Mr. Hibino does a magnificent job of breathing new life into it.

—What is art to you, Mr. Hibino?

Mr. Hibino: For me, art is expressing my feelings and conveying these to other people. Expression by itself cannot become art; art is only born when feelings are conveyed to others, even if only to one person. Although there are various ways to convey feelings, I think that any method of expression used in everyday life, be it words or whatever, is an element of art. For example, when a mother makes her child a lunchbox lunch and the child enjoys eating the lunch, saying, "Wow, it's so pretty!" or "It's so interesting!" the lunch conveys the mother's feelings to the child and therefore becomes a work of art.

There is always art within the dialogue of feelings between people, and the methods for expressing these feelings are no doubt limitless. Mr. Hibino's easygoing personality has also been thoroughly conveyed.

"Everyone together..."—Mr. Hibino's art has a very beautiful resonance.

Mr. Katsuhiko Hibino was born in Gifu City, Japan, in 1958. After completing a Master of Fine Arts at the Tokyo University of the Arts, during the 1980s he gained attention for his cross-disciplinary creative style reflecting the times. In addition to creating works of art, Mr. Hibino continues to pursue expression using the body as a medium and explore his own potential. In various communities throughout Japan, he has worked together with event participants to create works of art, creating mechanisms for art to function in society. He serves as the executive director for the Gifu National Sports Festival and the National Sports Festival for People with Disabilities. He also serves as director of the Japan Football Association and is a professor in the Department of Intermedia Art, Faculty of Fine Arts, at the Tokyo University of the Arts.



«Match Flag Project»
 A match flag is a flag created using the national colors of the two countries playing a (soccer) match.



«Roppongi Hibino Cup»
 For the Hibino Cup, everything needed to play soccer is handmade. The goals are made from cardboard boxes, and the ball is made from air packing.



Lighthouse exhibited last year as the "Art Night Lighthouse 2013" Designed by Mr. Hibino, the glass lighthouse stands approximately 8m high in the Roppongi Hills Arena (photograph at right).

What is Roppongi Art Night?

Staged in the streets of Roppongi, this art festival is held with the aims of proposing new lifestyles where art is enjoyed as part of everyday living and generating a pioneering model for urban development in Metropolitan Tokyo. Various works—modern art, design, music, film, performance, etc.—are scattered throughout the streets, creating a one-night-only out-of-the-ordinary experience.

Roppongi Art Night 2014
 April 19 (Sat.) – 20 (Sun.), 2014



Box staircase

麻布びと

"Azabu — A Human Story"



Mr. Yoshiya Yamaoka

President of Yamaoka Design Studio

Visiting Professor at Tokyo City University Graduate School



Standing signboards painted with the company's brand name



The entrance to the former storehouse retains the atmosphere of the Edo period. It is awe-inspiring to see how the building has survived into the modern Heisei era after 155 years.



Viewed from the neighboring vacant lot (as of February 2014), many people's eyes are sure to be caught by the house's exterior, with its great volume (frontage of approximately 5 m; depth of approximately 18 m) and old-fashioned wooden board siding with battens.

Inheriting a home built during the Edo period, as I continue to live here I continue to conduct research for a record to pass on to succeeding generations

A single road continuing from Sendai-zaka-ue in Minami-azabu to Honmura Nursery School and Shino-hash Bridge—on this road sits an old Japanese-style house with attached storehouse reminiscent of the Edo period, as if one has been transported back in time. Living in this precious, solitary house that has remained standing while around it Tokyo has transformed daily at a dizzying pace, Mr. Yoshiya Yamaoka spoke to us at his home.

Continuing to live in a home built during the Ansei era (1854–1860)

Born in 1946, Mr. Yoshiya Yamaoka is the 17th head of the Yamaoka family. He was born in this solid, old, elegant home that exudes character and still lives here today. Mr. Yamaoka explained the house's history in detail.

"In the Edo period, the residence of Matsudaira Mutsunokami (Date Masamune) of the Sendai-han (Sendai domain) was located near what is now Minami-azabu 3-chome. The name of the slope now known as 'Sendai-zaka Slope' was derived from the name of the Sendai-han. I understand that my ancestors came to Edo from Omi approximately 260 years ago, during the Horeki era (1751–1764). They were apparently merchants selling medicines, rice, charcoal, and miscellaneous items who traveled in and out of the Sendai-han. The storehouse standing today was built in the sixth year of the Ansei era (1859), after the Great Ansei Earthquake, which struck in the second year of the Ansei era (1855)."

The house has stood on this site during tumultuous times since the final days of the Tokugawa Shogunate.

Facing the street is the former storehouse, its walls covered with mud. Behind this is the residential wing of the house; the current structure was rebuilt in the 8th year of the Showa period (1933) following the Great Kanto Earthquake in the 12th year of the Taisho period (1923). The original blueprints have been carefully preserved. Mr. Yamaoka says, "The master carpenter who built the house, Mr. Kubota, was also the master carpenter for the construction of the Azabu-hikawa Shrine, which is nearby." Numerous historical parts dating from the Edo period remain here and there throughout the house. Taking up Mr. Yamaoka's kind invitation, we promptly began our exploration of the house and grounds.

Passing through the entrance to the former storehouse, there is a parlor (tatami-mat room), which retains vestiges of the room's original role as an office. Our eyes were riveted on the room's fixtures and furnishings, including raised wooden flap in the ceiling, staircase chest of drawers (box staircase), boxes containing paper lanterns, store signs, and other relics showing that the family was once in the merchant trade. The residential wing is also built in the style of an old traditional Japanese-style house, with a long veranda facing the garden and another parlor (Japanese-style room) on the inside of the veranda. Entering through the Nekoma shoji sliding paper doors with a narrow vertical lattice, sunlight softly envelops the room. The six-tatami-mat room where we spoke with Mr. Yamaoka also has a hori-gotatsu (foot warmer built into the floor), and with the light streaming in through the small windows above the doors and the view of the garden through the glass doors along the veranda, the atmosphere was somehow nostalgic. Evoking images of our grandmothers' homes, which we visited as children, the scene was soothing to the spirit.

Mr. Yamaoka says, "I was born in the postwar period, but in the great Tokyo air raids of World War II, the areas around Azabu sustained catastrophic damage. Miraculously, our home survived the air raids. Many victims took refuge in this house, which remained, even after the war. When I was an infant, there were 19 people living here." Water from the well in the garden was made available to neighbors for everyday use.

We spoke further with Mr. and Mrs. Yamaoka and their eldest son, Wakato. Mrs. Yamaoka says, "The whole family always ends up gathered here



On the southern side of the living room where the family gathers are the Nekoma shoji sliding paper doors with a narrow vertical lattice, creating a space for comfortable relaxation.



The False Daphne trees that Wakato climbed enthusiastically with his friends during his elementary school days still rise high and strong above the garden with their green foliage.



The blueprints from when the house was rebuilt in the eighth year of the Showa period (1933) have been carefully preserved.



In the garden, there is an Inari Shine that was built in 1933.

The straight-line veranda where Wakato laid down railway tracks and played with toy trains is like that of a traditional Japanese inn.



On the house's south side, the garden extends out from the veranda. The veranda has a nostalgic atmosphere scented with the flavor of the Showa period.

together in the living room. My husband often writes here as well." The room's ceiling is high because of the old-fashioned design, but somewhere there is a warm sense of nostalgia to this space that envelops people; this six-tatami-mat living room is incredibly comfortable.

Then there is the magnificent straight-line veranda facing the garden from which gentle sunlight pours into the house. Wakato, who no longer lives in the house, recalls, "When I was in elementary school, my elder sister and I would assemble railway tracks and play with toy trains." Both father and son are graduates of Honmura Elementary School. Wakato reminisces, "Our house was close to the school, and so friends would often come over to play. We would climb trees in the garden and play hide-and-seek inside and outside the house." His father, Yoshiya, nods, saying that he, too, has fond memories of climbing the same False Daphne trees as he played. Descending into the garden from the stepping stone, there are seasonally blooming trees, such as plum and persimmon trees, as well as an Inari shrine built by the son of the master carpenter who built the house. Previously there was also a pond.

Yoshiya says, "When I was a child, the road in front of the house was where we played. Now the road is used as a shortcut to Meiji-dori St. and has heavy traffic, even though it's a one-way street, but when I was a child I would play catch with my two younger brothers or run around with other children from the neighborhood." Of course, there was little traffic back then, and for children it was a great place to play. This house has watched over the day-to-day lives of each generation.

My mission is to maintain a record of this house and to ensure that my memories are passed on

Mr. Yamaoka is now the president of an architectural design office and is active designing a broad range of buildings—embassies, condominiums, business facilities, and family homes. At the same time, he also teaches at a graduate school. Finding time in his busy work schedule, working with students, Mr. Yamaoka measures the actual dimensions of his home's exterior, structure, fittings, and furnishings, etc., creating a detailed survey map. He says, "The house has withstood war and earthquakes, but I believe it is my duty to survey the house while I can and create a record."

In the mid-1950s to mid-1960s, the area around the house was a string of merchant houses known as the Honmurachokai-Uenomachi Shotengai commercial district and was bustling and lively, with greengrocers, butchers, fish shops, and even a public bathhouse. Following the thread of his memories of this cityscape, Mr. Yamaoka recreates the appearance of the house during his childhood through sketches and painstakingly carried out detailed work.

* * * * *

When we told him that if the opportunity arose, we would very much like to shine the spotlight on the precious Yamaoka residence and write a report detailing its various expressions. Mr. Yamaoka readily agreed. We left the Yamaoka residence filled with awe that, despite its location in the city center, surrounded by leading-edge redevelopment buildings and skyscrapers, this good old-fashioned, beautiful Japanese-style house has been carefully preserved through to the present day and continues to be lived in.



The 17th head of the Yamaoka family, Yoshiya, and his eldest son, Wakato

(Interviewed and written by Aki Tanaka, Yasuhiro Tanaka, Yukiko Takayanagi)

ワタンも 麻布っ子

Call me Azabu-kko

We would like to introduce your dear "family" in this section.

Say "cheese!"



I'm Emmy from Moto-azabu.

● Emmy, please introduce yourself.

I am a nine-year-old female. The daughter of the couple I live with is a domestic animal vet (cattle), and through that connection they got me from a farm in Chiba. At just around this time, an American friend of the husband's won an Emmy Award for a TV show, and that is how I got my name. Great name, isn't it?!

● You look very confident, don't you? And your long tail is lovely.

Thank you, that makes me so happy! The wife apparently wanted a female cat with stripes and a long tail, and so I was selected from amongst my many siblings. It was fate. The wife said, "I wonder if she's too fat," but I would never do anything as bad mannered as stealing snacks from the kitchen or dining table, and so I am at my perfect weight. Moreover, I am in excellent health, and I've never needed to see a doctor in my life.

● I understand you spend weekends at the family's holiday home.

During the week, I live quietly in our condominium in Moto-azabu. The couple also has a home in Chiba Prefecture, and so we go there by car on the weekends. Do I ever get car sick? Absolutely not.

The garden of the house in Chiba is quite large, and so during the day I run around in the natural surroundings or look down at humans from my perch high up in a tree. Of course, I go home in the evening. Because I really look forward to the weekends, when Friday comes around, I hover around the front door of the condominium. The couple is surprised, but I know perfectly well that we will be going away.

● You have a very calm and composed personality, don't you?

When the couple goes on a trip, I stay with their daughter, and I get along well with the people in that household too. I am very compatible with people. By nature, I have an easy-going, imperturbable disposition. I really dislike cats though. The wife says, "Emmy is not like a cat at all; she's like a person. It's as if we're living with a friend."

Mr. Cameraman, did you get a good shot? The wife contacted The Azabu because she thought it would make for a good memory, and you came to interview me so soon! Thank you for today.



My bed is a cardboard box fitted with an electric foot warmer.



The poster the husband made the day I joined the family is still there.



They also made a toilet for me in the wall storage space. I can go in and out through the hole.



I love sitting on people's laps.



I mean it, I won't scratch.

Please introduce the animals which are popular in your town

Please enclose a picture along with your story to the address below. It can be a story written by the owner as well. If we should get many applications, we may have to hold an editors' meeting to decide which story to introduce. Please note that we will not be able to reply to any inquiries about whether your story was chosen or not. If we decide to cover your story, we will be in touch with you regarding the scheduling of the interview. We look forward to receiving application. Thank you.

"I'm Also A Child of Azabu!" Application Desk, Community Policy Subsection, Collaboration Project Section, Azabu Regional City Office
5-16-45 Roppongi Minato-ku (106-8515)



We're waiting to hear from you

(Interviewed and written by Aki Tanaka)

Facing the flames thinking, "I just have to do it!"



Kyuta*1

This time, we three Roppongi Junior High School second year students visited the Azabu Fire Station for our report. As you know, the main job of firefighters is to put out fires in burning buildings and to save people's lives. What, then, is the everyday life of firefighters, whose job it is to rescue people, and what aspects of the job are they especially careful about?

◎Please tell us why you decided to become a firefighter.

I had always idolized firefighters since I was a child, and I had a strong desire to work in a job where I could help people.

◎What is important in being a firefighter?

Being able to work quickly and call out in a loud voice. We train every day so that we can achieve this.

◎Isn't it frightening to plunge into a fire?

Once I have ensured my safety, I just face the flames, thinking, "I just have to do it!" My fellow firefighters are there too, so I'm not frightened.

◎What aspects of the job are difficult?

I work one 24-hour day once every three days*2, and so if a fire occurs I have to go to work to put it out even if it's the middle of the night. Also, even in mid-



Rescue training for the pump team members climbing up to the third floor of a building.

summer we use the same hot, heavy uniforms and equipment.

◎What aspects of the job make you glad you became a firefighter?

When someone I have rescued thanks me.

For this report, we were able to observe actual training and conduct interviews, and it was a very valuable experience.

We would be pleased if we have been able to convey to readers even a little information about the work of firefighters. Thank you for reading our report.

*1 Kyuta is the mascot of the Tokyo Fire Department.
*2 Firefighters work on a 24-hour three-shift system in which on duty, off-duty, and weekly holiday are repeated. When on duty, firefighters apparently consider themselves lucky to get three hours of sleep.



Members of the pump, ladder, and rescue teams on duty at the Tokyo Fire Department Azabu Fire Station.

There are many types of work in the world

Firefighter

To give children power for life

Reading material for parents and children

KIDS' Hello Work

Facts readers might seem to know but actually don't

Uniforms and other fire-fighting equipment have been modified so that they can be put on quickly!

After a 6-month-training at the fire academy they start working at the fire stations.



Firefighters' equipment weighs 20 kg in total, and they have to put all this on in 45 seconds!!



Earthquake disaster training also includes preparing meals outdoors—Cooking Guys!



That is all of our trivia about firefighters.



Wow, that's heavy!



Rescue team members Assistant Fire Sergeant Katayama (left) and Firefighter Fukuda (right).



I have huge respect for anyone who can fight fires while wearing this.

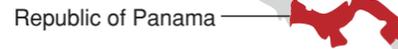
(Interviewed and written by Masaki Kudo, Tastuo Maeda, Koji Yamaguchi, Interview support Kyoko Ideishi)



Republic of Panama

Total Area : 75,517 Sq. Kilometers (slightly smaller than Hokkaido)
 Population : Approx. 3.4 million people (2010 National Tax Survey)
 Capital : Panama City
 Ethnic Groups : Mestizo 70%、Amerindian 7%
 Language : Spanish
 Religion : Catholic
 Government : Unitary Presidential Constitutional Republic
 Head of State: President Ricardo Alberto Martinelli Berrocal (5 Year Term, Consecutive Re-election Prohibited)
 Legislature: Unicameral Legislature (currently 71 members), five-year terms and elections are held simultaneous with its presidential elections

Foreign Ministry Homepage
<http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/area/panama/data.html>



H.E. Mr. Jorge Demetrio KOSMAS SIFAKI

Interview cooperation by:
 Embassy of Panama

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From the "World" of Azabu



The Coat of Arms of Panama which was put up in the embassy. The nine golden stars arch above the eagle, represents the provinces in which the Republic is divided into, the harpy eagle which is the national bird is the emblem of sovereignty; the silver ribbon which is grasped in its beak is inscribed with the motto "Pro Mundi Beneficio," meaning "For the benefit of the world". It's center depicts the isthmus and two oceans in which the Panamanian Straight and Panama Canal are positioned and is the country's symbol of progress.

PANAMA

100th Year Anniversary of the Opening of the Panama Canal
 A Country Which Continues to Grow as the Hub of Latin America

The Republic of Panama is situated on the isthmus connecting North and South America and is known from the Panama Canal that connects the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean. The country has also developed to become the most important international banking center in Latin America and has a strong bond with Japan, as many Japanese corporations also do business in this country. We had the honor of interviewing H.E. Jorge Kosmas Sifaki, Ambassador of Panama to Japan and heard about his daily life, as well as, an anecdote of a Japanese, in relation to the Panama Canal and about his country's abundant nature.

Panama and Japan's Role in World Trade

H.E. Jorge Kosmas Sifaki gave us a warm welcome in Japanese upon our arrival. H.E was a lawyer in Panama City and was appointed as the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Panama for Japan in 2009.

Japan and Panama celebrated its 100th year diplomatic relations in 2004 and has continued to have strong economic and technical collaboration. Panama's major economy is centered on the service sector which consists of trade, import and banking. There are more than 40 Japanese companies mainly trading companies which use this country as a hub for business with Latin American countries. The Colón Free Trade Zone near the Caribbean entrance to the Panama Canal has been used as a center of exporting Japanese products to Latin America since 1970. Japan is cooperating in Panama's infrastructure plans in progress through technological support and investment such as the current Panama Canal expansion project underway to the subway construction and expansion project its international hub airport. The country's recent economic growth could be felt strongly through the ambassador's enthusiastic and energetic explanation.

When we asked the Ambassador if he was puzzled about anything upon his appointment to Japan, he told us that it was the difference of how the Panamanians and Japanese expressed emotions. "Latin Americans express their emotions with facial expressions, physical gesture and tone of voice, but, I was surprised because the Japanese are the exact opposite and express their thoughts in an indirect way. However, I was able to understand the differences as I came in contact with the Japanese people." He now uses this understanding in his work.

Panama is a melting pot, consisting of its indigenous people, and those of European, African and Asian descent. He told us that Panama "was a melting pot". The country's name "Panama" derives from its indigenous people (fisherman) and meant "many fish and butterflies". The Darién National Park which is a UNESCO world heritage contains an exceptional variety of habitats, as well as, upland tropical forests containing remarkable wildlife.

"My recommendation would be the San Blas Islands with its beautiful beaches." One can cruise in Panama, visit the world heritages, enjoy the shopping and casinos and because access is so easy by plane from the United States, it has become the most popular location to retire to. The Ambassador told us that he would like the Japanese to get to know more about the appealing points of Panama and he said, "We are currently in negotiations for a direct flight to Panama which will only take 16 hours (currently, it takes 20 hours via the U.S) and putting in efforts on tourism for the Japanese. We also accept visits of Japanese school children to our embassy."

Akira Aoyama, Who Participated in the Construction of the Panama Canal

Panama will be celebrating the 100th year of the opening of the Panama Canal in 2014. Japan is the 4th largest country using the Panama Canal following the U.S, China and Chile. The Panama Canal is 80kms long and was built to connect the Atlantic Ocean and the Pacific Ocean, and, we were told by H.E that there was Japanese who participated in the construction. Mr. Akira Aoyama (1878-1963), the sole Japanese engineer, applied the knowledge and experience obtained in the construction of the Panama Canal 1904-1911, and participated later in the construction of the Arakawa River to control the frequent floods. It is said that he contributed in Japan's prewar industrial development on countermeasures for flooding. H.E told us, "I was very touched to have the opportunity to invite Mr. Aoyama's son who lives in Shizuoka to the embassy."

Enjoys Browsing Around Tokyo with his Family on Weekends

"Japan has become my other home country." said the Ambassador, as his son was born in Tokyo in his 2nd year here in Japan. He enjoys going on walks with his family on weekends and said that Japan was interesting because he could enjoy the harmony of the most advanced high rises in Roppongi Hills and old Japanese houses. As for Japanese food, he said, "No problem. I, especially like shabu shabu, tonkatsu and sushi. Panama's staple is rice, so I feel a sense of closeness to Japanese food because your staple is also rice." The Ambassador's favorite traditional soup of Panama, sancocho, which is a chicken soup, is also eaten along with rice.



- 1 Panama's capital, Panama City is a cosmopolitan city with many high rises.
- 2 Colon which is where the Colon Free Trade Zone is and lies near the Caribbean Sea; this free port is known at the "trading showcase"
- 3 The Darien National Park has an expansive of rainforest and is hometo over 300 recorded species of birds.
- 4 Panama is the main port of call as cruises go through the Panama Canal that depart from the U.S
- 5 The San Blas Islands is a series of over 350 islands, strung out along the Caribbean coast.
- 6 A traditional Panamanian chicken soup. It is cooked with name, a type of yam and herbs such as coriander. It is eaten with rice.
- 7 A Kuna woman selling molas in Panama. It is a colorful applique of fabrics sewn together.
- 8 The women wear the "pollera" and the men wear the "montuno" which is the national costume worn at times of festivals and celebrations.



The Ambassador was very accommodating and he talked about Panama's economy, as well as, about his family. We were able to see an energetic future of his country utilizing its geopolitical position, and, we became even more intrigued with the country. Panama's first female president, was elected in 1999 and there are also active female cabinet members in the current government; having said that, Panama is a country we can't keep our eyes off as its economy and tourism grows.



The Panama Canal is 80kms long which connects the Gatun Locks of the Pacific Ocean with the Miraflores Locks of the Atlantic Ocean. The approximate time to traverse the canal per vessel is 24 hours (including waiting time) and Japanese is the 4th largest country which uses this canal. The United States took over the project in and it officially 1914 and was taken over by the Panamanian government in 1999.

The Azabu Future Photo Studio

- The name originates from the Azabu Goten villa -

Do you know the origins of the names "Ichino-hash" Bridge and "Nino-hash" Bridge?

With the completion of the Azabu (Shirokane) Goten villa* as a rest facility for the fifth shogun, Tokugawa Tsunayoshi, work was undertaken to expand the Furu-kawa River, and the first place where a bridge was built is Ichino-hash Bridge. The tradesmen undertaking the expansion work were divided into 10 groups and required to stay in the neighboring area. The place where the 10th group (Juban) stayed is now Azabujuban.

*Currently the Shino-hash Bridge area.



1967: Looking towards Shin-ichino-hash Bridge from near the Ichino-hash Bridge Intersection—the Ichino-hash Bridge Junction of the Metropolitan Expressway, which was under construction at the time. Photograph taken by: Mr. Masanori Taguchi
Photograph provided by: Mr. Shigehisa Taguchi



Nino-hash Bridge

2012: Near the Nino-hash Bridge Intersection.

Ichino-hash Bridge



2012: Near the Shin-ichino-hash Bridge Intersection.



1967: Looking towards Azabujuban from the Nino-hash Bridge Intersection. Photograph taken by: Mr. Masanori Taguchi
Photograph provided by: Mr. Shigehisa Taguchi

About the Azabu Future Photo Studio?

The Azabu Regional City Office started collaborating with residents and corporations since fiscal 2009 to collect old photographs of the Azabu region, as well as take fixed point photographs and using them to save the changes of Azabu. This is the Azabu Future Photo Studio project.

The aim of this project is to have the people living in the Azabu region to feel an affinity to the history and culture which can be preserved and inherited through the collection and storing of this as data of the Azabu region and, furthermore, to aim at actively utilizing these photographs. At the same time, we would like for our people to further understand more about the history and culture of the "town" and further if it could be of help to deepen the people's attachment towards the Azabu region.

A Message from the Azabu Future Photo Studio

■ The Azabu Future Photo Studio is looking for old photographs.

If you have any old photographs of the Azabu region which you think are worth passing down to the future, please send them to the Azabu Regional City Office. For details, please contact the Communication Policy Subsection, Collaboration Project Section, Azabu Regional City Office. Inquiries: Tel.: 03-5114-8812

■ Holding of the Third Panel Exhibition

March 18 (Tue.)-28 (Fri.), 2014
9:00-17:00 (closed on Saturdays and Sundays)
Venue: 1F Lobby, Minato City Office
*The Third Panel Exhibition is an aggregation of the panels displayed in the Second Panel Exhibition.

(Interviewed and written by Yasuhiro Tanaka)

地域社会 の ゆくえ

14

"The Local Community"

"Eyes" watching over the region's safety and security

Regional activities learned from the Roppongi Safety and Security Patrol Team

Although the Azabu region is probably one of the safer areas of Tokyo, there are also areas—mainly the entertainment district—where children walking alone may not feel safe. We spoke to Mr. Masatoshi Shimbo, the leader of the Roppongi Safety and Security Patrol Team—a volunteer group that has been continuously active for 10 years now—about how the region's safety and security can be protected and nurtured.

Reason for beginning patrol activities

Around 2004, safety in Roppongi was not good, with incidents of people being killed or injured occurring, and there were also many cases of people being assaulted. Drunkards loitering about making a huge racket until the time for children to go to school in the morning, signs and illegally parked bicycles jutting onto the sidewalk, crows fighting over garbage put out illegally—all these posed a terrible threat to not only children but other

pedestrians as well. It was then that the Roppongi Safety and Security Patrol Team was assembled. Begun with 50 volunteers from merchants' associations and town councils, today the team has some 100 registered members, including employees of companies with offices in Roppongi.

What kind of activities does the team undertake?

Centered on the Roppongi Intersection, on alternate Friday mornings, the patrol picks up litter and watches over children on their way to school; on Wednesday or Thursday every week, there is a nighttime patrol that includes residential areas as well.

Cleaning up the local environment, improving pedestrian spaces, and maintaining nighttime safety are the pillars of our activities. In December of last year, the total number of patrols we conducted exceeded 500. In the past, we picked up as much as 10 70-liter bags of litter, but this amount has decreased as a result of our efforts.

If everyone works together

Mr. Shimbo's message was powerful: "When we think about something to ascertain if there is a problem from the perspective of children, it is possible to create communities that are also kind to elderly people and women. If everyone works together, something can surely be done."

Greetings are effective for preventing crime!

According to Mr. Hikota—head of the Safe and Reassuring Urban Planning Section of the Office for Youth Affairs and Public Safety, Tokyo Metropolitan Government—what thieves dislike the most is people's eyes, and so exchanging greetings

Mr. Masatoshi Shimbo, the leader of the Roppongi Safety and Security Patrol Team, looking very smart in his uniform!



amongst neighbors is the most effective way to prevent theft. If you are too shy to say a greeting, it's fine to simply nod your head. Let's start off with activities that we can apply in daily life.

Do you know about the Kabuki Eye Sticker?

Have you seen the sticker on buses and delivery vehicles showing the made-up eyes of a Kabuki actor? This is a measure by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government called "Moving Eyes Preventing Crime" that is being implemented with the aim of raising awareness of crime-prevention activities amongst private-sector business operators, such as being watchful and notifying police of any criminal activity. Thus these are also "eyes watching over the safety and security of the region."



Thank you for carrying out your watchdog activities without fail, even on rainy days.

* Roppongi Safety and Security Patrol Team website: <http://www.ractive-roppongi.com/patrol/index.shtml>
* Moving Eyes Preventing Crime website <http://www.bouhan.metro.tokyo.jp>

(Interviewed and written by Yoko Mitsuki)



Exterior view of the Kōfūkyo teahouse

Kōfūkyo: A teahouse that has seen magnificent, constant change

One day last autumn, our reporting staff headed out to Mitaka City, some distance from Azabu. Their destination was the Kōfūkyo teahouse on the grounds of International Christian University (ICU). One of the six historical buildings comprising the Taizansō complex, the Kōfūkyo teahouse is known as Taizansō's central element.

Kōfūkyo has a unique history of changes with no parallel.

It was first constructed during the Meiji period (1868-1912) as a study and then later transformed into a teahouse. As its ownership changed several times, the teahouse's location was also moved three times. Moreover, the Kishū-Tokugawa clan, which resided in Azabu until the Taisho period (1912-1926), was deeply involved in the teahouse's continued existence.

For this report, we were provided with a precious opportunity to photograph in and around the Kōfūkyo teahouse with the cooperation of the International Christian University Hachiro Yuasa Memorial Museum. Focusing on the teahouse's ties with the Tokugawa clan, let's peruse its checkered destiny.

麻布の軌跡

The Phenomena of Azabu

A small study endowed to the Tokugawa clan's Nanki Bunko library

The area of current-day Azabudai 1-chome where the Azabu Elementary School, Itakura Diplomatic Office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, and Azabu Post Office now stand was in the Meiji and Taisho periods (1868-1926), the site of the Kishū-Tokugawa clan residence. Marquis Tokugawa Yorimichi (1872-1925), the 15th head of the Kishū-Tokugawa clan, established the Nanki Bunko in a corner of the property.

This magnificent example of western architecture was Japan's first private library.

Source: The Azabu Vol. 17 "The Phenomena of Azabu: Nanki Bunko" (<http://www.city.minato.tokyo.jp/azabu/index.html>)

In the back garden of the Nanki Bunko, there was a small study built in the Japanese style called the "One-Mat Room." It was in fact this One-Mat Room that would eventually become the core building of the Kōfūkyo teahouse complex. Built by Takeshirō Matsuura, the One-Mat Room passed to the Tokugawa clan after his death.

The One-Mat Room of Takeshirō Matsuura

Who, then, was Takeshirō Matsuura (1818-1888)? He spent most of his life from the last days of the Tokugawa Shogunate through the Meiji period traveling, and he wrote and published many travelogues, historical books, and maps. He had a strong interest in the north, and had deep exchanges with the Ainu people. Although the Shogunate appointed him to official Ezo (northern Japan) duty, he raised objections to the way the Ainu people were being treated by the Matsumae clan, and so adamant was he in his protestations that he quit his post.

Takeshirō Matsuura was also a collector of archaeological artifacts. In his later years, he gathered together 89 pieces of old wood from Shinto shrines, Buddhist temples, and historical structures that he solicited from friends throughout Japan. With these scraps of wood, in 1886 he built the One-Mat Room adjoining his home at Kanda Goken-cho to use as a study. Matsuura was extremely pleased with his creation; he would sleep and spend many hours in the study, as well as entertain guests there.

In his will, Matsuura instructed that after his death he be cremated using the wood of the One-Mat Room, but instead his family carefully preserved the room as a memorial. In 1908, at the request of the Tokugawa clan, the One-Mat Room was moved to the Nanki Bunko in Azabu. Since the Matsuura residence was later destroyed by fire in the Great Kanto Earthquake, the One-Mat Room can be said to have had a narrow escape thanks to this move.

Completion of Kōfūkyo on the initiative of Marquis Tokugawa Yorimichi

In this way, the One-Mat Room became the property of the Tokugawa clan. Together with the Nanki Bunko, it was to draw the public spotlight. Here let us touch on the character of Marquis Tokugawa Yorimichi. Skilled in the literary and military arts, he overflowed with genuine sentiment and had a rich spirit of enterprise. In his youth, he studied at Cambridge University in Great Britain and visited various countries in the West. Throughout his life, he undertook many cultural activities. In addition to establishing the Nanki Bunko, he also poured effort into preserving historic sites throughout Japan.

It is not difficult to imagine that Yorimichi admired the personality of Takeshirō Matsuura, his predecessor, and lauded his achievements. Furthermore, he planned to construct a teahouse made from scraps of old wood from historical structures just as Matsuura had done, in order to create a main building for the One-Mat Room to adjoin. This was the "Kōfūkyo" teahouse. Meaning "residence of a noble person," the teahouse's name was chosen as an expression of Yorimichi's great respect for Takeshirō Matsuura.

Six months before the Great Kanto Earthquake of 1923, the Tokugawa clan moved from Azabu to Yoyogi-Uehara. Around one year after the disaster the One-Mat Room was also moved, but Yorimichi passed away suddenly before construction of the Kōfūkyo teahouse was completed. Kōfūkyo was later completed by Yorimichi's widow and close aides. That is to say, after two moves, the One-Mat Room was transformed from a study into a teahouse with an adjoining study and it breathed in new life.

● Marquis Tokugawa Yorimichi



● Site of the former Tokugawa clan residence



Plate in front of the Azabu Elementary School in Ikura-katamachi that reads "A Base for modern culture: The plate is titled as the site of the former residence of the Kishū-Tokugawa clan and describes the Nanki Bunko library."

(Source: Henry D. Smith, *Taizansō and the One-Mat Room*. Edited and published by the International Christian University Hachiro Yuasa Memorial Museum)

Moved again—this time to Mitaka—and absorbed by the "Taizansō" villa

However, this was not to be Kōfūkyo's final home. The Tokugawa clan relinquished Kōfūkyo, apparently in part for financial reasons, and in 1936 its next owner, Keisuke Yamada (1881-1944) moved the teahouse for a third time. An executive of a subsidiary of the Nissan Zaibatsu, Yamada was extremely wealthy. He planned to build a villa, Taizansō, in Mitaka where tea parties could be held. He acquired Kōfūkyo in addition to the villa's main building (separate from Kōfūkyo; later destroyed in a fire), waiting tea room, *shoin*, storehouse, garage, and front gate. In the tea ceremony world, it is not unusual to relocate structures with a distinguished history, and having been owned by the Tokugawa clan, Kōfūkyo was especially prestigious—hence the way in which it was desired and carefully preserved and passed on from owner to owner.

Later, ownership of Taizansō changed, passing into the hands of Chikuhei Nakajima (1884-1949), president of the Nakajima Aircraft Company, in 1940. In 1950, the year after International Christian University was founded, the Taizansō complex was officially transferred to the university.

* * * *

I learned of Kōfūkyo's existence three years ago, when researching the Nanki Bunko for an article for Vol. 17 of *The Azabu*. Ever since then, I have been gathering materials and information, and finally in November of last year that day came for me to come face to face with Kōfūkyo.

My guides on-site were ICU student members of the Taizansō Project, which carries out Taizansō research, preservation, and maintenance activities.

Passing through Taizansō's gate, a garden covered with grass spreads before us, dotted with buildings. Entering the sloping woods, Kōfūkyo appeared before us with its thick thatched roof. Despite its antiquity, to our eyes the teahouse glowed in the soft autumn sunshine. Inside, the One-Mat Room is on the left-hand side of a passage that continues from the earth-floor entrance; beyond that, the *kaneori* (right angle corridor) separates a six-mat tea room and a three-mat *mizuya* (preparation area) on its right- and left-hand sides, respectively. At the time the teahouse was constructed, differences between the older and newer parts were no doubt conspicuous, but today, after the passage of so many years, the structure has an overall well-matched and harmonious, calm appearance.

Sitting on the tatami matting, my imagination runs wild as I wonder, "What are Tokugawa Yorimichi and Takeshirō Matsuura thinking as they watch the continual transformation of the building from the world beyond?" and "If Yorimichi and Takeshirō were both alive today and were to meet here, as two of the foremost cultural figures of their generation they would surely have a truly fascinating conversation." I was simply filled with emotion.

In 1999, the six buildings of the existing Taizansō complex were designated as a national tangible cultural property. Once a year, the complex is opened to the public for two days only during the university's cultural festival. If you are interested, why not visit Taizansō sometime?

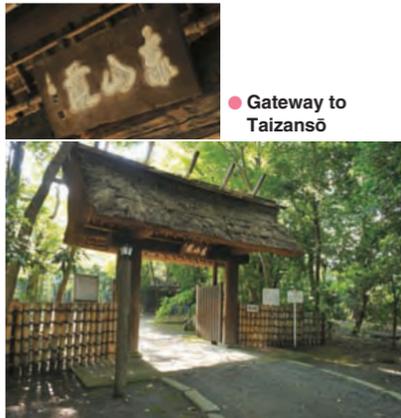
● Members of the Taizansō Project



From left: Leader Mr. Tetsuro Kudo (4th year), Ms. Anzu Ogata (1st year), Ms. Miho Shimoyasuba (3rd Year), and Ms. Mihori Uenishi (3rd year). Taizansō is usually used for museum studies classes and tea ceremony club activities. The "Taizansō Project" was launched in 2003, and students cooperate in cleaning and preparations for opening the facility to the public. Between FY 2011 and 2015, a fundraising campaign commemorating the 60th anniversary of ICU's foundation is conducted, and donations are collected for the restoration of Taizansō.

(Inquiries: International Christian University Hachiro Yuasa Memorial Museum Tel: 0422-33-3340)

● Gateway to Taizansō



● Kōfūkyo [teahouse]



[One-Mat Room]



Reporting cooperation:
International Christian University Hachiro Yuasa Memorial Museum
Museum representative/curator: Ms. Reiko Hara
Curator: Ms. Akiko Fukono
Student members of the Taizansō Project

References:
Henry D. Smith, *Taizansō and the One-Mat Room*. Edited and published by the International Christian University Hachiro Yuasa Memorial Museum
Mariko Tsubota, "Nanki Bunko: Knowledge picked up by the eyes and ears" (in Japanese). Edited and produced by Ikuhousha; published by the Mutual Aid Association for Tokyo Metropolitan Teachers and Officials
"Seikado-kura Takeshirō Matsuura Collection" (in Japanese). Edited and published by Seikado
"Late Edo Era Explorer Takeshirō Matsuura and the One-Mat Room" (in Japanese). Published by INAX Publishing
Kishu clan, "Record of Taizansō" (in Japanese). Bunshi Takagi
Takeshirō Matsuura, "A Solicitation of Wood Scraps" (in Japanese). (National Diet Library)

(Interviewed by Yoshie Osawa, Aki Tanaka, Akira Mori, Written by Aki Tanaka)

To the foreign nationals residing in Azabu, wouldn't you want to learn more about Azabu by participating in local community volunteer activities?

This will be a great opportunity for you to contribute to the development of the town as well as interact with the people of the community and learn more about the town of Azabu.

English interpreters will be there to help you while you participate in the activities.

Eligibility:

Foreign nationals aged 20 and over who are interested in volunteer work.

Activity:

An initiative to keep the environment clean and to patrol around the Roppongi area for about one hour during the nighttime. The purpose of the activity will be explained before the start.

Schedule:

Please see the Minato City website.

Meeting Place:

Mikawadai Park (Roppongi 4-2-27)

Area:

In the vicinity of Roppongi Crossing

Application:

Please call or fax your name and phone number by 3 P.M. on the day before the event.

※You can participate in both the cleanup and patrol, or either one.

※There will be no reward.

※The activity will be cancelled if it rains, and you will be contacted about this on that day.

Inquiries:

Collaboration Project Section of the Azabu Regional City Office.

Tel.03-5114-8812 Fax.03-3583-3782



Message from the Azabu Police Station

“Avoid becoming a crime victim!” – In order to avoid becoming a victim of crime, it is important to be vigilant every day

◆ Preventing damage from “Help me, Mom!” or refund scams

In case you receive a telephone call from someone alleging to be your son or grandchild saying, “My mobile telephone number has changed,” “I lost my bag on the train,” or “I used the company’s money without permission,” etc.:

In case you receive a telephone call from someone alleging to be from the City Office or Social Insurance Agency saying, “You have a medical expenses refund,” or “You overpaid your taxes and so we will initiate refund procedures,” etc.:

In case you receive a telephone call similar to these, do not immediately take the caller at their word. Be sure to first hang up the telephone and verify that the caller is who they say they are by calling the person at a known telephone number in the case of a family member or in the case of a public office, calling the number of the office listed in the telephone book.

◆ Preventing damage from bag-snatching: take especial care regarding the “Three Bag-snatching Precautions”

- (1) Carry your bag on the side away from the road (preferably diagonally across your shoulder)
- (2) If a motorbike or bicycle approaches you from behind, turn around (be especially careful when using a smartphone while walking)
- (3) Attach a cover or net for preventing bag snatching to the basket on your bicycle

Crime Prevention Measures Office, Azabu Police Station
Tel.: 03-3479-0110 Extension: 6502/2612

Message Regarding Metropolitan Tax

Notification of Public Real Estate Auction

The Tokyo Metropolitan Government Bureau of Taxation is selling by public auction (“kobai”) real estate properties that have been foreclosed due to non-payment of metropolitan taxes. This public auction is being carried out jointly by the Tokyo metropolitan government and wards, cities, towns, and villages within the metropolitan area.

Date of public auction	Tuesday, July 1, 2014
Properties for auction	Please refer to “Notification of Joint Public Real Estate Auction” on the Tokyo metropolitan government website, Tokyo metropolitan taxation office websites, or the websites of participating wards, cities, towns, or villages.
Venue	No. 2 Bidding Room, 4F North Wing, Tokyo Metropolitan Main Building No.1
Bidding time	13:00–14:00
Organizers	Tokyo metropolitan taxation office and wards, cities, towns, and villages within the metropolitan area.
Inquiries	[Aspects of the auction organized by the Tokyo metropolitan taxation office] Collection Guidance Section, Collection Guidance Division, Collection Department, Tokyo Metropolitan Government Bureau of Taxation 03-5388-3024 (direct) [Aspects of the auction organized by wards, cities, towns, and villages within the Tokyo metropolitan area] Support Section, Individual Tokyo Metropolitan Residents’ Taxation Policy Division, Collection Department, Tokyo Metropolitan Government Bureau of Taxation 03-5388-3039 (direct)

*There may be changes in the properties available for public auction. Please check the flowing website for the latest information as properties may be withdrawn from the auction.

Tokyo Metropolitan Government Bureau of Taxation website (public auction information) <http://www.tax.metro.tokyo.jp/kobai/>

*The Tokyo Metropolitan Government Bureau of Taxation distributes an e-mail magazine concerning public auction information. Please register if you wish to receive this magazine.

[E-mail magazine information] http://www.tax.metro.tokyo.jp/mail_magazine.htm

A message from the Azabu Fire Station

Wouldn't you like to join us for various fun activities? We're recruiting new members for the Azabu Junior Fire Department!

The Azabu Junior Fire Department has 34 members ranging in age from first grade elementary school to third-year junior high school including non-Japanese children who enjoy a range of fun activities. Based on concepts, such as helping each other and behaving in an orderly manner, activities include rope-working, first-aid training, fire-extinguishing training, and rescue training. This year, members also took part in such fun activities as a summer camp in Tochigi Prefecture and attending Tokyo Fire Department's New Year's Fire Review.

Activities are conducted at a pace of around one Sunday per month at the Azabu Fire Station. If you are interested in joining, please contact the Azabu Fire Station.



Inquiries:
Ms. Hasegawa, Chiiki-bosai (Safety education), Azabu Fire Station Mail azabu2@tfd.metro.tokyo.jp
Tel: 03-3470-0119

A message from the Higashi-azabu Shotenkai (Merchants' Association)

Join poster project by the Higashi-azabu Shotenkai and the Tokyo Metropolitan Senior High School of Fine Arts, Performing Arts and Classical Music

This project was established after art teachers at the Tokyo Metropolitan Senior High School of Fine Arts, Performing Arts and Classical Music expressed a desire to increase opportunities for connections between students and society.



With the support of an advertising production company based in Higashi-azabu, 21 students created posters and gathered ideas for

the Shotenkai (Merchants' Association) to invigorate business activities as part of their class activities.

In December, local residents voted on the posters at a raffle conducted by the Shotenkai. The poster voted Number 1 out of the total of nearly 300 votes was the work of Ms. Kinuka Watanabe. Art teacher Mr./Ms. Kato suggested that the reason this poster was chosen was that the scarecrow and Tokyo Tower have been drawn very carefully, down to the smallest detail, and because the poster is easy to understand, its message was conveyed to everyone.

The project concluded with the school voicing its praise, commenting that “the students were also more excited than usual, making the class very meaningful and wonderful.”



Information from Azabu Regional City Office



Let's disseminate Town Rules: the Roppongi Charter for Safety & Peace of Mind

In July 2013, the Roppongi Council for the Promotion of Urban Development for Safety and Peace of Mind (hereinafter referred to as "the Promotion Council") formulated the Roppongi Charter for Safety & Peace of Mind (hereinafter referred to as "the Charter").

This charter specifies rules that all people in the town of Roppongi should follow, and up until now, various activities have been carried out to inform people about and disseminate these rules.

The Roppongi Council for the Promotion of Urban Development for Safety and Peace of Mind carries out the following activities

● **Holding of the Roppongi Safety and Peace of Mind Parade**

On July 23, 2013, a parade was held by the Promotion Council.

This parade was held in order to inform and gain the broad approval of people regarding activities being carried out by town councils, local neighborhood associations, merchants' associations, business operators, and government agencies to ensure the safety and security of the Roppongi region. At the Promotion Council meeting held before the parade, the formulation of the Charter was also publicized.



● **Informing people about the Roppongi Charter for Safety & Peace of Mind**

PR videos have been shown on large roadside screens at the Roppongi Intersection and in Chii Buses; signs have been erected; and an information campaign has been carried out by the Promotion Council.



Furthermore, information about the Charter has been printed in The Azabu, as well as the Koho

Minato newsletter, and posters have been displayed.

● **Creating a logo for the Roppongi Charter for Safety & Peace of Mind**

A logo was created as a means of protecting the Charter and publicizing it widely. In creating the logo, designs were solicited up until the end of February 2014, with 94 entries received. A logo design is being selected from amongst these entries and will be announced in March. The chosen logo is to be used in activities publicizing the Charter, etc.

● **Establishing a certification system for the Roppongi Charter for Safety & Peace of Mind**

From April 2014, we intend to recruit shops and business enterprises (hereinafter referred to as "business enterprises, etc.") that understand and agree with the purport of the Charter. We plan to introduce such business enterprises, etc., and in particular those whose activities have been certified as noteworthy, on the Minato City Website.

Process of formulating the Roppongi Charter for Safety & Peace of Mind

The Roppongi Council for the Promotion of Urban Development for Safety and Peace of Mind was established in 2006 with the aim of making Roppongi a town where people can live safely and with peace of mind. Chaired by the mayor of Minato City, participating neighborhood and residents' associations, merchants' associations, business operators, and related groups and organizations have been continuously coordinating and working together in deliberations aimed at resolving the town's problems.

As the result of these repeated deliberations, the conclusion was reached that it would be effective to formulate and specify clear principles and independent rules aimed at promoting safety and security efforts in the Roppongi region by the community as a whole. Accordingly, on July 23, 2013, the Promotion Council formulated the Roppongi Charter for Safety & Peace of Mind as town rules.



● Not only can the content of the Roppongi Charter for Safety & Peace of Mind be viewed on the Minato City Website, but also copies of the entire Charter are available from the Collaboration Project Section of the Azabu Regional City Office.



We ask you for your understanding and cooperation

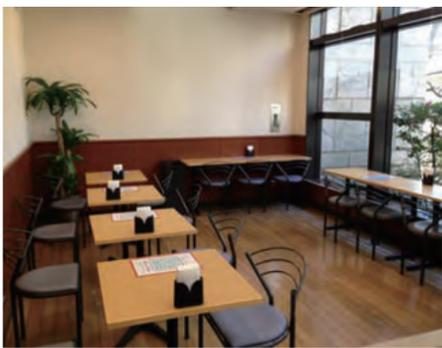
In addition to the activities described above, various efforts are being implemented to widely inform people about the Charter and arouse interest in it amongst many people and groups with connections to the Roppongi region. We ask that you understand the purport of the Roppongi Charter for Safety & Peace of Mind and cooperate in promoting urban development for safety and peace of mind in Roppongi.

Inquiries:
Collaboration Project Subsection, Collaboration Project Section Azabu Regional City Office
Tel: 03-5114-8802

A Cafeteria opens in the Azabu Regional City Office

A cafe and mini-kiosk, J's Cafe & Shop Azabu, opened on the second floor of the Azabu Regional City Office.

J's Cafe & Shop Azabu provide a revolving lunch menu every day of healthy meals prepared by a national registered dietician. The healthy plate menu keeps calories down to between 700 kcal and 800 kcal and salt to around 3 g. The cafe also has a relaxing atmosphere, enabling diners to enjoy their meals in a leisurely manner. The cafe also has a mini-kiosk where a little shopping can be enjoyed. Why not drop by sometime?



Opening hours: 10:00-16:00
(Lunchtime: 11:30-14:00)
Tel: 03-3586-0545

We support graffiti removal activities in Azabu region!!

Leaving graffiti in town shows that people are indifferent and not keeping an eye on the area, which triggers a crime. We support local associations involved in graffiti removal activities in Azabu region by providing items necessary for graffiti removal in order to prevent a crime and make our town bright and peaceful.

Eligibility Town council or neighborhood associations, shopping district associations and any association involved in graffiti removal activities.

Items available Removal agent, scrapers, rags, cotton work globes, etc., will either be provided or loaned.
 Please consult with the service counter.

Application method Fill out the application form and submit it to the service counter.

* The application form is available at the service counter or the Minato City Website: <http://www.city.minato.tokyo.jp/azabu>

Note Please make sure in advance that the owner or manager of the graffiti-covered building, etc., consent to the activity in advance.

Service counter/Inquiries:
Collaboration Project Subsection, Collaboration Project Section, Azabu Regional City Office
Tel: 03-5114-8802 Fax: 03-3583-3782



Winner of the FY 2013 Azabu-no-kizuna Prize: azarin-chan

Please send us your comments or requests regarding **The Azabu**



Please send your application with your address, name, occupation (school name), telephone number, and the reason why you are interested (in Japanese or English, format and number of letters have no limit), and deliver directly, mail, or fax to the following: Collaboration Project Section, Azabu Regional City Office, 5-16-45 Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo (106-8515).

● Tel: 03-5114-8802 ● Fax: 03-3583-3782

We Are Looking For **Editorial Staff**

You can access The Azabu Newsletter from the homepage as well.



AZABU

- Location of the newsletter: Roppongi 1 chome, Roppongi, Hiroo, Azabu Juban subway station, Minato Library, Azabu Library Service Center, Appy Azabu, Azabu Regional City Office etc.
- Usage of articles, illustrations and photographs in this newsletter is prohibited.

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	Yasuhiro Tanaka Ryozo Yamashita
Junior Staff	Masaki Kudo Koji Yamaguchi
	Tatsuo Maeda

Editor's Note

Where exactly in Keyakiza is this beautifully continuous white artwork that looks like it could also serve as seating? Explanations by neighborhood residents finally led me here, and I am very grateful I was able to come here with everyone's help. The meeting continued with explanations from the writer and questions from other editorial staff. I hurried homeward, looking forward to being able to convey information about cultural properties that are now being carefully cared for and preserved in other cities of Tokyo as well as people who are contributing to society through their earnest endeavors.

(Yoshiko Orito)

The original article is written in Japanese.

"Minato Call" information service.

Minato call is a new city information service, available in English every day from 7 a.m. – 11 p.m.

*English speakers are also available

Minato Call :
Tel: 03-5472-3710 Fax: 03-5777-8752
E-mail: info@minato.call-center.jp