

## Welcome Jun!

This August, we welcomed the newest member of the Obihiro CIR family, Junjie Tan from Singapore! While less than a month of Hokkaido life under his belt, Obihiro Pioneer had the opportunity to sit down and get to know the new CIR.

### OP: Introduce yourself!

*I am Tan Jun Jie, my friends usually call me Jun or J.J.*

*I grew up in Singapore, a metropolitan city that is famous for the Merlion, Marina Bay Sands and its amazing (cheap!) access to other Southeast Asian countries.*

*I enjoy listening to music and traveling. On top of that, I really love food! I occasionally try to make a good meal but let's just say it doesn't always end up well.*

*A perfect day for me is one where I get to explore and get lost in places, enjoy a delicious meal after getting out and listening to my favourite songs at the end of the day.*

*I graduated from the Singapore University of Technology and Design last September, with a B.E. in Computer Engineering, worked part-time as a freelancer and did an internship before coming to Obihiro.*



**OP: Sounds like you had a busy life in Singapore. Why did you decide to come to Japan for work?**

*I hold a long-standing interest in Japan ever since my friends in secondary school introduced me to Japanese pop music. This interest led me to explore other aspects of the Japanese culture. One exchange trip and a WWOOF experience later, I was swayed to choose Japan as my first destination for work.*

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Events (pg 2-4)



Welcome Jun!  
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## Autumn Tea Ceremony 森の茶会～秋～

Whether or not you like it, winter is coming again! But, not without autumn in between! Experience the changing of the seasons while enjoying traditional Japanese tea at the Tokachi International Relations Center's Autumn Tea Ceremony event. There will be 4 tea ceremony sessions in the morning and 2 etiquette sessions in the afternoon.

### Autumn Tea Ceremony

•September 24th (Sunday) 10:00—14:30

@ Tokachi International Relations Center Winter Garden

•Open to up to 50 foreign residents of Tokachi & 10 Japanese residents of Obihiro City

\*There will be a fee for Japanese residents (300 Yen for a tea ceremony session, 500 Yen for an etiquette session)

•Please register by contacting the TIRC from 9/5 to 9/22



Movies  
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# Events at TIRC and in Tokachi and Obihiro

When	What	Where/Contact
9/13 (Wed) 19:00-21:00	<b>International Mini-Volleyball Night</b> Meet new friends from around the world while enjoying a fun and easy sport.	Tokachi International Relations Center 森の交流館・十勝 0155-34-0122 tirc@city.obihira.hokkaido.jp
9/9, 9/23 (Sat) 16:00-18:00	<b>Japanese Conversation and Learning Table</b> Improve your Japanese language skills in a friendly environment.	
9/23 (Sat) 10:00-11:30	<b>43rd Kids Playground (Halloween)</b> Come with your children and experience the English language in a fun way with a foreign teacher from Learn-a-Lot. This time you can enjoy Halloween!	
9/24 (Sun) 10:00-14:30	<b>Autumn Tea Ceremony 2017</b> Come and experience the traditional Japanese way of serving tea. Sessions 1-4: Tea Ceremony 10:00/10:30/11:00/11:30 Sessions 5-6: Tea Serving Etiquette 13:00/13:50 Seats: Tokachi foreign residents: first 50 people / free Obihiro citizen: first 10 people / with charge *For junior high school students or older Tea ceremony: 300 yen per person Tea serving etiquette: 500 yen per person Signup period: Sep 5th (Tue) ~Sep 22nd (Fri) at TIRC	
9/30 (Sat) 18:30-20:00	<b>63rd International Talk (Singapore: All about money)</b> Learn more about the countries of the world and exchange ideas with other participants. This month, a new CIR from Singapore will introduce us about one of the richest country in the world, Singapore.	
9/1-9/3 (Fri-Sun)	<b>Tokachi Marche</b> とかちマルシェ Enjoy local Tokachi cuisine, fresh local produce, other packaged foods, and stage events.	Obihiro Station and Tokachi Plaza 帯広駅及びとかちプラザ周辺 0155-25-7121, 0155-65-4169 www.tokachimarche.com/
9/2-9/3 (Sat-Sun)	<b>Honbetsu-Kirameki Town Festival 2017 &amp; East Tokachi Fireworks</b> 本別きらめきタウン フェスティバル2017 東十勝花火大会 First day, enjoy 6,000 shots of fireworks show. Second day, have fun with the cute characters show, J-pop music and more.	Toshibetsugawa Riverside Event Grounds 利別川河川敷地特設会場 0156-22-2141 www.town.honbetsu.hokkaido.jp/
9/9 (Sat)	<b>Space Forest Fest 2017</b> 宇宙の森フェス2017 Enjoy music, art, food, nature and many fun activities in the town of space, Taiki-town.	Kamui Kotan Park Camp Ground カムイコタン公園キャンプ場 uchunomorifes@gmail.com
9/10 (Sun) 9:00-14:30	<b>2017 "Sea and Earth Festival" ; Toyokoro Industry Festival</b> 2017「海と大地の祭典」とよころ産業祭り Local produce and salmon will be on sale. There will also be shows, games, and salmon-catching.	JA Toyokoro Event Ground JAとよころ多目的広場 015-574-2216

## Welcome Jun! Part 2

Continued from page 1

Nearing university graduation, I caught wind of information about the JET Programme and thought it aligned with my goals to learn more about Japan. I seized that opportunity and fortunately got selected to be here in Japan.

**OP:** We're happy to have you with us! Is this your first time to Hokkaido?

*This is my second time in Hokkaido, but the first in Obihiro! I explored Hakodate, Sapporo and Biei this May, and was really excited to come back!*

**OP:** What are some things you would like to do while living in Hokkaido?

*Nature, food, music, people!  
Hokkaido is famous for its natural scenery and food, and while I do not drive, I am still very keen to do a road trip around Hokkaido. I would love to explore Hokkaido to my fullest, try local delicacies as well as make new friends along the way. I also enjoy listening to music and try to actively seek out live houses and cool places to hang out at.*



*I almost forgot! Sports! I am admittedly not a huge fan of sports, but I do want to give winter sports a try while I am here!*

**OP:** No doubt you'll have a long winter to try winter sports! Lastly, as the a CIR of Obihiro, what are you hoping to achieve while you're here?

*I have many goals! But let me share a few that I am working on.*

*My first goal is to deepen my conversational skills in Japanese in order to add meaning to the conversations with people I meet in and out of work. Another would be to improve my time management skills, since this is my first job out of university and I am still relatively new to the working scene. But most importantly, I want to make the best of my time here in Obihiro and facilitate friendly relationships between Obihiro and Singapore.*

Thanks JJ for your wonderful interview! If you like to meet JJ in person, be sure to attend his **International Talk on 9/30!** Details on page 2.

## Events Continued

When	What	Where/Contact
9/10 (Sun) 10:00-15:00	<b>Tokachi-Obihiro Airport "Sky Day" Aviation Festival</b> とかち帯広空港「空の日」記念航空まつり Enjoy a guided tour of the airport and tower, food stands, a fire truck's water cannon demonstration, and more.	Tokachi Obihiro Airport とかち帯広空港 0155-64-5320 <a href="http://www.city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp/">www.city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp/</a>
9/15-9/17 (Fri-Sun)	<b>Rally Hokkaido</b> ラリー北海道 The only international rally event in the country. The rally cars will run on the routes to each location in Tokachi.	Kita Aikoku Community Square, etc. 北愛国交流広場ほか 0155-22-8600
9/16 (Sat) 10:00-15:00	<b>Yotsuba Milk Festa ; Tokachi Main Factory Open Day</b> よつ葉ミルクフェスタ+勝主管工場開放 DAY Local milk products will be on sale. There will also be butter & milk factory tours, stage events, raffles, and more.	Yotsuba Tokachi Main Factory Event Ground よつ葉乳業(株)+勝主管工場 イベント会場

# Movies At Cinema Taiyo, in Obihiro

(Nishi 3, Minami 11)  
Tel: (0155) 20-1525

Times and movies are subject to change! (for space reasons not all movies are listed)  
To confirm, call or check online at: [http://www.taiyogroup.jp/cinema/theater/\\_obihiro/movie.shtml](http://www.taiyogroup.jp/cinema/theater/_obihiro/movie.shtml)

Title	Language	Dates
Transformers: The Last Knight	Subbed and Dubbed	Until 22nd
Spiderman: Homecoming	Subbed and Dubbed	Until 22nd
Wonder Woman	2D Subtitled	All Month
Dunkirk	Subtitles	From 9th
Alien: Covenant	TBD R15+	From 15th

## Events Continued

When	What	Where/Contact
9/17 (Sun)	<b>42nd Hakurin Park Festival</b> 第42回柏林公園まつり Beef, local produce, and crafts will be on sale. There will also be stage shows and salmon-catching.	Taiki Town Hakurin Park 大樹町柏林公園 01558-6-2114
9/24 (Sun)	<b>18th Lake Onnetoh's Story</b> 第18回オンネトー物語 Fully enjoy with the nature of Onnetoh lake, nature community classroom and easy-listening concert. Also agricultural products and more will be sold.	Onnetoh National Camping Ground オンネトー国設野営場外 0156-25-6131
9/24 (Sun)	<b>42nd Urahoro Hometown Festival</b> 第42回うらほろふるさとのみのりまつり A harvest festival with local produce, rice cake-throwing, salmon-catching, stage shows, and prize raffle.	Urahoro Shinrin Park うらほろ森林公園 015-576-2181
9/24 (Sun) 10:00-14:30	<b>16th Shintoku Shin-Soba Festival</b> 第16回しんとく新そば祭り Enjoy shin-soba from freshly harvested ingredients. There will be many food stalls, a soba-eating contest and stage shows. There will also be fireworks(18:30-19:30).	Shintoku Town Nagomi Welfare Center 保健福祉センター「なごみ」 0156-64-0522

**Obihiro Pioneer** can be found at the following locations: Obihiro City Hall, Tokachi International Relations Center, Obihiro University International Center, Obihiro Tourism and Convention Center inside the Obihiro JR Station, Obihiro Public Library, Tokachi Plaza, Cinema Taiyo, Joy English Academy and online at [www.city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp](http://www.city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp) (click on "Information for Foreigners")

"Obihiro Pioneer" is a newsletter published monthly by the Obihiro International and Domestic Relations Section for residents of the Tokachi District and related parties. The contents of this newsletter do not necessarily represent the official views or opinions of the International and Domestic Relations Section or the City of Obihiro. Questions? Tel (0155) 65-4133 or send e-mail to the Editing Team at [international@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp](mailto:international@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp).