



The Welsh Assembly Government is delighted that the Japan Local Government Centre will be holding its Japan Day Seminar in Wales in 2008 and looks forward to this strengthening the links between Wales and Japan.



As the capital city for Wales, Cardiff is playing its part in forging important links between Wales and Japan, and it is a great honour to welcome the Japan Local Government Centre to Cardiff. The Council looks forward to working closely with Japanese colleagues, and helping to build even stronger bonds between our two nations.



"JAPAN-UK 150" celebrates 150 years of friendship between Japan and the UK.



This event has been organised with the grateful co-operation of the Welsh Assembly Government, Cardiff Council, SOLACE Wales, Cardiff University and is supported by the Embassy of Japan, The Japan Foundation London Office, JETRO London, Japan National Tourist Organization and the Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry in the UK.

Japan Local Government Centre Japan Day Seminar

Cardiff City Hall
February 7th, 2008

13:00-17:10

日英交流セミナー2008

Challenges of Regeneration and Redevelopment
for Local Authorities

自治体の地域再生への挑戦
～地域ごとの創意工夫の競い合い～



Council of Local Authorities for
International Relations

Schedule

- 13:00 Registration
- 13:30 Introduction by The Right Honourable The Lord Mayor of The City & County of Cardiff, Councillor Gill Bird and Mr. Michihiro Kayama, Chairman of the Board of Directors, CLAIR Japan
- 13:40 Plenary Session 1:
Mr. Gareth Hall, Director General of the Department for the Economy & Transport, Welsh Assembly Government
- The Issues Facing Wales in the Process of Regeneration**
- 14:10 Plenary Session 2:
Mr. Byron Davies, Chief Executive, Cardiff Council
- From Decline to Renaissance: The Cardiff Story**
- 14:40 Plenary Session 3:
Mr. Shunsuke Mutai, Director, Japan Local Government Centre
- Making Japan's Rural Communities Matter**
- 15:10 Break
- 15:40 Plenary Session 4:
Mr. Conrad McDonogh, Director, Home Appliance Division, Panasonic Manufacturing U.K. Ltd
- Adapting to a Changing Business Environment**
- 16:10 Plenary Session 5:
Mr. Dave Gilbert, Deputy Chief Executive, Carmarthenshire County Council
- The Role of Local Government in Regeneration in Wales**
- 16:40 Plenary Session 6:
Dr. Naofumi Nakamura, The University of Tokyo
- Is There Any Hope for Kamaishi?: The regeneration of a former company town**
- 17:10 Conclusion by the Chairman, Dr Christopher Hood, Director, Japanese Studies Centre, Cardiff University
- 17:30 Reception at the National Museum by kind permission of the President and Council of Angueddfa Cymru - National Museum Wales
- Greeting speech by Mr. Michihiro Kayama, Chairman of the Board of Directors, CLAIR Japan
Toast proposed by Mr. Hugh Thomas CBE KStJ DL, Honorary Consul of Japan in Cardiff

Honourable Guests:



The Right Honourable
The Lord Mayor of The City
& County of Cardiff,
Councillor Gill Bird



Hugh Thomas, CBE KStJ DL,
Honorary Consul of Japan
in Cardiff

Representative of CLAIR Headquarters:



Michihiro Kayama,
Chairman of the Board
of Directors

Chairman and Speakers:



Dr. Christopher Hood, Director and Reader, Cardiff Japanese Studies Centre, Cardiff University
Director of and a Reader at the Cardiff Japanese Studies Centre, Cardiff University and an Associate Fellow at Chatham House, he is the author of *Shinkansen: From Bullet Train to Symbol of Modern Japan* (Routledge, 2006) and *Japanese Education Reform: Nakasone's Legacy* (Routledge, 2001).



Gareth Hall, Director General of the Department for the Economy & Transport, Welsh Assembly Government

Gareth Hall was appointed Director General of the new combined Department for the Economy & Transport when the Welsh Development Agency (WDA) and Wales Tourist Board merged with the Welsh Assembly Government. Prior to taking up this new position which covers Economic Development, Transport and European funding, with an annual budget of approximately £1.5bn, he had held the post of Chief Executive of the WDA since 2004. Gareth is the Wales representative on the Nations and Regions group of the Organising Committee for the London Olympic Games, 2012.



Byron Davies, Chief Executive, Cardiff Council

For two decades, Byron Davies has been at the heart of the regeneration and transformation of the Capital City of Wales. Byron has contributed to the professional development of public services as a long-serving Chief Executive and as President of the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE UK). Byron is the Vice-President of UDITE, the pan-European Chief Executive professional body. He represented UDITE as an observer at the Council of Europe.



Shunsuke Mutai, Director, Japan Local Government Centre

Shunsuke Mutai joined the Japan Local Government Centre in July 2007 from the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications. His career has been varied with posts in several local governments and the ministry. His work included time in the decentralisation reform of local taxation and fiscal systems, the crisis management and community policies, and as a liaison for the Diet. His interests include the working of the EU on a global level, but also how each area maintains, preserves and promotes its individual identity.



Conrad McDonogh, Director Home Appliance Division, Panasonic Manufacturing UK Ltd.

Conrad McDonogh joined Panasonic in 1991 and was appointed to the Board in April 2007. For many years was in charge of the company's sales to OEM customers, his responsibilities now include Planning and H.R. functions. He has previously worked in a variety of marketing roles within the automotive and materials handling industries.



Dave Gilbert, Deputy Chief Executive, Carmarthenshire County Council on behalf of the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA)

Dave Gilbert became Head of Economic Development for Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council in 1996 and took up his present job as Director of Regeneration for Carmarthenshire in January 2003, and in 2005 he was appointed Deputy Chief Executive. In 2002 and 2003, he was President of the West Wales Chamber of Commerce, the first public sector President in its history and is still a Board Member. He is also a board member of Chamber Wales. He is an Economic Development Advisor to the Welsh Local Government Association.



Dr. Naofumi Nakamura, Associate Professor, Institute of Social Science, University of Tokyo

Dr. Naofumi Nakamura now holds the post of Visiting Senior Fellow at the London School of Economics and Political Science. His major is Business and Economic History, specifically Japanese Railway History and Comparative Regional History. In 1997, he completed his PhD at Kyushu University's Graduate School of Literature (History Department). In 2006, he conducted the Hope Studies Kamaishi Research, a major general regional research project carried out by the Institute of Social Science at the University of Tokyo.