

Reopening of The Japan Foundation, Sydney

by Hirofumi Yada

Librarian, The Japan Foundation, Sydney

Thank you for your patience regarding the prolonged interruption of our library services. The Japan Foundation, Sydney relocated to our new premises in late September last year, and the library recommenced services to the public on 27th October 2014. We are now located on level 4 of Central Park, a new retail-residential combined precinct with eye-catching vertical gardens on the building's outer walls. Please use lifts located in the retail area to access level 4 as the escalators only reach up to level 3.



The reading area in our new library

The new library is a part of the open space plan together with the other facilities of the centre, such as the gallery, seminar space and small classrooms. This enables visitors of our cultural events to easily access related books if they are interested. The reading area is located next to floor-to-ceiling windows that overlook an expansive green space that serves as a centrepiece for nearby buildings. Our bright reading area is well-received by our users and the scenery is a good distraction for those who need a little break from reading.

Because the public visibility of our library decreased over the 9-month service interruption, it was essential for us to take steps to project our library and its collection to our targeted users. We organised a book reading event “Nihongo Tadoku” for learners of Japanese-language on 11th and 24th November 2014. Tadoku is a Japanese word which is known as ‘extensive reading’ in English. The aim in Tadoku is to accumulate many enjoyable reading experiences over a short amount of time while only utilising existing language knowledge. Encouragingly, we attracted a large number of participants on both nights and received positive feedback to the activity. You can find a brief photo report (<http://tumblr.co/ZnfXDo1Wb6CfO>) of the event on our newly-opened Tumblr blog page. We would like to hold further Tadoku reading nights in 2015 as a recurring event.



The reading area in use at the Tadoku event

Lastly, I would like to bring to your attention that some items of our collection, especially back issues of journals, are still kept in an external warehouse and are not available for use yet. These journal back issues should be back on the shelves by the end of February. Please contact us prior to visiting the library or placing a document delivery request if you intend to access such resources. Thank you for your cooperation in advance.

New address:

Level 4, Central Park, 28 Broadway, Chippendale, NSW 2008