

AUSTRALIAN SHAKUHACHI SOCIETY



GOSHU SHAKUHACHI KAI 豪州尺八会

Nr. 21 June-July 2005

ASS P.O Box 63 Woodford NSW 2770



Greetings! It's time to remind you that we need:

SUBSCRIPTIONS !

They are ***now due*** and all members [including the esteemed editor] are urged to ***renew*** right now!

You will find the subscriptions/renewal form on the last page - (which is bookmarked) - you can print this out separately or with the whole of the newsletter. There is an interesting article from Shak n Surf 2005 and a list of useful and interesting websites including a new one I found via the Euroshak newsgroup - worth dropping in to find out about shakuhachi activity in Europe - <http://groups.yahoo.com/Euroshak/>

There are doings in Canberra and Riley seen "trying his hand"? with a more unusual wind instrument.

UPCOMING EVENTS

10 - 14 FEB 2006
AUSTRALIAN SHAKUHACHI FESTIVAL
CANBERRA

9 - 12 NOV 2006
Hawaii Shak and Sun
University of Hawaii Music Dept
HONOLULU

JULY 2008
WORLD SHAKUHACHI FESTIVAL
SYDNEY AUSTRALIA



SUPER SALE ASS 2004 FESTIVAL T-SHIRTS

From Patricia Lee:

I still have the following ASS T-shirts which I am prepared to sell off at \$10 (which is less than wholesale) + \$5 pp for one shirt \$7.50 pp for 2 shirts \$10 for 3 etc

\$10 (below cost) Only 11 left

SIZES:

XS Women's cream X 4

SM Women's cream X 1

X-SM Men's khaki X 2

SM men's khaki X 1

Large men's khaki X 2

XL men's khaki X 1

Can be picked up from Riley at lessons in Leichhardt or Canberra or via post:

Please supply your mailing address:

Postage and packing add \$5.00 for one shirt, \$2.50 for each additional shirt in the same order.

Payment: Cheque or Money order payable to Patricia Lee or send your: **VISA / MASTER Card** details via phone: **02 9976 6904** or via fax **02 99766905** :

Name and number on card /expiry date

From Bronwyn Kirkpatrick

Dear shakuhachi friends,

Konnichiwa from Chichibu! I'm back in Chichibu for another intensive with Kakizakai sensei. The experience is different the second time around, deeper, harder and more solitary. Kakizakai's openness and generosity continues to inspire me and to fill me with gratitude.

I have recently come to a major realisation that playing the shakuhachi is not just about playing the notes - I know Riley, you've said it to me 100 times!. It is about what you imbue each note with. I have chosen to make my philosophy of playing the shakuhachi one of openness and thankfulness.

A special thank you to Molly and Andrew for helping me to come to this realisation and to Riley for your patience.

With deep gratitude to you all,
Bronwyn

PS. I was recently awarded third place in the all Japan Hogaku competition.



Riley and David Wheeler playing "Shika no Tone" to an empty chair - lets hope there was more of an audience in front of stage....From Shak and Surf Hawaii 2005



From the Chikuho-Ryu Hawaii Newsletter Summer 2005

A Lesson with Furuya Sensei by Steven Casano

One of the highlights of the festival for me was a private lesson with Furuya Teruo.

1) Tension- although I didn't experience this in *Honshirabe*, this issue was quite evident in *Sanan*. The overall effort I was making to play this piece was creating undue tension. I needed to relax and play more simply and clearly. Also, the fact that I did not have the piece memorized was a contributing factor, I believe. By not having the piece memorized I was focusing too much on reading the page and not focusing on my body.

2) Clarity- I tended to play the faster passages too fast. Clarity was lost and I created undue tension. He wanted me to play the passages slower to make sure each and every pitch was there; I was glossing over things.

3) Meri - my meri's were not always low enough. I did not necessarily need to lower my chin more, but I needed to relax my lips more. Also, Furuya sensei said that when playing meri notes it helps to slightly push the shakuhachi into the chin with the arms; this was a surprise to me.

The lesson flew by and I learned so much.

Ed: I think these are very good comments and I thought it were worth re-iterating We are all beginners.
[Used with permission]



NEWS BITS

At the moment there are several of Riley's students studying shakuhachi in Japan:

Bronwyn Kirkpatrick
Lachlan Skipworth
Lindsey ?

Ben Dixon is going later this year and wants to study shakuhachi making as well. Kaoru Kakizaki has emailed that some are having lessons with him and Mr Yokoyama and are doing well.



The Dreamy Sound
of Bokushitsu's Shakuhachi
Awakened Me from Deep Sleep
One Moonlit Night



Sites always worth visiting:

<http://www.shakuhachi.com/>

<http://www.komuso.com/>

also worth a visit:

<http://www.komuso.com/links.html>

and a newly found site:

<http://www.torstenolafsson.com/>



Canberra Doings

Ro-buki at Dawn Sunday 29th May 2005

Shortly after sunrise, with the air still and cold and a clear sky, members of the Canberra shakuhachi community gathered in Commonwealth Park to play Ro-buki.

This park is a beautiful venue and exceptionally attractive in the winter months on sunny days.

The refreshingly early start was enjoyed by all participants preparing for next year's Australian Shakuhachi Festival.

Improvisation beside a noisy water feature polished off an invigorating morning's practice.

Plans are underway to meet again for **Ro-buki at Dawn** time and weather permitting. (The suggestion that we meet at 10.30am near a warm café was welcomed).

Fiona Dawes.



Canberra Shakuhachi Players at the Music For Everyone Asian Music Concert Sunday 19th June

Music for Everyone (MFE) is a community-based music organisation that provides musical tuition, performance opportunities and workshops for people in Canberra. On Sunday 19 June, MFE organised a concert of Asian Music and the Canberra shakuhachi players were invited to participate. Andrew Henley, Alex Offord, Graham Ranft and Rupert Summerson played two sets of pieces.

The first set: Kushimoto, Kusatsu-bushi, Kojo no Tsuki, which we played through twice. We were joined by Moko Eade on the koto to play Ame, with Rupert playing the solo shakuhachi part. The shakuhachi group finished with Sakura.

Most of the music in the concert was played on Western instruments, but there were also a Balinese gamelan orchestra, a Chinese pipa and erhu. The concert ended with a Lion Dance performed with great energy and humour. [Ed: it was a very multicultural lion]

It was a great opportunity to perform - many thanks to Vivienne Winther, the artistic director of Music for Everyone for the invitation, made through Riley Lee, who had earlier in the year given a shakuhachi workshop for MFE.

Rupert Summerson





A happy band at Shak n Surf Hawaii



Are these guys sniffing or blowing? Note Riley looking to see if he is fingering correctly and also the dai meri position...



PO Box 63
Woodford, NSW 2778

Join the

AUSTRALIAN SHAKUHACHI SOCIETY (ASS)

Attention existing members – Please renew your membership and support ASS!

Other Shakuhachi enthusiasts – You are cordially invited to join ASS

ASS promotes the shakuhachi and its music by:

- ◆ organising **activities** for people to practice or perform together, and share experiences relating to the shakuhachi
- ◆ publishing a **newsletter** four times a year to: publicise upcoming events, provide a forum for articles on shakuhachi, listing resources, reviewing shakuhachi CDs and offering flutes for sale, etc
- ◆ coordinating the **Australian Shakuhachi Festival** to celebrate the art of shakuhachi, workshops and performances are offered.

Please join ASS and help promote shakuhachi music.

Fill out the membership form below, enclose your payment and return to:

The Secretary, Australian Shakuhachi Society, PO Box 63, WOODFORD, NSW, 2778

Yes, I would like to join the Australian Shakuhachi Society

Yes, I would like to renew my membership.

Enclosed is \$25.00, being dues for one year (Jul 2005 – Jun 2006)

Enclosed is \$50.00, being dues for two years (Jul 2006 – Jun 2006)

Name.....

Address.....

Suburb.....

State.....Country.....Zip/Postcode.....

Tel..... Fax:

Email