

WFWP Scotland held this year's "Experience Japan" event

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WFWP Scotland/UK held this year's "Experience Japan" event on 25 April 2015 at the Augustine United Church in Edinburgh. Through this program, we introduce Japanese culture and also offer a platform for people to demonstrate Japanese arts and disciplines.

20 volunteers came to help with the event. Many of them look forward to volunteering at the event every year. We had 5 different kinds of performances (demonstrations); Taiko (Japanese drums), Shakuhachi (bamboo flute), Kendo, Shamisen with Nihonbuyou (Japanese traditional dance) and Karate. Each performer had 20 minutes for their performance (demonstration) and explanation. Stalls and tables included Calligraphy, Origami, Trying on Kimonos, Craft Sale, Tombola, and Green tea for Tsunami donations. The event ran from 2 pm to 4 pm.



The first performers arrived after 1 pm to set up the stage. The first performance was powerful: Taiko drums with some Karate demonstrations. The second was Shakuhachi. The sound of this bamboo flute created a calm atmosphere in the place.

The third performance was presented by Edinburgh university Kendo club. The captain explained about the different forms and the members demonstrated them. These powerful demonstrations by young people gave energy to the audience.



The fourth performance was Shamisen, a traditional instrument. After the two Shamisen players performed, a Japanese lady joined them and danced Nihonbuyou. Nihonbuyou is a Japanese traditional dance that people need to learn from a master. She danced one kind of dance with a fan first, then the second one was with an umbrella.

The last performance was Karate. There was a group of young people and a group of senior people. Through their performances they showed that Karate was possible for men and women of all ages. At the start the event was quieter than last year's event; however, the second half of the event became very busy. All the volunteers and performers were happy and also people tasted green tea, sushi rolls, and Japanese pancakes with sweet beans and gave donations for Tsunami victims.

More than 100 people came and the event was very successful.