

The magazine of The Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan



# NUMBER 1 SHIMBUN



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*Tools for journalists  
to understand, and  
accurately report on,  
climate change*



# The Whole Earth Crisis

**The Fall issue**



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Cover photo: NASA

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Members,

I hope this note finds everyone well and hopefully rested after the Obon Holidays, despite the heat.

In was in that same heat that some trial events were held in August for next year's Tokyo Olympics, a reminder for athletes and organizers alike that summer in Japan's capital can be fairly brutal. Author Bob Whiting told me the 1964 Tokyo Olympics were held in October, with the organizers at the time saying the month brought the ideal weather to host the event in Japan. Perhaps that is one lesson not learned from history.

The Editor-in-Chief of the Olympic Information Service, Lucia Montanarella, dropped by the Club early in August. She said she will be back and we offered her an FCCJ guest membership. Gianni Merlo, the president of the International Association of Sports Press, is also expected to visit the FCCJ in the coming weeks.

As part of preparations for the Olympics and the Rugby World Cup, the Club will offer limited-time guest memberships to accredited journalists for both events. We should have special pre-paid visitor cards ready by then (think Pasmò, but for use at the FCCJ only). All of this, of course, is to promote the use of the Club by journalists and to attract more speakers from among athletes taking part in the events.

The FCCJ Board met on Aug. 16, when the General Manager reported that F&B visitor numbers were up in July on year. The Pen & Quill also reopened and is proving popular for private dining. However, total membership numbers remained largely flat as resigning members offset new members. The Board has given itself the mandate to attract new members to the Club and passed a motion to credit a member's account with ¥25,000 if they introduce a new member.

The FCCJ's social media accounts are expanding. We had 6,199 Twitter followers as of July 31, up more than 900 this year, but clearly much more needs to be done on this front.

On a final note, the Library Committee noted that we have a number of lockers on the sixth floor still available. The board agreed to lower the charge, so ¥3,000 and change will give you a locker rental for six-months. Just the place to store your running gear before a jog around the Palace—just watch out for the heat.

See you in the Club,

— Peter Langan

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

## What press freedom looks like in Hong Kong

**Hong Kong Free Press** @HongKongFP · 9h  
A reporter was among those pepper sprayed outside Sai Wan Ho MTR station. #hongkongprotests #china #antiELAB #hongkong hongkongfp.com/hong-kong-extr...



**Hong Kong Free Press** @HongKongFP · 10h  
Police in riot gear retreated in Causeway Bay, as local residents shouted insults at them including "gangsters." Earlier, some officers disguised themselves as protesters and arrested at least a dozen.



**Hong Kong Free Press** @HongKongFP · 12h  
A pool of blood lies on the street in Tsim Sha Tsui. According to SocRec, a protester was shot in the eye through the goggles with a bean bag bullet round.



**Hong Kong Free Press** @HongKongFP · 12h  
Scenes as the police's special tactical unit - the "raptors" - rush along Nathan Road shortly before 8pm Sunday, making multiple arrests.



**Hong Kong Free Press** @HongKongFP · 13h  
A medic is injured after being struck with a tear gas grenade outside the Tsim Sha Tsui police station. Meanwhile, protesters continue to gather on Nathan Road.



**Hong Kong Free Press** @HongKongFP · 15h  
JUST IN: police fired tear gas outside Cheung Sha Wan police station - the second location that tear gas has been used today.



The **Hong Kong Free Press** is a non-profit English-language media started in 2015, after concerns arose that freedom of the press in the former British colony was under attack. These are images from the HKFP's twitter feed coverage of the Aug. 10-11 weekend of protests.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

## Journalist, author, editor, scholar

**Life-member Frank Gibney speaking at a Club event on June 12, 1995, commemorating coverage of WWII. Frank achieved renown in multiple roles—as journalist, author and editor. He also wrote the Introduction for our history book, Foreign Correspondents in Japan, expanding on his memories of the earliest days of the Club when he was a U.S. Navy Public Information Officer prior to becoming a journalist. Seated next to Gibney, Bob Neff (Business Week) gives his words full attention.**



Born in Scranton, Pennsylvania, on Sept. 21, 1924, and raised in New York City, Frank Bray Gibney attended Yale University before serving in the U.S. Navy. There he was educated in the Japanese language as an intelligence officer during WWII. The duty brought him into contact with Japanese POWs and provided early insights on the Japanese people, which later led to his first major book in 1953, the humanistic *Five Gentlemen of Japan*. It was a book that had an early influence on me.

After further service as a public information officer for the Navy during the Occupation, Gibney became a foreign correspondent, and was posted to several countries prior to returning to Japan to cover the Korean War. He went on to cover other countries of Asia and Europe for *Time* magazine. He also became an editorial writer for *Life* magazine, and later was a feature writer for *Newsweek* before moving on to several start-up magazines in the early 1960s. In the late 1960s he worked for *Encyclopedia Britannica*, directing translations into Japanese, Korean, and Chinese as well as serving as vice-chairman of its Board of Editors and heading a joint venture with Tokyo Broadcasting System.

His important book, *Japan: The Fragile Superpower*, was published in 1975, followed in 1982 by *Miracle by Design*, describing the Japanese work ethic. *The Pacific Century* was published in 1992 and later made into a PBS series featuring the author, who also co-produced it.

In recognition of his cultural contributions, the Japanese government in the late 1970s awarded him, first, the Order of the Rising Sun (Third Class), followed a few years later by the Order of the Sacred Treasure (Second Class).

In 1979, Gibney founded the Pacific Basin Institute in affiliation with Pomona College in California, where he was a professor. He served as president until 1999.

Frank was married three times and sired seven children, of whom two became active in media, Alex in documentaries and James in journalism. Frank died on April 9, 2006, at age 81 of congestive heart failure.

— Charles Pomeroy  
editor of Foreign Correspondents in Japan,  
a history of the Club that is available at the front desk



MIKE RAOMANACHAI

# A journalism group that feels like family

More than two decades after its foundation, a US-based advocacy group's Asia chapter is deeply involved in building relations and developing new generations of journalists and leaders.

By Yuri Nagano

In the weeks running up to early June, I felt like I spent more time com-

municating with my alternate "family," a group of professional journalists, than with my actual one. That's because I am one of more than a dozen dedicated volunteers of the Asian American Journalists Association (AAJA)'s Asia chapter.

The 1,500-member-strong AAJA was founded in 1981 by a group of Los Angeles-based journalists to support those coming from the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. "We formed AAJA to increase the number of Asian American journalists, boost and improve coverage of Asian Americans and provide support and training for the networking and advancement of Asian American journalists," says co-founder Bill Sing, former editor and reporter for the *Los Angeles Times*.

It was during a time of recession when anti-Asian sentiment raged in part due to strong Japanese auto imports. Shortly after AAJA's inception, a Chinese American named Vincent Chin was brutally murdered in Detroit, when two white autoworkers mistook him for Japanese, and assaulted him with a baseball bat. Chin died four days later. Both perpetrators pled guilty but never served jail time. Chin's death remains to this day a symbol of chilling racism against the Asian-American community.

At the time, Asian Americans were badly underrepresented in newsrooms and in management, says Sing. Coverage of Asian Americans was often lacking or stereotypical, and few Asian American youth considered journalism as a career.

AAJA's mission continues. The underrepresentation of minorities in newsrooms persists, according to a 2018 Ameri-

can Society of News Editors survey: Minorities made up only 22.6 percent of the newsroom workforce, well below the US census data indicating some 39 percent of its population to be minority. Even here in Asia, filled with journalists of color, race mattered. It turns out the top decision makers of Western media in New York are still predominantly white males and we are impacted by their decisions.

"NEWSROOM DIVERSITY IN RACE, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation and every other way is so important if we in the news media are going to tell the story of our increasingly globalized world," says former AAJA-Asia chapter president Ken Moritsugu, who is now Greater China news director for the Associated Press. "I am constantly learning from my colleagues who are not like me, and it makes me a better journalist."

How AAJA came to Asia goes back to two AAJA leaders from Portland, Oregon—Allen Cheng and Alan Ota—who moved to Asia to become foreign correspondents during the 1990s. "It was important to plant AAJA's flag in Asia because Asian Americans journalists back in the US would benefit from having a network in Asia. And it is, after all, where all of us originated from somewhere along our ancestral line," says Cheng, currently the founder and chief adviser of Beijing-based risk management advisory Advise Insight Ltd. In 1996, the Asia chapter was formed.

Fast forward to 2010, AAJA-Asia existed but growth had stagnated. That changed when then president Moritsugu proceeded to divide the chapter into subchapters with the

largest membership clusters in Hong Kong, Tokyo and Seoul. It's a format that still exists today, with the addition of a South East Asia/Singapore subchapter that was added nearly five years ago. "By empowering rising leaders to develop subchapters in their cities, we were able to tailor programming to what people wanted locally and grow the organization exponentially," says Moritsugu.

What was around 40 AAJA-Asia members until then, ballooned quickly to around 200 chapter members. Asia is now one of the largest and most active of the 20 some AAJA chapters, and part of that is thanks to the launch of its annual flagship event called New.Now.Next Media Conference (N3Con).

N3CON STARTED IN 2011, with a vision to organize something lacking at the time in Asia—a journalism conference for English-based media. Beijing-based CBS News Asia correspondent and former AAJA-Asia president Ramy Inocencio was one of the event's key architects. The conference was launched as a way "to build and connect together an inclusive network of peers who we could be friends with and learn from," he says.

N3Con offers panels and workshops attracting 300 attendees from across the region. We've featured high-profile journalists, including Filipino investigative journalist and Rappler CEO Maria Ressa, *South China Morning Post* CEO Gary Liu, CNN International anchor Kristie Lu Stout and many top newsroom managers including those from the *New York Times*, Associated Press and Bloomberg News. We've offered hands-on training workshops on data journalism from Investigative Reporters and Editors and leadership skills workshops from top US coaches. We've also offered newsroom tours. All this and more have been offered at a bargain programming rate of less than \$100 for members.

One year we invited former AP photographer Jeff Widener, known for the "Tank Man" photo of a lone Chinese man standing up against a column of Chinese tanks the morning after the Tiananmen Square protests of 1989. Another year we invited journalists from the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists to speak on The Panama Papers. In the last couple of years, combating 'fake news' has been a key subject.

This year, N3Con was held from May 30 to June 2 at the University of Hong Kong—the reason for the limited time I spent with my real family in the period leading up to the event. But it was worth it. Not only were we able to offer a job fair, but we recognized up-and-coming young journalists through a Digital Journalism Student Award supported by Google, and partnered with Columbia University to offer student fellowships. N3Con is now a financially self-sustaining operation due to generous corporate donations, but it wasn't

## COVERAGE OF ASIAN AMERICANS WAS OFTEN LACKING OR STEREOTYPICAL, AND FEW ASIAN AMERICAN YOUTH CONSIDERED JOURNALISM AS A CAREER

always so. (For several years, Cheng donated thousands of dollars of his personal money so N3Con could host, for example, a welcome mixer to kick off the conference on a high note.)

IN THE LAST FEW years, the chapter has been expanding its role. "AAJA-Asia strives to be a bridge between local and international media in the region, offering a diverse and inclu-

sive community to support professional journalists and the next generation of news leaders," says Hong Kong-based K. Oanh Ha, current chapter president and senior writer for Bloomberg News. The chapter supports programming for media professionals in public relations as well.

Since last year, the chapter has been hosting video conference versions of N3Con dubbed "Digital N3." Held at several Bloomberg News bureaus in Asia and also U.S. cities including New York and Washington, D.C., these events explore such topics as reporting on North Korea.

Weekday and weekend events for veterans and students are being organized by regional chapter leaders. In Tokyo, for example, informal gatherings featuring local journalists dedicated to covering the Fukushima nuclear disaster have been held.

Subchapters hold mixers and regularly network with visiting AAJA members to their regions, throughout the year. For Tokyo, we've welcomed many U.S.-based members including

CNN columnist Jeff Yang. I've been able to network with members in New York or Washington, D.C. and other cities myself, whenever I've traveled.

Staying true to AAJA's journalistic values, chapter leaders have actively monitored the status of local press freedom. For example, this year AAJA-Asia issued statements on the proposed extradition agreement in Hong Kong in June and on the public targeting of a member in Seoul from March.

Since 2018, AAJA-Asia and Google have been teaming up to provide free training in digital tools for news gathering, reporting and storytelling under a special initiative called the AAJA-Asia Training Network. The initiative has served

over 300 journalists across the Asia region from Hong Kong to Singapore to Manila.

I feel grateful to have been able to find a journalism community in Asia I could belong to. I've found the mission to support diversity, growing leaders of color and calling out stereotypes and connecting and helping each other meaningful. It's truly been a privilege to be able to be part of AAJA and have a "family" I'm proud to call my own. ●

*Yuri Nagano* is an American business/tech journalist who has reported for news organizations including the *Los Angeles Times* and the *New York Times*. Since 2010, Nagano has served on the AAJA-Asia board in roles including co-president.



Building and connecting

Opposite, an Asia-chapter mixer in Atlanta (in August, 2019) with Maria Ressa from Rappler at center, top. Above, the audience listening to a presentation by *New York Times*' bureau chief, Motoko Rich.

TINA XU

# Kathryn Wortley

## Freelance

By Johann Fleuri

For as long as she can remember, Kathryn Wortley has wanted to be a journalist. At 16 years old, she was already writing stories for a local newspaper. “I don’t know where the pull came from,” she says. “I have always loved writing.”

When still in primary school, she began creative writing in genres like fiction and poetry. “The feeling that I should write, as a living, came very early for me,” she says. “When I entered high-school, I did research for projects and discovered that I loved fact-finding and analysis. Combining that with writing skills led me, naturally, to journalism.”

Born in Northern Ireland, Wortley moved to Scotland at 18 in order to do a Bachelor of Arts in Film and Media and Japanese Studies, which included the country’s history and geopolitics as well as the language. Part of her degree included a semester at Kansai Gaidai University in Osaka, which turned out to be a life-changing experience. “I remember my first day in Japan very clearly,” she says. “It was winter and I’d gone out for a walk. Some local people gave me these magical *kairo* [pocket warmers] and I found a beautiful red torii, standing in the snow. It was so beautiful.”

Upon her departure following four months in Kansai living in the home of a local family and a further two months of traveling around Japan, Wortley knew that she wanted to return to the archipelago to work. While working toward her degree at the University of Stirling, she learned of the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Programme, which recruits graduates to teach English and their culture in Japan. She decided against it at the time and, instead, accepted a job on a Scotland-wide outdoors magazine, for whom she would travel the country, writing about walking routes and doing profiles.

**BUT THE PULL TO** Japan was great and Wortley eventually applied for the JET Programme. After being accepted, she was posted to eleven schools in Kagoshima prefecture in southern Kyushu where she worked as an assistant language teacher. “It was fulfilling to learn about Japan and share my culture with the kids. And I wanted to give something back after my great cultural exchange at Kansai Gaidai,” she says. “I was planning to live there one year before returning to

### FINALLY, SHE FOUND A LIFE COMBINING HER TWO PASSIONS: JOURNALISM AND JAPAN



journalism, but I ended up remaining for five!”

Wortley talks about her past life in Kagoshima with a hint of nostalgia in her voice. “There was a great community and it was easy to become part of that,” she says. “Each year, I helped to plant and harvest rice with my neighbors, and I also took part in activities like the local festivals.”

When she moved to Tokyo five years ago, and returned to her first love of writing, she felt the cultural shock deeply. “I missed the local community feel but I soon grew to love Tokyo, too, for all it has to offer and the international life that it allows me to enjoy,” Wortley says.

Finally, she found a life combining her two passions: journalism and Japan. After writing contents for a project at the British Embassy in Tokyo and working as the editor of the magazine of the British Chamber of Commerce in Japan for a couple of years, Wortley became a freelance writer. Today, she contributes regularly to the *Japan Times*, *Japan Today*, *Savvy Tokyo*, *TTG Asia* (an Asia Pacific travel trade publication) and for International News Services (a UK agency). Her main topics are travel and tourism, culture, profiles, and business pieces related to trade, technology, innovation and other issues.

Wortley particularly enjoys reporting stories related to people and communities, such as regional tourism and cultural initiatives as well as artisans and their work. She remembers writing one story for the *Japan Times* on Yamagata *yamabushi* (ascetic mountain monks): “I spent four days with them, and it was amazing to have a behind-the-scenes insight into their culture and being able to reflect that in the story.”

Over her eleven years spent in Japan, Wortley has traveled to almost every prefecture—and going on the road is something she intends to continue. “There are so many great stories in regional areas of people doing amazing things in tourism, in community development, and in cultural avenues. Those are the stories I want to tell.” But despite the pull of the countryside, Wortley can’t see herself living anywhere but Tokyo at the moment. “I love my life here,” she says. ●

**Johann Fleuri** is an independent journalist working for French media, including *Ouest-France*, *Les Inrocks*, *Zoom Japan* and other publications.



TOMOHIRO OHSUMI



ANDREW POTHECARY

**Pictures at an exhibition**

The Committee at the Club (beside the papercutting exhibition of Katsuyuki Yagi in August): Katsura Endo, Gavin Frew, Bruce Osborn, Robert Kirschenbaum and Katsuyoshi Ozaki, Absent on the day of the shoot were members Yoichi Yabe and Everett Kennedy Brown, above

uted an iconic shot of a father holding his daughter, a severely disabled victim of Minamata Disease. Myanmarese photographer Zaw Min's shot was a simple image of a woman from the Kayan people—famed for the coiled necklaces that give them elongated necks—as she breastfeeds her child.

**IKUO NAKAMURA, A RENOWNED** underwater photographer, took the theme in an interesting direction by showing a black-and-white image of a whale with her young calf. And Osborn's contribution was another monochrome image, depicting a young girl facing the camera and with her arms locked with her parents either side. She was wearing a simple dress but her parents, who are facing away from the camera, were covered head to toe in intricately drawn traditional Japanese tattoos.

RODRIGO REYES MARIN

# Putting on a show

**The Club's Exhibition committee members are responsible for making the hallways a location for timely, eye-catching images that cover a wide range of subjects**

*By Julian Ryall*

**B**ruce Osborn has overseen no fewer than 106 displays of eye-catching photographs and images for the FCCJ's Exhibitions Committee—but the 107th showcase, he says, was arguably the most difficult he has ever put together. "It is always a lot more than simply putting pictures on a wall," he said. "Some of our monthly exhibitions are easier to prepare and others are harder, but this one was a major job. But it was also a labor of love."

The exhibition, which opened on July 6 and was followed two days later by the now traditional reception, was an extension of 68-year-old Osborn's "Oyako" project, in which he has for many years been taking photographs of parents with their children. The exhibition featured 25 images, ranging from the amusing to the poignant to the sad to the simply beautiful.

Photographer Natsuki Yasuda's image was of a young woman who survived the March 2011 disaster that struck Japan's Tohoku region as a schoolgirl, but is now a mother and has big dreams for her newborn daughter. Shisei Kuwabara contrib-

"We had never attempted an event with this many photographers before so coordinating everything has been difficult at times," he said. The 120 people who attended the opening night meant it was also the biggest reception the committee had ever hosted at the Club.

Osborn, who is originally from Los Angeles and moved to Japan in 1980, first agreed to join the committee after previous chair Tony McNicol stood down. He says the FCCJ's wall space is much in demand. "There is no shortage of artists who want to do shows here, which is great. But with only 12 exhibitions a year it means I have to tell a lot of people that we are not able to schedule their show," he said.

"With its selection of what to show, the committee wants to give priority to people who are working in the media—photographers, artists, designers—and offer a chance to share their work. It's important that it is seen by as many people as possible. That is what we want our walls to be used for.

"I HAVE TO SAY that the Club's new premises are a huge improvement on the old building for displaying these imag-

es," Osborn said. "Before, the exhibitions were held in the bar area and it was difficult to see as customers were seated at tables in front of where the works were hung. Now we have the whole of that long hallway and a much-improved space to view the pictures.

"Every time I walk down that hall and I see people stopping and looking at images, I say to myself 'great,'" he added.

In addition to Osborn, the Exhibitions Committee has six members—Katsura Endo serves as deputy chair and the rest of the team is made up of Robert Kirschenbaum, Everett Kennedy Brown, Katsuyoshi Ozaki, Yoichi Yabe and Gavin Frew. It tends to use the monthly receptions as an opportunity to introduce artists and share new information. With all of the committee members busy working, much of their preparatory work is done over e-mail or the phone.

As well as giving creators a space in which to display their work, the committee tries to be timely and in-sync with the news. In March 2011, Taishi Hirokawa had been preparing an exhibition for the following month, but he was able to quickly change direction and instead showed a series of images taken a few years previously of all 52 nuclear power plants operating across Japan, including the now infamous Fukushima Dai-ichi plant.

**SINCE 2011, THE EXHIBITIONS** held in the month of March have generally taken as their theme events related to the worst natural disaster to strike Japan in living memory. Members of the committee have traveled to Tohoku on a number of occasions in the intervening years to further document the lives of people who survived the disaster. Osborn himself has given workshops at local junior high and high schools.

The Club also stepped in when Korean photographer Ahn Sehong was told by the Nikon Salon exhibition space in Shinjuku in 2012 that it was cancelling his show of images featuring "comfort women" from the years of Japan's colonial control of the Korean Peninsula.

"It was in the news a lot at the time and the right wing was being very vocal against it," Osborn said. "I was concerned about not causing problems for the Club or the people working here—but we discussed it and agreed that this was exactly the sort of thing that we should be showing at the press club. We had to do it."

Another memorable exhibition featured the photographs of Liu Xia, a painter, photographer and poet who was under house arrest in China. Her husband, Liu Xiaobo, the world-renowned Chinese dissident and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in 2010, was imprisoned in a labor camp at the time.

The committee generally has exhibitions lined up two or three months in advance. Osborn is very diplomatic about the one time when an event fell through less than a week before it was scheduled to open, resulting in a stressful rearrangement at the last minute. In order to avoid such crises, the committee generally has exhibitions lined up two or three months in advance. But it is all worthwhile, according to Osborn.

"There are a couple of really good reasons to be on the committee," he said. "I have great chances to meet a lot of really interesting and talented people, and I like being able to make connections between Club Members and exhibitors. It's also fun to collaborate as a group and to see the overlap with other committees and people." ●

*Julian Ryall* is Japan correspondent for the *Daily Telegraph*.

# Climate Change

## Investigating the story of the century

This circle shows the atmosphere of our planet roughly to scale

We now release the equivalent of more than 37,000,000,000 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> into this thin line—

every year

*Climate crisis: Part 1 of a series*

While it's harder than ever to ignore the impact that climate change is having on our lives, reporting on such a massive story is not easy. Here are some ways to grab readers' attention and improve understanding.

By James Fahn

At first glance, climate change may not seem the most obvious subject for investigative journalists to tackle. The science that underlies our understanding of global warming is complex, and so we often rely on technical experts to tell us, for instance, to what extent it exacerbates floods, droughts, hurricanes, heat waves, epidemics and health issues, coastal erosion, the decline of species and other phenomena.

But this is what's shaping up to be the biggest story of the twenty-first century we're talking about. As with most environmental issues, some people—usually poor and marginalized groups like women, youth and indigenous people—tend to suffer more than others from climate change, and are less able to adapt to it. And although we all, to a certain extent, are responsible for releasing the greenhouse gases that cause climate change, clearly there are some—wealthy consumers, fossil fuel companies, heavy manufacturing and transport industries, logging firms—that emit much greater quantities than others, and benefit more from the activities that cause this pollution.

That means climate change is not just an environmental issue, but also an economic and social-justice one, making it fertile ground in which investigative journalism can flourish. When it comes to environmental topics, we don't just follow the money, we also follow the pollution: where it comes from, who benefits and who suffers from it.

What's more, as climate change has gone from a vague environmental concern several decades ago to a confirmed global phenomenon that is today affecting virtually every aspect of our society—our economy, security, health, livelihoods, food supply and, yes, our politics—it has become ever more ripe for investigation.

So here are 10 promising investigative paths (some of which admittedly overlap with each other, or expand into many sub-topics) that journalists can explore to dig up the stories behind what the editor of the *New York Times* suggests will be the "story of our time." Even if some

of these issues have been covered in some places, there are many countries or regions around the world where such coverage has been lacking.

### THE FOSSIL FUELS INDUSTRY

As the main driver of greenhouse gas emissions, the coal, oil and gas industries are the most obvious target for investigative reports. There have been some good investigations of the highest-profile corporations, such as the extensive probe of Exxon, for which InsideClimate News was named a Pulitzer Prize finalist. But there are many other companies, including some of the world's largest, which have not been so thoroughly investigated. In particular, those include some

of the state-owned petroleum companies like Saudi Aramco, Sinopec, China National Petroleum and Kuwait Petroleum, or other mammoth firms like Lukoil, Total and Eni that may be privately owned or publicly listed but still often serve as national champions.

It would be useful to know if these companies, or even more likely the trade associations they belong to, are lobbying for favorable laws, subsidies and regulations; financing politicians who support their industry; spreading disinformation; fighting legislation that addresses climate change; backing climate denier groups; and ignoring the findings of their own scientists.

These companies can also be investigated to see if they're inflating the hypothesized "carbon bubble," a potential overvaluation of their net worth, which could burst and possibly spark a new financial crisis. These companies are often largely valued based on their stated fossil fuel reserves, but scientists tell us that much of these reserves will have to remain in the ground if we're to avoid catastrophic climate change, potentially turning some of the reserves into "stranded assets."

There is also a risk some of these firms could ultimately be held liable for the global warming their products are causing, much as the Master Settlement agreement with the major US tobacco firms required them to pay massive penalties.

In general, coal companies have garnered the most attention from the media—understandably, since coal is considered the most polluting of fossil fuels. Oil pipelines and fracking operations have also been subject to much scrutiny, due to environmental risks like explosions, leaks and contaminated water supplies.

Natural gas companies, on the other hand, generally get less attention, partly because burning gas is considered to be a less greenhouse gas-intensive fuel. This has led the industry to argue it should be used as a "bridge fuel" as we move towards renewable energy sources. But there is much yet to be investigated in the natural gas industry: While methane, the main greenhouse gas waste product of natural gas, does not persist in the atmosphere as long as carbon dioxide,

it is four times as powerful a warming agent. And even though natural gas companies have recently been found to be leaking far more methane into the atmosphere than previously thought, many of them have been fighting regulations aimed at preventing such leakage—a factor that may be relevant in any country from which you are reporting.

### OTHER POLLUTING INDUSTRIES

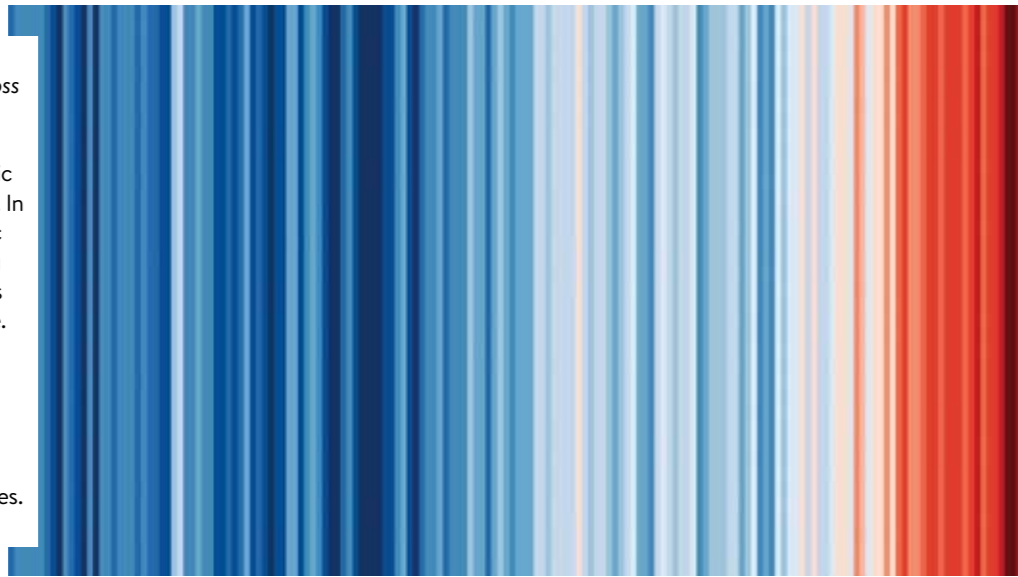
Although the burning of fossil fuels deserves the brunt of the blame for climate change, there are many other industries that are ripe for more in-depth reporting. Enterprising reporters can come up with good stories by investigating the supply chains of just about any industry to uncover which

**CLIMATE CHANGE IS NOT JUST AN ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUE, BUT ALSO AN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL JUSTICE ONE . . . FERTILE GROUND IN WHICH INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM CAN FLOURISH**

ANDREW POTHECARY (Data from European Commission, Emissions Database for Global Atmospheric Research, 2017)

### Climate stripes

Annual average temperature across the globe, 1850-2018. This chart is made by Ed Hawkins at the National Centre for Atmospheric Science (University of Reading). In making his charts free for public use, he deliberately avoids using figures, to illustrate the changes as visually and simply as possible. The 1971-2000 average is taken as the boundary between colder (increasingly dark blue) and hotter (increasingly dark red) using statistical standard deviations between colour shades. [showyourstripes.info](http://showyourstripes.info)



processes involve the greatest release of greenhouse gases, but here are a few industries that are particularly relevant:

### AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND LOGGING

Agriculture, forestry, and land-use change are responsible for somewhere between a quarter and a fifth of all the global emissions that cause climate change, and yet it receives considerably less attention. Industrial agriculture is heavily reliant on the fossil fuel industry. The production of synthetic fertilizer, for instance, has been shown to be a significant producer of greenhouse gases by burning astounding amounts of natural gas and then releasing more heat-trapping gasses from soil bacteria. There are climate-friendly agricultural techniques available, and journalists should look into why they aren't more widespread, especially since farming and food security are likely to be heavily impacted by global warming.

The impact of livestock husbandry on the global climate has often drawn snickers, mainly because it is funny to think that cow farts could be contributing to a global crisis. But the dairy and beef industry is responsible for around 8.5 percent of human-caused emissions (and in fact, cow belches are a bigger problem than farts, according to NASA). What's more, a lot of tropical forest that could be used as vital "carbon sinks"—places that keep carbon stored rather than being released into the atmosphere—and as critical habitat for biodiversity, is being cleared to make way for cattle ranching and soybean farms (particularly in the Amazon) and palm oil plantations (especially in Southeast Asia).

One of the questions journalists are most commonly asked about climate change is, what can individuals do to help address it? Reporters can respond by investigating where our food comes from, how it is produced and shipped, and how that is contributing to greenhouse gas emissions.

### TRANSPORTATION

Another cause of climate change where individual consumers can make a difference is in deciding what transportation to use. It is generally well-reported that air travel and the use of individual cars is a major contributor to climate change. But there are aspects of the transportation challenge that have received far less attention: the overall impacts of aviation and shipping on climate change and the efforts to regulate these industries, for instance, or the fact that housing policy is a part of climate policy because of the way it affects transportation.

### CEMENT AND HEAVY INDUSTRY

Journalists could investigate many industries to uncover their sometimes-surprising impact on climate change. Few may know, for instance, that the cement industry generates around 8 percent of man-made greenhouse gas emissions. If it were a country, it would be the third largest emitter in the world. And what about other industries, like steel, chemicals, air conditioning or refrigerants? All these are good investigative subjects.

### REAL ESTATE AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPERS

The real estate industry deserves special mention here, not just because it uses a lot of concrete, or because housing policies have such a big impact on transportation options (and thus on emissions), but also because real estate and other infrastructure developers have such tremendous clout over climate-related policies, and even the way government communicates the challenge of climate change.

The role of real estate interests in ignoring climate change has received less attention than that of the fossil fuel industry, but there is little doubt that in places it has supported destructive policies, including purposely ignoring scientific models of climate change when determining coastal policies.

Journalists need to be particularly vigilant in coastal and flood-prone areas where developers—not just of real estate, but also of roads, bridges, seawalls, etc.—may be tempted to build and sell infrastructure they know will eventually be inundated. Just as a bubble could be forming in the overvaluation of fossil fuel companies, the value of coastal real estate could end up dropping precipitously if homeowners come to realize they can't adequately protect or insure their homes. Digging deeper, enterprising reporters need to talk to regional planners who face an agonizing quandary: How do they decide what amount of sea-level rise or weather-related risk to factor into their zoning rules? ●

*Next month: Part II of "Investigating the Story of the Century": The environmental impact of government rules, foreign aid, and carbon credits.*

**James Fahn** is Executive Director of the Earth Journalism Network at Internews. He is also a lecturer at the Graduate School of Journalism at the University of California at Berkeley, where he teaches international environmental reporting. First published on the Global Investigative Journalism Network website. Reprinted with permission.

### Club news

CLUB DINING

## The Pen & Quill Dining Room

*Now available from the Front Desk*

**The Club's Pen & Quill Dining Room is now accepting reservations**



### JOIN THE FILM COMMITTEE...



... on Monday, Sept. 9 at 6:30 pm for the feature directing debut of actor Joe Odagiri, *They Say Nothing Stays the Same*. Gathering together collaborators who are equally famous (including cinematographer Christopher Doyle, Academy Award-winning costume designer Emi Wada and Armenian jazz musician Tigran Hamasyan, Odagiri portrays a Japan that is at once achingly beautiful, steeped in the past but rushing headlong toward modernization. The film tells the deceptively simple story of a lonely old boatman, Toichi (Akira Emoto, in his first leading role in over a

decade), who rescues a half-dead young girl from the water and gives her a place to stay. Fu (Ririka Kawashima) is as reticent as her host, but despite the mystery of her past, a friendship begins to grow. Set in early Meiji Japan (perhaps) but timeless in its concerns—the sacrifices made in the name of progress, the loss of cherished traditions and the natural environment, the human costs of capitalism—Odagiri's film is astonishing in its storytelling mastery and its visual artistry. The writer-director will be on hand for the Q&A session. (*Japan, 2019; 137 minutes; in Japanese with English subtitles*)

— Karen Severns



### CLUB EVENT

## Nakanaori (Friends Again) Contest at FCCJ

### Teaching your children the skill of keeping friends

Give your child the skills to make and keep friends by joining the **Nakanaori (Friends Again) contest** where preschoolers submit drawings and elementary students submit essays about "seeing others' side" and learning to apologize. It is of life-long value, but it has to be learned early.

**Application deadline: September 23.**  
**Contest award party at FCCJ October 20.**

See details at <https://kizuna-ehon.com/en/>

Sponsored by Asahi Gakusei Shimbun Sha, publisher of *Nakanaori* ("Friends Again") picture book. **Don't miss the chance to prepare your child to learn this vital skill.**



FCCJ EXHIBITION



**Aesthetic of Bushido**  
British Dandyism and Aesthetic of Samurai  
by Atsuki Settangeli

In Japan, we have a saying: “A Samurai, even when he has not eaten, uses a toothpick like a lord.” Samurai were the military class—higher in rank than farmers and common people, but with decreasing power over time. They created and developed their own sense of aesthetics and values, such as those expressed in bushido—the “Way of the Samurai.”

A similar phenomenon occurred in the United Kingdom, where there was a class of nobles and a class of “gentry,” many of whom would never become nobles. The word “gentlemanly” that is used today has its roots in the aesthetics and value system that the gentry developed over the years. And by devoting themselves to this way of life, they further developed a “noble aesthetic sense.”

The dedication to beauty, values and bushido is the reason why I painted the series “Samurai Spirit.” It refers to a way of living that discovers life in a sense of aesthetics. I, as a modern expressionist, would like to live up to this approach.

*Atsuki Settangeli* was born in 1968, began painting in 1995 and has made Samurai his theme since 2010. These works have been exhibited in New York and Japan. His work has been published, won awards and is in permanent collections.

CLUB GOODS

Tenugui

Now available from the Front Desk



The Club’s new *tenugui* are lightweight, hand-printed cotton handtowels-cum-accessories, which make a perfect souvenir from the FCCJ (and Japan), for use in the lingering hot weather or at the onsen, or just to display at home. We have two specially produced designs with gradient backgrounds (we didn’t make it easy for the hard-working screen printers!) and featuring the Club logo.



NEW MEMBERS

REGULAR MEMBERS

**Tanja Houwerzijl**, Freelance



**Hirofumi Nakano**, Office Liberte, works for Japanese media, both print and broadcast, in Tokyo and Osaka. In 2000, he enrolled in Emerson College’s school of journalism as a graduate student. Nakano then joined Nippon Television Network’s Washington Bureau as an associate producer, covering a variety of topics in Washington’s politics, diplomacy and including anti-Bush movements across the nation. A highlight of his time there was an exclusive interview with the family of the defector Charles Jenkins. He then became a Washington-based freelance journalist until returning to Japan in October 2007. Besides journalism, Nakano’s passions are sports, hip-hop music and reading history books.



**Randy Schmidt**, CBS News. He graduated from UCLA Film School in 1984 and worked at 20th Century Fox motion picture studio before moving to Tokyo in 1996. After working for the CNN Tokyo Bureau as a cameraman-editor, Schmidt began freelancing as a cameraman for all the major foreign TV news bureaus in Tokyo. He also held a contract staff job at Reuters Japan from 1999-2002. He was hired by CBS News in 2006 as cameraman-editor, based in Tokyo, covering Asia. He has covered assignments such as the 3/11

disaster, North Korea, and the recent protests in Hong Kong. On the lighter side, Schmidt has shot and edited stories on such subjects as snow monkeys, soba noodles, bonsai and robots.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

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**Takayuki, Kishii**, OMY Area Management Association

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**Shunsuke Tanahashi**, Partners Group Japan KK

**Yoshiaki Watanabe**, Central Japan International Airport Co., Ltd.

NEW IN THE LIBRARY

**My Struggle against Leprosy**

Yohei Sasakawa  
The Nippon Foundation and Sasakawa Health Foundation  
Gift from Yasuo Saji

**Shusho Kantei no mae de: Tell the Prime Minister**  
首相官邸の前で

Eiji Oguma  
Shueisha International  
Gift from Eiji Oguma

**Midnight in Chernobyl: The Untold Story of the World’s Greatest Nuclear Disaster**

Adam Higginbotham  
Simon & Schuster  
Gift from Todd Crowell

**The Greatest Successor: The Secret Rise and Rule of Kim Jong Un**

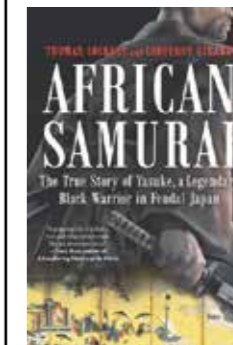
Anna Fifield  
John Murray

**The Future is Asian: Commerce, Conflict, and Culture in the 21st Century**

Parag Khanna  
Simon & Schuster Paperbacks

**Zainichi Literature: Japanese Writings by Ethnic Koreans**

Edited by John Lie  
Institute of East Asian Studies, University of California



**African Samurai: The True Story of Yamaoka, a Legendary Black Warrior in Feudal Japan**

Thomas Lockely ;  
Geoffrey Girard  
Hanover Square Press



**“MY APPRENTICESHIP WAS THREE YEARS OF GOING TO THE MASTER’S HOUSE EVERY DAY, NO DAYS OFF, DOING THE CLEANING, THE LAUNDRY, FOLDING KIMONO, AND BEING A STAGEHAND AT HIS SHOWS.**

**IT WAS VERY STRICT. BUT THE BEAUTY OF IT WAS THAT BY BEING WITH THE MASTER FROM MORNING TO NIGHT I LEARNED AN UNFATHOMABLE AMOUNT.”**



**Katsura Sunshine**,  
rakugo comic storyteller, Aug. 21



**You say tomato, I say food-related consumable product**

Humanoid robots, called Foodly, pack lunch boxes alongside human workers for a demonstration of collaborative work at the FOOMA exhibition (a showcase of food-related equipment and technology) in Tokyo on July 11.

by Yoshikazu Tsuno

**Lens craft**

**Dance night**

Bon odori at Zozoji temple, Tokyo.

by Stirling Elmendorf



**Fuji and fire**

A Japan Ground Self-Defense Force Type 16 mobile combat vehicle fires ammunition during a live-fire exercise at the foot of Mt. Fuji, Aug. 22 by Tomohiro Ohsumi



**The old bamboo**

Aug 7: People at the annual and ancient Suhoutei Festival at Iminomiya Shrine in Shimonoseki, Yamaguchi, gather at the shrine and walk around a giant stone with very tall bamboo attached to their body while playing gongs and taiko drums.

by Richard Atrero de Guzman/ NUR Photo)

*Where news is made*



**FCCJ**

*The*  
Foreign Correspondents' Club  
*of Japan*