



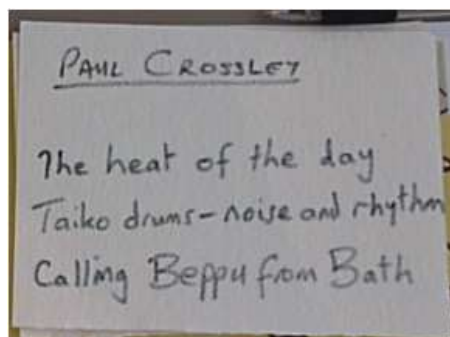
Japan Day 18th June 2017 Bath, Somerset

In the courtyard outside the Assembly rooms the throbbing rhythms of the *Taiko* drummers entertains visitors who throng the stalls displaying Japanese arts and crafts.

Inside the Museum of East Asian Art, all is quiet and calm as visitors dress in *kimono*, play *Go*, make *origami*, take part in a tea ceremony and create calligraphic characters with black inked brushes. In one corner, people are challenged to write haiku.



Carolyn and June write their first haiku.



Paul Crossley, Liberal Democrat Councillor, Member Advocate for The Sustainable Environment and former Mayor of Bath, penned a haiku for the occasion.

He is also the Chair of the Bath & Beppu Friendship Association who with Pray 4 Japan Bath with support from the Museum is raising funds for the victims of earthquakes in Ishinomaki on mainland Japan and Kumamoto on an island off the South West coast of Japan.



It is good to see Minister Shinichi Iida, from the Japanese Embassy, who comes again in his role of responsibility for Public Diplomacy and Media. He enjoyed last year's visit so much.



In the space between cabinets of collections of oriental art, the British Haiku Society stool attracts a number of interested people, many of whom have not come across haiku before. BHS member Alan Summers of *'Call of the Page'* designed a haiku/senryu worksheet which he adapted for Bath Japan Day, for the BHS, and given to visitors.

On this floor are examples of writer's tools, a five-peaked hillside brush-rest, and an ink palette in the form of a tortoise.





© Museum of East Asian Art

The Scholars Room, a tiny cell with enough space to write without distraction.



The British Haiku Society was happy to be invited to this event by Yukie Scott, Museum member of staff and member of the Bath & Beppu Friendship Association. As a result, the British Haiku Society became one of the sponsors of Japan Day 2017.