

What is the Akamon Pearl Society and what our goals (赤門真珠会)?

The *Akamon Pearl Society* is an alumni association for all University of Tokyo alumni and their families who live in the state of Queensland, Australia. Our dual goals are:

- 1) to provide a forum where alumni can socialise through sporting and other events and;
- 2) to give back to the local Queensland community through volunteer work and academic exchange

Although we are based in South East Queensland we welcome alumni from throughout the country.

The reason behind the name/会名の由来

Australia-Japan relations have been primarily focussed on economic ties since our earliest trade in pearls during the latter half of the 19th century. Trade has grown since then and the relationship has expanded with both countries undergoing immense change in the post-WW2 period. Societies have progressed and inter-cultural communication has become easier concomitant with changes in global political, economic, and legal spheres. However, in keeping with the principles of matching theory, connecting people and information is a significant hurdle.

Building on our shared past, the Akamon Pearl Society is thus named in order to emphasise both the history of the Australia-Japan relationship (Pearl) and to recognise that the principal means to furthering mutual understanding on both a societal and academic level is through perpetual learning. The Akamon, being one of the symbols of the University of Tokyo, represents learning (Akamon) and a society by nature connects people with information (hence the translation of 会 as Society).

<以下は選択文書>

It is therefore the aim of the Akamon Pearl Society to connect UT alumni and their families with both each other and their local community through enjoyable and informative events-learning from the past to prosper in the present and shape the future.