

Coordinator's Message

Tadashi Ishida

I hope everyone will be off to a great start in 2014.

First of all, we have a change in our officers and a new name added to our leadership. Yoko Wakui, who had done a wonderful job over the past six years (such a long time!), stepped down as Membership Chair and Tomoko Imamura took her place. Thank you, Yoko, for all your work for the SIG. Welcome to Tomoko Imamura. We are glad to have you on board.

Over the coming years, the number of retired people will increase dramatically in Japan. Many of these people will renew their English language study. Very little English language teaching, research, and materials development focus on the old. While all of the retired learners were introduced to English language study at a young age, it has only been late in life that they have been able to devote their time and energy to developing their proficiency. We need to pay greater attention to the needs of this growing class of English learners.

Best Wishes to everyone in 2014, the year of the horse!