

## **Kiwi Tsunami – Making Waves in Japanese**

In 2003, Heath Cozens, a young New Zealand film maker, was contracted by the Sasakawa Fellowship Fund to produce a video profiling other interesting Kiwis living in Japan. The result was 'Kiwi Tsunami'. A copy was sent to all schools teaching Japanese at the time together with a Teachers' manual including transcripts and translations of the conversations and a sample lesson plan using one of the clips.

The language in the documentaries is not graded – it is the raw natural Japanese spoken by New Zealanders living in Japan and people in their lives.

Convinced that the material is still current and would be inspiring for senior NZ students of Japanese, our National Japanese Language Adviser Tomooka sensei has worked with Heath over recent months to convert the video into a DVD. We have now duplicated the DVD and have 100 copies available to the first 100 teachers to send in an A5 (23 x 16cm) stamped (\$1.50) addressed envelope to me (Naomi Collins, Ruawharo Centre, EIT, PO Box 410, Napier 4140).

Here's the blurb on the back of the DVD, to give you a better idea of what it is about

### ***WHY STUDY JAPANESE?***

*Learning Japanese is a hard road and sometimes it can be hard to see where it might lead us. This entertaining set of documentaries offers us an intimate glimpse into the lives of eight very different people and the paths they have chosen. Kiwi Tsunami shows New Zealanders putting their hard-earned Japanese skills to work.*

*Christy sings her T.V. swansong... Jonny embarks on a new business and a marriage.... Vanessa brings the taste of home to downtown Tokyo... Matt shears sheep for his devoted fans...*

*It's an engaging look at Japan from a unique perspective: ours. Eight individuals with eight wildly different stories tied by a common experience: a new country, a new culture and a new language.*