



The Bamboo Shoots

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We do hope The Bamboo Shoots born out of the soil of Yamato-Takada will grow up and act as a go-between for the citizens in Lismore and in Yamato-Takada

International Exchange Awards

On May 8th (Mon.) the 11th International Exchange Award Ceremony was held by the Council of Local Authorities for International Relations in the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications. As Yamato Takada City and the Yamato Takada•Lismore Sister City Friendship Association have been working on the various exchanges between the two cities since 1963 and the continual efforts so far had been highly evaluated, the International Exchange Awards have come to be given to them. Mr. Masakatsu Yoshida, mayor, and Mr. Yoshikiyo Wakimoto, president of the association, were willing to attend the award ceremony in Tokyo.



Fund-Raising for Flood in Lismore City

Heavy rainfalls and strong winds raged in Lismore city, Australia, at the end of March this year and they caused serious damage to the city and the greater parts of it were very much damaged by flooding. In order to have visitors and local citizens raise funds for the disposal and removal of piles of debris all over Lismore, 'The Yamato Takada•Lismore Sister City Friendship Association' set up the donation boxes here



and there in the Katashio Shopping Districts when 'Okage-Matsuri in spring' or 'Thank-you Festival in spring' took place there on April 30. It goes without saying that many of the visitors and local citizens showed their cooperative attitudes to the fund-raising activities and donated money one after another.

The donated money is expected to be taken directly to Lismore city by the exchange students this summer.

Exchange Students to Lismore Announced

The exchange students this year were decided, including Mr. Fukuoka, an English teacher of Takada-nishi Junior High school, who is in charge of the students. They are expected to stay at Lismore for 12 days from July 28 to August 9.



Chihiro Takagi

I had always been interested in overseas trips, so I decided to apply for this exchange student project. This is my first time to go abroad, so I really feel nervous before the trip, but as this is a good chance for me to have a variety of experience, I will try to talk to local citizens in Lismore and get along with them in friendship. Yamato

Takada city has a lot of uniquely appealing points, so I will tell them to Lismore people and at the same time I want to learn about Lismore as much as possible. By doing so I would like to play an important role as an exchange student.



Hikari Shinomoto

The reason why I applied for this exchange program was that I wanted to experience a different culture, and also I had a dream that I wanted to get a job of a guide for foreign visitors to Japan. Through this homestay program I want to make good progress with English to carry out my hope in the future.

I have a lot of worries about studying abroad but I will enjoy home-staying and try my best to make this program successful together with our attendant teacher and the five students.



Ryuichi Morishima

I am very happy to have a good opportunity to visit Lismore this time, but honestly, I feel uneasy whether I can tell local people properly what I want to say in English. I know, however, that as a member of the exchange students I must tell them a lot about things attractive that Yamato Takada city has.

Furthermore, I would like to make great progress with English and get a good communicative competence during my stay in Lismore.



Haruki Yoshimura

I had known well about this exchange program and I had wanted to tell Australian people about Takada city since I was an elementary pupil. It took me a lot of courage to apply for this project. I thought this was the last chance in my high school life and I didn't want to miss this opportunity.

I am anxious about my first visit abroad and how to spend two weeks in Lismore, but now that I have become an exchange student, I will pull out all the stops to act as an exchange student. I will tell Lismore people much about Takada's charm and good points and at the same time I will learn as much about Australia.



Rin Koyanagi

I made an application for this exchange student project as I wanted to learn the difference of culture between the two countries, Japan and Australia. During the two-week homestay in Lismore, I must think by myself, act on my own initiative and increase communication with my host family. I have a lot of worries about my first time overseas stay, but I will

spend the two weeks effectively trying everything without being afraid of failure.



Akira Fukuoka
(teacher)

I hear that Yamato Takada city has been a sister city with Lismore for more than fifty years. So I wanted to act as a bridge between us and deepen our exchanges. That's why I decided to be an attendant teacher in this program. I hope we know more about each other, we share our cultures, and I myself support the exchange students to be stimulated by a lot of experiences there.