



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



Taizo Horiuchi

New Mayor's Assumption Greetings:

Hello! My name is Taizo Horiuchi, who was formally inducted as new mayor of Yamato Takada city. I'm very happy to say a few words, for the first time, to you the readers of this newsletter 'the Bamboo Shoots.' I take pride in the first mayor of the new era 'Reiwa.' I'm feeling tense and determined at the

thought of my duties and responsibilities.

The agreement of the Lismore and Yamato Takada Sister City Relationship was the first to be signed between Australia and Japan, which, as a matter of fact, the citizens of Yamato Takada are very proud of. I think it a great honor for me to work together with you to make the friendship much deeper as mayor as well as honorary president of Yamato Takada Sister City Association. In addition, I realize the length of history of the relationship. I mean that the 56 years are so long that I must think highly of the weight of its history.

In the promotion of this relationship between the two cities we have owed a great deal to Consulate General of Japan, Sydney, and Council of Local Authorities for International Relations, Sydney, as well. So here I would like to express my profound gratitude to all the people concerned for their heartfelt understanding and cooperation.



I haven't met Mayor of Lismore City Council, Isaac, yet, but I've learned to know that he has shown to us a clear understanding of our relationship since he assumed his new position Mayor.

Local people as well as staff of Lismore Council lovingly welcomed the visiting party from Takada at the 55th anniversary celebration held in Lismore. And then mayors of both of the cities willingly signed the agreement again.

I'm looking forward to meeting Mayor Isaac and city staff as well through Internet on August 7. Yamato Takada Catholic Kindergarten, which gave us an opportunity to have sister city school system in Yamato Takada for the first time, and Lismore Preschool signed the agreement to be sister schools this year. I am going to strongly support this sister city school system. I am sure that children of both cities have a good time through this sister city programs.

Lastly I would like all of you to support the projects of Yamato Takada Sister City Relationship. Thank you so much.



Masakatsu Yoshida

Mayoral Retirement Greetings:

I, Masakatsu Yoshida, have served up, without any big deal, the four terms, or my 16 years, as mayor of Yamato Takada City.

Since my assumption of a mayoral post, I believe, the Sister City School and Friendship projects between the two cities, Yamato Takada and Lismore, have

been very fruitful and productive in many ways.

I have spent so much wonderful time deepening mutual understanding with a lot of Lismore local

citizens and exchange students through useful and interesting talks.

After the 50th anniversary of our sister city foundation, when I first met the previous mayor, Jenny, the relationship of mutual trust and cooperation between the two cities has been deepened much more than before, I think.

I remember still now that when we visited Lismore to celebrate the 50th anniversary of our sister city friendship and held the Takada City Day, many Lismore city council staff, including Jenny, kindly gave a heartfelt hand to us and we were able to have the Day ended in a great success. We were very happy that a lot of school children and Lismore residents came and joined us in the Goonellabah Sports Center. I also remember that mayor Jenny told me to have a smile, noticing

my bored face because of the late commemorative dinner on schedule. These two episodes were unforgettable to me.

Afterward Lismore council set up her own Sister City Friendship Committee, and it looks like it has been working on the sister city projects more positively. I look forward to the joint ceremony projects through Internet on August 7 every year, which is the birthday of the foundation of Sister City Relations.

Right after Jenny, new mayor Isaac overcame a big flood in and around Lismore, which happened soon after he took office. After that he showed a deep understanding about the sister city relations. I really appreciated it. In June last year we celebrated the 55th anniversary of the Sister City Relationship and at that time Isaac and I took part in the big event Lantern Parade, which was the third one that I never forget forever.

I passed a baton to my successor, Taizou Horiuchi, who, I believe, has much understanding about the sister city relationship between the two cities and

makes every effort to promote the relations much more than before.

I wish Isaac good health and good luck, hoping that the two cities become more prosperous and help each other deepen and strengthen the friendship much more.

I will support the sister city relationship projects as one of the citizens of Yamato Takada.

Thank you so much.



President Greeting: Lismore-Yamato Takada Sister City Association

I would like to thank you all for your cooperative support to Lismore-Yamato Takada Sister City Association. We have the beginning of the new era from Heisei to Reiwa this year. We have a new feeling or hope for the new era somehow.

We have experienced three eras in due course, through Showa, Heisei and Reiwa, along with the development of our association. Feeling that time flies surprisingly fast, we realize that the sister city association has passed in the road to success, due to deep friendship and goodwill of your own showing during the long term. There is a proverb 'Persistence will pay off,' so we have to show respect to our seniors' persistence, who tried hard

to make this friendship association successful in its true sense of the meaning. I really appreciate our seniors' great effort.

Mr. Taizo Horiuchi, our new mayor, is honorable president of this association, who will surely help us do our duty just as the previous mayor Masakatsu Yoshida did.

Mr. Yoshida attended the Lantern Parade in Lismore last year together with our mascot 'Miku-chan,' who is supposed to take part in the parade this year as well under the support of Lismore Council. Lismore people walk and parade along with Miku-chan in high spirits around Lismore, appealing how cute and pretty Miku-chan is. I really want to thank all Lismore people concerned for their kindness. Since this event is expected to be held every year, I believe that the bond of both of the cities will be getting stronger and the friendship between the two cities will be getting deeper and deeper. I do hope for your cooperation and goodwill toward our association.

Thank you so much.



Yoshikiyo Wakimoto

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