

GIFU BULLETIN

Vol. II | No. 5

Featuring News, Events, and Updates from Around the Geefs

May 2016



News –

CLAIR is now offering to provide JET participants with a grant to cover costs spent on the JLPT N3 examination in the event that they are successful in passing it.

The grant is only for the N3 level of the JLPT and it is also not applicable to JETs in their 4th and 5th year on the programme at the time of taking the test.

The grant is 5,300 yen in total and proof of passage of the exam is required when submitting a claim.

More detailed information on the application procedure is available at:

<http://jetprogramme.org/en/jlpt/>

Japanese Phrase of the Month

For those worried about getting back into the groove

Mukashi totta kinezuka

昔とったきねずか

Literal Translation:

Like the pestle and mortar you used long ago

Functional Translation:

It's like riding a bike, you never forget.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Gifu Castle- Night Time Opening

Cable Car until 21:30

April 29th – May 8th

Nature Walk

Shirakawa Go

2000 yen

April 29th – May 8th

Super Dog Show

ENAKYO WONDERLAND

Nakatsugawa City

April 29th – May 1st

<http://iko-yo.net/events/35145>

Spring Festival 2016

*Market stalls, craft workshops, places
for kids to play etc.*

Ogaki City

大垣市かみいしづ緑の村公園

May 3rd – 5th

Rice Planting Experience

Gujo City

3,000 yen

May 15th

[Application Form](#)

Regional Spotlight — GIFU

Springing Around the Gifu Region!

Hey Gifu Prefecture! It is time to break out your shorts and dresses and pack away those snow shovels because spring has officially arrived! Japan is so picturesque that we often find ourselves wondering, is it really that stupid pretty, or has everyone just turned into Ansel Adams overnight? (Spoiler alert; it's the former). It is seemingly impossible to go anywhere (including on Facebook) during springtime in Japan without experiencing a full frontal eye assault of unbelievably beautiful blooming sceneries, but it's a welcome change as we slowly start to defrost from the cold winter months of un-insulated living! Although certainly not the only place with such views, the Gifu region is proud to boast two of Japan's top 100 places for Hanami, and we were thrilled to hear about JETs taking advantage of these lovely sights in our own backyards!



Photo taken by Tom Black in Kakamigahara

The first place is in Kakamigahara, where Gifu AJET held an event on the banks of the Shinsakai River. The Gifu region was happy to host JETs and friends from all over the prefecture for a day of lounging by the river under beautiful cherry blossoms, eating foods from the bountiful yatai (food stands), and enjoying one another's company.



Photo taken by Sarah Demery in Kakamigahara



Photo taken by Brianna Cosenza in Neo

The other place is the Usuzumi-zakura, in Neo. It is listed as one of Japan's National Treasures, and one of its trees is referred to as "One of the Three Great Cherry Trees of Japan". Rumor has it that this cherry blossom tree was planted by none other than the Keitai Emperor over 1,500 years ago! Every year as this tree blooms, people from all over Japan make the journey to our very own William Bailey's sleepy, little town to see it, including a few Gifu JETs this year.

Although the cherry blossoms have now fallen, the Gifu region is looking forward to all that the rest of spring has to offer. We hope that you all choose to make the trip down south to enjoy it with us!

With Gifu-ken love, from Meryl Jordan and Sarah Demery (Gifu RPAs)

What did you think?

What would you like to see in future issues?
Send us an email at gifupas@gmail.com



See you next time !