

GIFU BULLETIN



Joining the PA/RPA Team

Peter Collins – CIR PA



Hey everybody! My name is Peter and I'm the new CIR PA from the UK! I studied Physics in the UK and Germany before starting JET and now I'm looking forward to getting to know/working with you all!

Lauren Godbey – Gifu RPA

My name is Lauren 'n I'm here to say,
you can hit me up 'bout anything with no delay.
Living in Ogaki, but reppin' Gifu,
but wherever you be, I'm here for you!
In central Colorado, born and raised,
Evaluating district assessments, instructing literature and linguistics, and adhering to state based standards in a high school curriculum is where I spent most of my days.
Chillin' out, maxin', relaxin' all cool,
I think I'm pretty fresh, but 'chu prob' be thinkin' I'm a fool.
Ain't no thang, so long as we keep one thing straight,
keep spreading the love, ain't nobody got time for that hate.



**Reminder:*

The 1st 2016-2017

ALT Skills Development Conference

Who: All JET ALTs in Gifu-ken and their JTEs

When: October 14th, from 9:30-16:20

Where: Gifu Prefecture Board of Education Center

Dress Code: Business

*More information has been sent to your schools. If you have questions, please contact us

Opportunities to Get Involved!

Looking to do more with your JET experience? This year, our very own Gifu JET, Tim Saar, is the Head Editor of Connect Magazine!

Do you have any photos of Japan that you'd like to share? Want to write about the news stories that matter to you? Connect Magazine can help expand your audience, reaching over 13,000 readers.

We're looking for writers, cover-photo submissions, and events to promote.

<http://ajet.net/ajet-connect/>



E-mail Timothy Saar, Head Editor: connect.editor@ajet.net

Japanese
phrase
of the
month

Onkochishin

温故知新

To discover new meaning while seeking something old/ from the past

GIFU BULLETIN



OCTOBER EVENTS



*Compiled by your RPA Social Team

Oct 1st – Gifu Nobunaga Festival

What: A festival held in honour of Oda Nobunaga. The city dresses up and performs a warrior procession with horses and matchlock guns. There's also a marching band, flea markets and more.

When: 10am – 5pm

Where: Downtown Gifu city (between the JR Gifu and Meitetsu Gifu train stations).



Oct 2nd – Chestnut Festival in Yamagata city



What: A celebration of the Reihei chestnuts that were developed locally. At this festival over 100 booths sell delicacies such as yakikuri (fried chestnuts), yakitori and other local foods. There is also entertainment and performances by local and more prominent talent.

When: 9am – 4pm

Where: Oga, Yamagata city, Gifu region.

Oct 2nd – Takayama Castle Festival

What: Come enjoy a reenactment of the Sengoku period at Takayama Castle!

When: 9:30am – 3:30pm

Where: Takayama Castle, Takayama, Hida region.



出陣式 9:30~9:45
南宮神社 必勝祈願 勝ち間

武者行列 9:45~10:10
南宮神社から高山公園へ
戦国武者行列
親子ふれあい戦国ウォーキング

戦国絵巻 9:45~15:30
高山公園 特設ステージ
忍者おどり (土岐津保育園児)
着物の儀
高山城戦国武将隊 演武
長篠・投擧原銃隊 演武
犬山甲冑制作同好会 演武
戦国バサラ合戦「織部の乱」
餅投げ

楽市楽座 9:30~15:30
高山公園 バサリエリア
お店がいっぱいでるよ!

Oct 6th – Casual English Party in Takayama

What: A casual English party organized by one of the local bars where everyone can just come together and have a good time chatting to locals and people from around the world!

Entry is free for foreigners and alcoholic beverages are available starting from only ¥400!

When: 7:30pm-9:30pm

Where: 3-Chome, Honmachi, Takayama-shi, Hida region

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Vol. III No. 1 Featuring News, Events, and Updates Around the Ken

October 2016

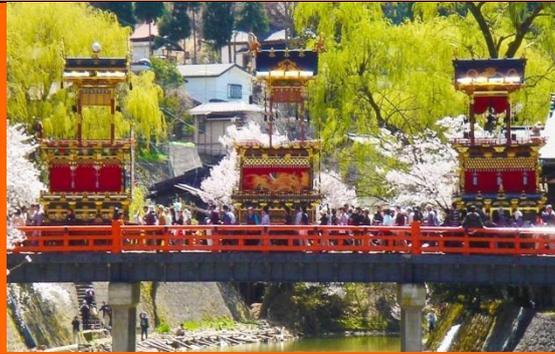
October 8-9th – Mino-Washi Akari Art Exhibition

A paper lantern competition and exhibition showcasing some extremely avante-garde styles, along with some more traditional designs. The exhibition is held outdoors, in a neighborhood of preserved Edo-style buildings. Many shops are open late for the occasion, and you can check out many cool paper-made goods from the area.

When: 7:00-9:30pm Where: Mino, Chuno region



Oct 9-10th – Takayama Festival



Come and experience one of the biggest festivals in Japan! The riverside will be lined with festival stalls leading towards the Sakura-Hachimangu Shrine in the centre of Old Town, and there will be beautiful, ornate festival floats being drawn around town and parked at specific spots! Sunday is the best day to come!

Where: Takayama, Hida region

Oct 14th –SDC Enkai

What: After the first JET Skills Development of the JET year, Gifu AJET will be putting on a post SDC enkai that everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend! (JTE's attending SDC and CIRs not attending SDC are welcome too!)

When: 6:30pm-9:30pm.

Where: Hana no Mai, Gifu City

RSVP by Oct. 6th on facebook or e-mail gifupc@ajet.net



Oct 14-16th – Doburoku Festival, Shirakawago



What: A festival held in Shirakawago, a UNESCO world heritage site, which involves sacred processions at the shrines all over the village, line dances, traditional folk singing, and of course, offerings of doburoku, an unrefined, pulpy sake that is offered to the gods (and all the visitors)!

Where: Shirakawa, Ono District, Hida region.

Oct 16th – Furukawa Fox Fire Festival

What: Locals dress up as foxes and stage a fox wedding and a bonfire at Okura Inari shrine to pray for good harvests and fortune. So come and dress up in a yukata and paint your face like a fox!

Where: Hida-Furukawa Station, Hida-shi, Hida region.

When: 6:00pm

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Regional Spotlight: TONO

Kurikinton

If you say “kurikinton” to the average Japanese person, they will probably imagine the sweet potato and chestnut mash featured in New Year’s *osechi* dishes. In Gifu, however, kurikinton is an autumn confection made from boiled chestnuts which are mashed and sweetened, and then formed into small balls. It is also common to find this mashed chestnut mixture used as a filling for other Japanese sweets. In some shops you can even find kurikinton flavored ice cream and soft serve!

Locals believe that kurikinton originated in either Kamo, Yaotsu, or Nakatsugawa city, but the Tono Region has definitely become the most well-known area for this treat. This is probably due to the large number of chestnut fields in Ena and Nakatsugawa. In late September and early October, tourists who are “nuts” for chestnuts can tour one of these chestnut fields in Agi Village, which is a short train ride south from Ena on the Akechi Tetsudo line.

The popularity of kurikinton spans well beyond the borders of the Tono region. Tourists and *wagashi* junkies alike flock to famous confectionary shops on autumn weekends. One of the most famous shops, Kawakamiya, usually has lines out the door and police directing traffic! Don’t let this turn you off from trying kurikinton, however. You can find this treat in almost any *wagashi* shop in Gifu. It is even sold at the Chubu Airport, making it an easy gift to pick up before any international flight. But be careful—kurikinton only stay fresh for about four days, so eat them quickly!

Kurikinton is considered to be “in season” from September 1st until January, following the chestnut harvest schedule. You can still find kurikinton in major shops year round (yes, it’s *that* popular!), but for the best flavor and true kurikinton experience, grab one of these treats for your next stroll through the autumn foliage.

~Laura Duvall, Tono RPA

*For info on field tours, or to try your very own kurikinton, stop by the Nakatsugawa Tourist Information Center on the first floor of Nigiwai Plaza, right next to Nakatsugawa Station, or check out http://n-kanko.jp/kuri_sato/ (Japanese only).



Kurizo, Nakatsugawa’s
loveable chestnut mascot

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!