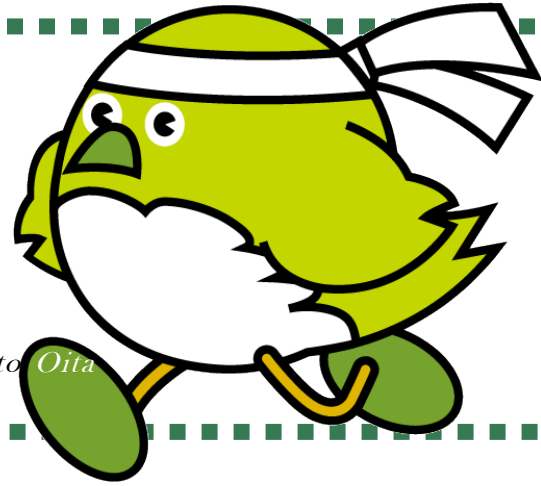


What's up,

OITA!

2020 November
No. 54

Bringing the latest from Oita, Japan to all those connected to Oita thriving all across the globe.



Governor's Courtesy Call to The Ambassador of the Czech Republic to Japan

On Oct 7, Governor Hirose Katsusada made a courtesy call to Mr. Martin TOMCO, Ambassador of the Czech Republic to Japan during the latter's visit to Oita.

The Czech Republic and Japan have engaged in diplomatic activities since year 1920, with this year marking the 100th anniversary for the relationship between the two countries.

'There is a long history between Oita and the Czech Republic, and I hope that we can continue to foster this good relation in many years to come,' expressed Ambassador Tomco.



(From left to right) Chairperson of the Oita Czech Friendship Association: Mr. Kenichiro AKAMATSU/ Ambassador of the Czech Republic to Japan: H.E Mr. Martin TOMCO/ Governor of Oita Prefecture: Hon. Mr. Hirose Katsusada/ Vice Chairperson of the Oita Czech Friendship Association: Mr. Itoh Kazutoshi



Ambassador Tomco and Governor Hirose talking about Beppu Bamboo Crafts.

'This is my first visit to Oita. I am enjoying myself greatly since Oita really makes me feel at ease – I look forward to future visits.'

In response, Governor Hirose made the following statements:

'In commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of Japan-Czech Republic Relations, various events will be held across Japan. I look forward to celebrating this happy event with everyone, and beg your indulgence in the matter.'

ふっとう

おおいた

沸騰大分

New Tourism YouTube Channel!

Updated 19:00 every Saturday



Explore Oita Japan
Turn on Closed Caption
Oita - more than just Onsen

日本大分縣旅遊局
字幕請轉on囉
大分不只是溫泉

沸騰大分

日本一のおんせん県おおいた 味力も満載

日本大分縣旅遊局
字幕請轉on囉
大分不只是溫泉

핫플래이스 오이타
자막을 켜주세요
오이타는 온천이 다가 아니다



Tourism Oita has lately started releasing content on its own YouTube channel, 沸騰大分 (English channel name: *Explore Oita Japan*). The channel is updated on 19:00 every Wednesday.

Produced by Oita's own residents, the videos show off local highlights to audiences around Japan.

Special emphasis is placed on introducing locations that can be enjoyed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The videos come with English, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese and Korean subtitles so that they are inclusive to overseas viewers.

To cater to the Chinese audience, Explore Oita Japan is also active on Weibo and WeChat under the account name *Riběn Dàdàxiàn Lǚyóujú* [日本大分縣旅遊局]. We look forward to seeing you on all these platforms!

Don't forget to

- **Subscribe**
- **Like**
- **Comment**



YouTube



Weibo



WeChat

HOW HAVE YOU BEEN ?

HOW HAVE YOU BEEN? is a column that talks about what past CIRs and other affiliates of the Oita Prefecture have been up to.



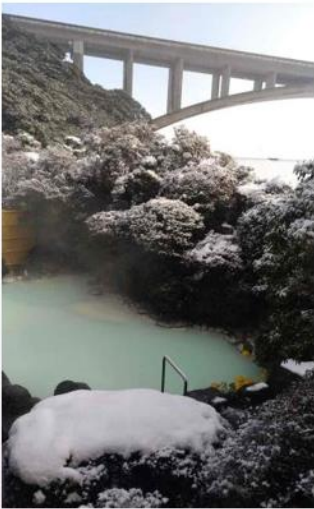
Sarah Backley
Coordinator for International Relations
2017 Jul – 2019 Dec



Participating with friends in Oita's summer Funai Pacchin

Memories of Oita

When I think back on my two and half years spent in Oita, I am overwhelmed by the nostalgia of great friends, kind colleagues, fantastically fresh food, and so much excitement around the build-up to the Rugby World Cup 2019.



Outdoor bath, Ebisu no Yu in Beppu

A year of changes

On one hand, it's hard to believe that it has now been over a year since Japan's successful delivery of the Rugby World Cup, and yet on the other, many will say that this has been the longest, and most unprecedented year of our lives to date. With this being said, and especially as my friends and family in the UK undergo their second national lockdown this year, I realise that it is important to remember the ups that have come out of this year.

The pandemic has showcased the adaptability and resilience shown by people and organisations across the globe, and not to mention the record-breaking drop in pollution levels worldwide. Personally, working remotely for the past 8 months has allowed me to spend more time with loved ones and pick up old hobbies such as cooking and painting.

Transforming memories of Oita into new energy!

I now live in Shimokitazawa, Tokyo, and work at the British Chamber of Commerce in Japan. I would not have had the opportunity to start this role had it not been for my time in Oita, and specifically my one-time experience interpreting at a rugby-themed charity event in

Beppu City last September. I am very much enjoying my time in Tokyo, where I am learning new skills, and making new connections and experiences, but of course will always have a place in my heart for Oita, and look forward to visiting again soon.



Online event with colleagues in Tokyo