
Multilingual Electronic Newsletter – Kagoshima

Southern Wind Tidings (Vol. 155)

Coordinator for International Relations (CIR) Column

Cheers, Kagoshima!

Joshua Robert Anthony Welch (United Kingdom)

International Friendship Center Kagoshima

A New Hub for International Exchange in Kagoshima.

Kagoshima Specialty Products

Sakurajima Smoke Rising Tissue Paper Case

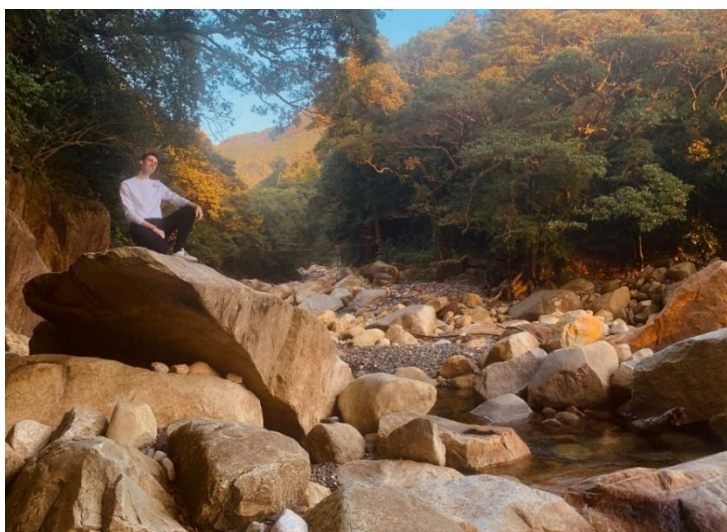
○Coordinator for International Relations (CIR) Column ○

●Cheers! Kagoshima ●

Joshua Robert Anthony Welch (United Kingdom)

Hello everyone! Last year went nowhere near what anyone planned and was a rather wicked time. Thanks to a *lot* of deep breathing, talking with friends and constant mask wearing, I feel like I was able to persevere, though, never again do I want to experience such a tempestuous year. Although people have commented on how it helped them grow, I believe that the aftermath of this including the many deaths, financial crisis and closing of shops and livelihoods will be felt for many more years. Though from now on, I do want to treasure my life more than ever before and take every opportunity that comes my way.

In England, Christmas and New Year is regarded as a chance to see your family. It's still of course difficult for me to return to England and so I spent this year with my boyfriend. While it was fine, I felt nostalgic and that in turn caused a variety of unanswerable questions to wash over me. When would I see my family again? When will I next hug my dog? Though Christmas decorations may cover everything, it really means nothing on its own. The spirit of Christmas is, to me, in



family. In addition to this, Japan did not enforce lockdowns and so I cannot relate to anyone's experiences back home, which is further creating a gap between me and my friends and family.

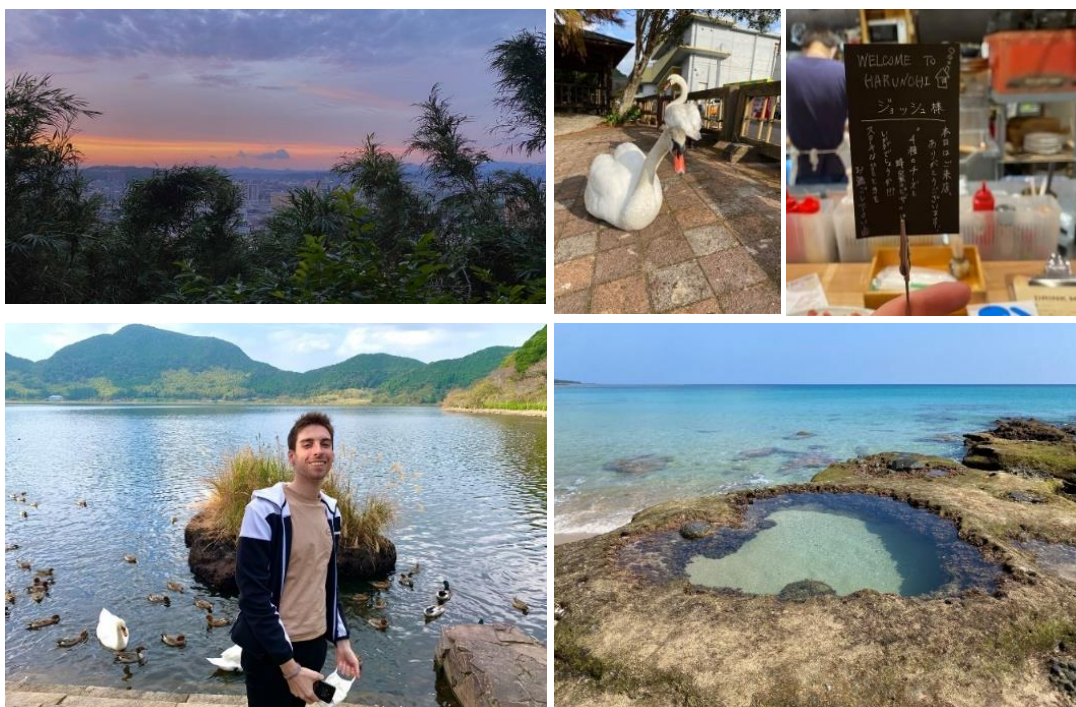
While there is quite a lot of sad news, I do have a piece of wonderful news to start this fabulous new year! While it pains me to be leaving Kagoshima, I am moving to Tokyo to become a writer. I'll be departing from this prefecture, the place that really helped heal me during a dark time in my life. I've always loved to write and currently am editing my first novel, so it is really a dream to now be moving to a job where I can put my hobbies to use. While I've been able to feel, see and experience the heart of Kagoshima through it's people, environs and – of course – *shōchū*, it is time for me to move on.

I have so many people and restaurants etc., to thank for their wonderful hospitality, especially those that catered to vegans. Although Kagoshima prefecture is often regarded as the countryside, if you

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search for modern dishes, they are there to be found. I also will never forget the support I received from those working at Kagoshima Prefectural Government and the International Association, and while our relations as colleagues draw to a close, I hope our friendship continues to blossom. Since photographs definitely convey my 1.5 years here better than words, please take a look at the few photos I have attached.

Thanks again, Kagolando! (My own nickname for Kagoshima)



○ International Friendship Center Kagoshima ○

● A New Hub for International Exchange in Kagoshima ●

<Outline of the facility>

The International Friendship Center Kagoshima was built as a hub for international exchanges in Kagoshima using a fund donated by Mr. INAMORI Kazuo, Chairman Emeritus of Kyocera Corporation, and opened in April 2020 in Kajiyacho, Kagoshima City.

In that building, there are dormitories for foreign students (administered by Kagoshima Prefectural Government) and exchange facilities (administered by Kagoshima City Government) which citizens can use. It is a place where you can enjoy international exchanges by just coming.



International Friendship Center Kagoshima (From Kajiyamachinomori Park)

<Dormitory> Designated Administrator: [Kagoshima International Exchange Promotion Center](#)

Eligibility

- Those studying at universities or other college-level institutions in Kagoshima Prefecture with “Student” status of residence and their family (There are some conditions on the status of residence).
- Japanese students who are interested in international exchange and support foreign students.

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(There is a limit to the number of Japanese residents)

Introduction of the facility

- Room (Single Room:60, Couple Room:2, Family Room:2, Short Stay Room:2)
Shared Kitchen Area, Recreation Room, Counselling Room, etc. are also available.

• Shared Kitchen



• Single Room

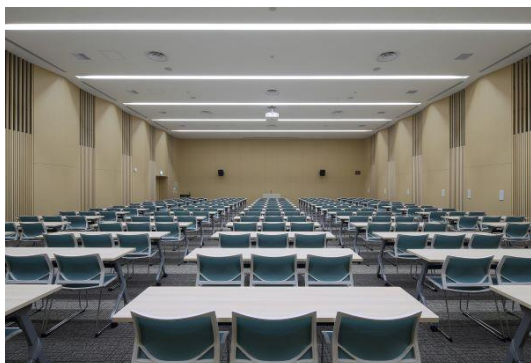


<Exchange Facility> Designated Administrator: [Kagoshima International Exchange Foundation](#)

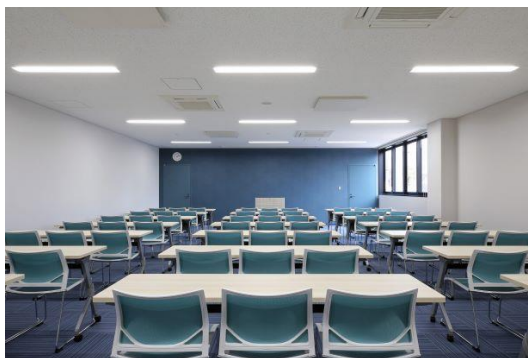
• Friendship Lounge



• Multi-purpose Hall (Capacity: 200)



• Training Room 1 and 2



• Cooking Room



• Japanese-style Room



• Terrace



○ Kagoshima Specialty Products ○

● Sakurajima Smoke Rising Tissue Paper Case ●

~ 2020 Kagoshima New Special Product Competition~

Craft and Daily Commodity Category, President of Kagoshima Products Association Award

[Small] ¥900 [Medium] ¥1,900 [Oshima Pongee Weave] ¥17,000 (tax excl.)

[Small] 13.5cm long and 8cm wide [Medium] 29cm long, 15cm wide and 12cm high

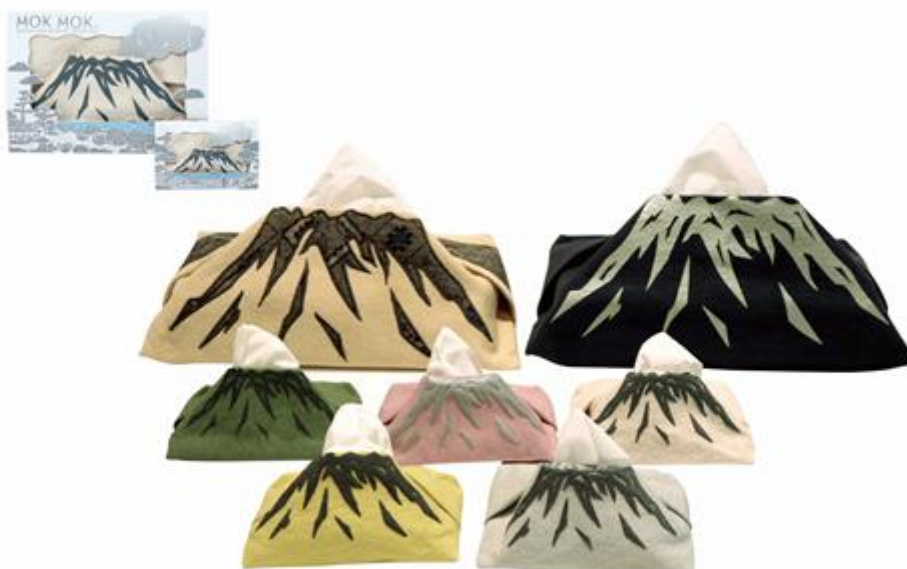
Actual Product may differ from picture in design.

These are tissue cases that liken taken out tissues to rising smoke from Sakurajima. Find your favorite one and take out tissues according to the direct of the wind.

Apparel Creation M4210

5203-1 Chuzancho, Kagoshima City, Kagoshima 891-0105

TEL: 099-806-8760



Kagoshima Prefectural Government Website

www.pref.kagoshima.jp/

Editor's Note (International Affairs Division, Kagoshima Prefectural Government)

Welch-san has made everyone in the office smile with his English Jokes. He reminded us the charms of Kagoshima by sharing his experiences such as surprise to see Sakurajima from his home, memories of shopping arcades, and so on in the Coordinator for International Relations Column.

He may have tough time now and then, so we sincerely want to support his new challenge.

What about this month's Kagoshima Southern Wind Tidings?

We editors will continue to strive to make this prefectural multilingual newsletter a source of information and a bridge to connect all of you to Kagoshima.

Kagoshima's Southern Wind Tidings is looking for the following content:

Kagoshima photo gallery

Please send us photos that remind you of Kagoshima, or pictures of Kagoshima you might have seen overseas. Please attach a brief caption (e.g. A mountain of volcanic-ash bags).

Knowledge about life in Kagoshima

Please share with us information about life in Kagoshima (e.g. a delicious way of eating fried fish cakes, or how to deal with volcanic ash).

We also welcome any other information that you would like to share with our readership.

▲▽▲▽ Inquiries ▲▽▲▽

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