



今年も夏の訪れを感じる季節になりました。5月は田植えの季節でもあり、能登では若者の日本酒ファンを増やすため、学生の酒米作りが始まりました。金沢でも五月晴れの空の下、金沢城リレーマラソンが開催され、約7800人が参加しました。中にはアニメのキャラクターや侍などの衣装をして走る方々も見られ、大変盛り上がったようです。

また、能登にある農家民宿群「春蘭の里」がイスラエルの観光客でにぎわっています。日本の田舎暮らし体験や住民との交流が人気になって、早くも秋の紅葉シーズンの予約も入っているそうです。みなさんも一度訪れてみてはいかがでしょうか。

さて、「ロゴス・ホープ号」という船をご存知でしょうか。この船は世界最大の書店船で、約50か国のスタッフを乗せ世界を巡っています。そんな船が今月金沢港を訪れ、子供から大人まで多くの人が様々な洋書やスタッフとの交流を楽しみました。

来月はいよいよブラジルW杯です。石川県星稜高校出身の本田選手も、もちろん日本代表として出場されます。どんな活躍してくれるのか、とても楽しみです！

今回の新聞情報

- (1)増やせ若者の日本酒ファン 能登で学生が酒米作りスタート
<http://headlines.yahoo.co.jp/hl?a=20140518-00131998->
- (2)最多7800人たすきつなぐ 金沢城リレーマラソン
<http://www.hokkoku.co.jp/subpage/H20140512101.htm>
- (3)春蘭の里がイスラエルの観光客に人気 能登・今年すでに400人超
<http://headlines.yahoo.co.jp/hl?a=20140511-00129760-hokkoku-117>
- (4)洋書の海に浸る 金沢港で書店船公開
<http://www.hokkoku.co.jp/subpage/H20140517103.htm>

※次回は6月末にお届けする予定です。
* The next edition is scheduled to be issued at the end of June.

The summer season is upon us. May is the season for rice picking and in the Noto region they started making brewer's rice with students to get more young people interested in Japanese sake. Under the clear May skies in Kanazawa, the Kanazawa Castle Relay Marathon took place in which there were around 7800 participants. Among them you could find runners dressed as anime characters, samurai and other costumes to liven the mood.

Elsewhere the Shunran-no-Sato farm lodge group in the Noto was bustling with tourists from Israel. Experiencing rural Japan and exchanging with the locals proved to be popular with bookings already in place for the autumn red leaves season. How about a visit to see for yourself?

Have you heard of the Logos Hope? The vessel holds the largest bookstore aboard a ship and has staff from around 50 countries that sail around the world. The ship came to Kanazawa Port this month with many people ranging from children to adults enjoying various western books and exchanges with the staff.

Next month will be the arrival of the long awaited World Cup. Ace forward Honda who graduated from Ishikawa Prefecture's Seiryu High School will of course be making an appearance for the Japanese national team. Everyone is excited to see how well they will do!

Recent News

(1) An initiative to boost the number of sake lovers by making students make brewer's rice started in Suzu City and Shika Town in which the students plugged away at rice picking. The students were also tasked with designing the packages in conjunction with the farmers and breweries. The students' help form a connection to reignite sake consumption in young people that are seen to be steering away.

(2) The 13th Toshiie-to-Matsu Kanazawa Castle Relay Marathon was held at Kanazawa Castle Park with a special course in place on 11th May. This year had the highest number teams with 708 and had around 7800 runners under the clear May skies. Work colleagues and friends alike ran the course with the relay sashes.

(3) At Kanazawa Port on 16th May, the world's largest bookstore on a ship, the Logos Hope vessel, was opened to the public. Parents and children could get their hands on and enjoy rows of bookshelves filled with a variety of

genres of Western books ranging from children's books, novels, recipe books, educational books and dictionaries. The crew is operated by a German Christian organisation. 500,000 Western books of 5,000 varieties are piled on board and the books are sold aboard the ship by the volunteer crew from around 50 different countries.

(4) Noto town's farm lodge village, Shunran-no-Sato, has been bustling with tourists from Israel. At the start of the year there was a sharp increase in the number Israeli holiday makers and until 10th May there have been 3 times the amount with 416, making up 90% of the total ratio of foreign visitors. Israel's wealthy class were impressed with the typical Japanese scenery of the Noto and the rural life experiences, and enjoyed exchanges with the locals. The "Japan Boom" looks set to continue pulling in tourists for some time.

詳しい情報のアクセス先 For more information, please access the following links:

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| (1) 公益財団法人石川県国際交流協会 IFIE (Ishikawa Foundation for International Exchange) | http://www.ifie.or.jp/index.php |
| (2) ほっと石川旅ねっと Hot Ishikawa Tabi-Net (Ishikawa Prefecture Tourism Guide) | http://www.hot-ishikawa.jp/ |
| (3) 石川県 Ishikawa Prefectural Government Official Website | http://www.pref.ishikawa.lg.jp/ |
| (4) 首相官邸 Prime Minister of JAPAN (Countermeasures for the Great East Japan Earthquake) | http://www.kantei.go.jp/ |

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石川県国際交流協会 TEL/FAX +81-76-262-5931/263-5931 (担当: 金子)