

4. Record of Exchanges

Summary of Exchanges with Christchurch City.

Some of the variety of exchanges taking place involve the Culture of both cities. Tourism. Trade Fairs, Exhibitions by local artists, Regular visits by Youth Delegations to Kurashiki, Goodwill soccer games between high school teams, Exchange performances by Kurashiki Boys and Girls Choirs' and Christchurch Youth Brass Band, Education. Manufacturing. Technical Visits and Goodwill Exchange visits.

With the formation of the sister city relationship , Kurashiki was host to the visit of the Deputy Prime Minister of New Zealand, the Minister of Tourism and the Minister of Commerce. From 1989, regular student exchange programs were established and the exchanges of goodwill between both cities continue to develop steadily.

C H R I S T C H U R C H

Record of Exchanges with Christchurch City

1973

- June To celebrate the formation of the Sister City relationship, Tokyo Symphony Orchestra performed the New Zealand National Anthem in concert at the Kurashiki Town Hall.
- July St Margaret's College gifted Kurashiki Kita Intermediate School with some of their social studies projects .
- November Exhibition of handcrafts of New Zealand at the Kurashiki Cultural Centre.

1974

- April Gift from Kurashiki Kita Intermediate School to St Margaret's.
- August A delegation of 8 members including Mr Oyama, Mayor of Kurashiki City, Mr Yoshikawa, Chairman of the Kurashiki City Council, and Mr Watanabe, Kurashiki International Sister City Program Chairman, visited Christchurch for the Official Signing of the Sister City Agreement and to attend the Exhibition of "Products and Tourism in Kurashiki."
- October Mayor H.G Hay was elected and congratulatory letter sent.

1975

- January Combined exhibition of works from the Canterbury Society of Arts and Kurashiki City Art Group was held in the Kurashiki Cultural Centre.
- March Letter to Mayor H G Hay to advise of the re-election for a 4th term, of the Mayor of Kurashiki, Mr Oyama.
- March 30 members of the Canterbury University Rugby Team visited Kurashiki
- March Chairman of the Christchurch City Council, Mr P Dunbar and, Chairman of the Christchurch International Airport Company A Jamieson, visited Kurashiki.
- October The movie, "Meeting of New Zealand" a celebration of local dance, was shown at the Kurashiki Town Hall.

November A delegation of 9 members from Christchurch including Mayor H G Hay and Mrs Hay along with a group of 4, including the Ambassador for New Zealand in Japan, Mr T C Larkin visited Kurashiki. The exhibition of Christchurch Products and Tourism was held. Mayor Hay was presented with a certificate as an Honorary Citizen of Kurashiki.

1976

May Professor G Bryce of the Christchurch Teachers College, visited Kurashiki with Mrs Bryce.

June A Group of 3 including the Ambassador for New Zealand in Japan, Mr T C Larkin and Mrs Larkin visited Kurashiki to announce his retirement.

August 20 members of the Japan Society, Canterbury, visited Kurashiki.

October A 20 member delegation including Mr Nakamura, Deputy Mayor of Kurashiki, Mr Fujiwara, Chairman of Kurashiki City Council, and Mr Watanabe, Chairman of the Kurashiki International Sister City Program visited Christchurch.

November Mr R Rex? (Valentine) of Christchurch visited Kurashiki to study Japanese Pottery. (He returned to New Zealand in December 1977)

1977

June Mr P Scoular, the Deputy General Manager of Christchurch City, visited Kurosaki with Mrs Scoular.

October Congratulatory Letter sent to Mayor H G Hay, for his re-election

November Kurashiki City Councillors Mr Kimura and Mr Nakatsuka, visited Christchurch as part of an overseas study team organised by the National Organisation for Chairpersons of Local Government

1978

May A Good will visit from the Christchurch North Rotary Club to Kurashiki. Friendly exchange with Kurashiki Rotary Club.

August Textbooks gifted from Christchurch to Kurashiki.

December Ambassador for New Zealand in Japan Mr R M Miller visited Kurashiki with Mrs Miller.

1979

- March A letter was sent from Kurashiki to advise of the end of term of Kurashiki Mayor Mr Oyama, and the election of the new mayor Mr Yoshio Takizawa.
- November Kurashiki City Councillors, Mr Endo and Mr Nishi, visited Christchurch as part of an overseas study team organised by the National Organisation for Chairpersons of Local Government.
- November Visit by 15 members of the First New Zealand Youth Goodwill Exchange Group to Japan, (Leader, B Graham), to Kurashiki.

1980

- May Canterbury Girl Scouts Representatives, B Barbara and D Tyrrell visited Kurashiki.
- July Visit by Mayor H G Hay and Mrs Hay to Kurashiki.
Gifts were presented for the Sister City display corner of the new Kurashiki City Council Chambers.
- September Display of "Tangata" (Maori crafts and photographs) were displayed in the People's Hall of the City Council Chambers.
- October Congratulatory Letter to Mayor H G Hay, re-elected for a third term of office.
- November the ceremony for the signing of the partnership between the Kurashiki Youth Association and the Christchurch Youth Association was held in the People's Hall of the Kurashiki City Council Chambers.
- November Kurashiki City Councillor, Mr Nagata, visited Christchurch as part of an overseas study team organised by the National Organisation for Chairpersons of Local Government.
- December Mr Muneharu Kurozumi and Mr Akio Nakamura visited Christchurch to present the Canterbury Museum with gifts of renowned Japanese Ceramic Art.
- December Mr Okano, Treasurer of Kurashiki City, visited Christchurch for the Official opening of the new City Council Chambers.

1981

- January Mr Michael Mellon, member of the Japan Society of Christchurch, visited Kurashiki with Mrs Mellon.
- April the Head of the Christchurch Office of the New Zealand Tourism Bureau, Mr T Mains visited Kurashiki.

- May Visit by members of the Christchurch Youth Association, Mr P Sharp and Mr V Bossley? to Kurashiki.
- June Visit by Mrs L Britten , past President of the Japan Society of Canterbury and Mrs B Scott , past President of the New Zealand Society of Floral Art , to Kurashiki.
- October Courtesy Visit by the newly appointed Consul for Japan in Christchurch, Mr Fumio Takeuchi and Mrs Takeuchi , to Kurashiki.
- October Kurashiki City Councillor , Mr Furutani, visited Christchurch as part of an overseas study team organised by the National Organisation for Chairpersons of Local Government.
- November Visit to Christchurch by a group of 40 members from Ozaki Co. Ltd (Group Leader ,Mr Fusajiro Ozaki , Company Vice-President.)
- November Visit to Kurashiki by Mr N. Smith ,a representative of the Christchurch Youth Association.
- December Visit to Kurashiki by Mr J Koopman and Family, of Christchurch, during his stay in Japan on the Ministry of Education Teachers Exchange Program.
- 1982**
- February 5 young citizens of Kurashiki City visited Christchurch as part of the “Seinen no Fune “ Program (Program for youth) under the auspices of the Prime Ministers Office.
- March The book “A History of Kurashiki” by Mr Uzaburo Nagayama was presented to the Canterbury Public Library.
- March Visit to Kurashiki by 15 members representing the Leaders of Youth Development in Christchurch. (Group Leader D Crabb)
- May Visit to Kurashiki by 102 members of the Christchurch Youth Association.
- May Visit to Kurashiki by 41 members of the Christchurch Rotary Club Goodwill Mission.
- June Professor B Fifield , of the Christchurch Teachers College , visited Kurashiki for discussions on the itinerary for the Educational Study Tour.
- June Congratulatory telegram to Mayor H G Hay on receiving his knighthood.

- June Visit to Kurashiki by Mr M Green , President of the Canterbury Chamber of Commerce.
- August Visit to Kurashiki by the 67 member Christchurch Teachers College Educational Study Tour. (Group Leader B Fifield)
- October Visit by the Leader of the Association for Traditional Japanese Toys , Mr Hiraki Ooga and Mrs Ooga , to introduce Japanese Toys to Christchurch.
- October Kurashiki City Councillors , Mr Tsukamura and Mr Yoshida, visited Christchurch as part of an overseas study team organised by the National Organisation for Chairpersons of Local Government.
- November Visit to Christchurch by 6 members of the Kojima East Rotary Club including President, Mr Yoshiro Nakajima , for the function to celebrate the sister club link with Bishopdale .Burnside Rotary Club.

1983

- March Letter advising the re-election of Mayor Takizawa was sent to Christchurch.
- March Visit to Kurashiki by a 5-member group , including New Zealand's Minister for Tourism , Mr R Talbot and Mrs Talbot.
- May To celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Sister City Relationship , Mayor Takizawa visited Christchurch and presented 43 photographic works on Kurashiki (works by Akio Nakamura).
- May Visit to Kurashiki by 22 members of the Shirley Boys High School Soccer Team.
Matches with representative teams from Kurashiki High Schools.
- May Visit to Christchurch by 32 members representing the Kurashiki Youth Association (Group Leader , Mr Kentaku Okubo) , to attend the Asia Pacific Youth Association Summit.
An exhibition of photos by Akio Nakamura entitled “ The Beauty of Japan , Kurashiki” was held to coincide with the summit.
- June To celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Sister City relationship a concert was held in the Peoples Hall of the Kurashiki City Council.
- July Visit to Kurashiki by the Christchurch City General Manager / Town Clerk - Mr J H Gary.
- July Visit to Kurashiki by Christchurch City Staff member , Mr J Dill and Mrs Dill.
- July Visit to Kurashiki by a Christchurch teacher, Mr J Bottom , who was in Japan as part of an Educational Study Tour.
- August Visit to Kurashiki by the President of the Christchurch Rotary Club , R Wilson and Mrs Wilson.
- August Visit to Kurashiki by 19 members of the New Zealand Representative Karate Team (Team Leader , J Bonfire).
- September Visit to Christchurch by Mr Takenori Kato , Member of the House of Councillors whilst in New Zealand for a study tour into Government Administration.
- October Visit to Kurashiki by the newly appointed Ambassador for New Zealand in Japan , Mr G Ansell.

- October Congratulatory telegram to Mayor H G Hay on his re-election for a fourth term.
- October Visit to Kurashiki a New Zealand Member of Parliament , Ms M Shields.
- October Visit to Kurashiki by Mr G Forrest , President of the Japan-America Society of Christchurch , with Mrs Forrest.
- November Visit to Kurashiki by Mr R Moffat of the Christchurch Japan Society , with Mrs Moffat.
- November Visit to Christchurch by a 16 member delegation inspecting Australian and New Zealand Ports, under the auspices of the Mizushima Port Promotion Association.
- 1984**
- April Visit to Christchurch by a 20 member study tour into New Zealand and Australian Manufacturing for the Automotive Industry.
- April Visit to Kurashiki by 4 members of the New Zealand Rotary Club Goodwill Exchange Group , for exchanges with local clubs.
- May Visit to Kurashiki by 11 members of the New Zealand Gymnastics Team (Team Leader , P Chen).
- June Visit to Kurashiki by the President of the Christchurch East Rotary Club , Mr G Watson and Mrs Watson.
- July Visit to Kurashiki by the Deputy Mayor of Christchurch , Cr M Carter and Mrs Carter.
- July Visit to Kurashiki by Christchurch City Staff member , Mr G Burger? And Mrs Burger.
- August Visit to Christchurch by 62 members of the Kurashiki Youth Choir (Leader Tadashi Suzuka) and performances held.
- August Visit to Kurashiki by 16 members of the Christchurch Beginners Japanese Club Study Group to Japan.
- August Visit to Kurashiki by a 17 member New Zealand Representative Trade Delegation Leader, Hon M Moore , Minister for Tourism and Trade).
- September Visit to Kurashiki by Christchurch residents , Mr Bennett and Ms Anderson.

1985

- March Visit to Kurashiki by an 18 member Christchurch Youth Leaders Study Group. (Leader , R MacLaughlan)
- May Visit to Kurashiki by a group of 11, including Christchurch City Councillor, M Clark , with Sacred Heart Girls College Principal and Students.
- June Visit to Kurashiki by Christchurch resident , Mr M Turner.
- August Visit to Kurashiki by a 56 member group representing the Christchurch Youth Brass Band (Leader , M Waters) for performances at the Kurashiki Town Hall.
- August Visit to Christchurch by the past President of the Kurashiki International Friendship Society ,Mr Harumi Kurisaka and Mrs Kurisaka.
- September Visit to Kurashiki by a 4 member group , including the Chairman of the Christchurch. Kurashiki Sister City Committee , Mr B Graham and Mrs Graham.
- October Visit to Kurashiki by a 3 member group including ex-Christchurch City staff member , Mr E Anderson.
- December Visit to Kurashiki by S Young and F Greigg? , Lions Club Youth Exchange Students.

1986

- January Visit to Kurashiki by a 14 member group of students and teachers from St Margaret's College (Leader, Deputy Principal M McKay).
- May Courtesy Visit to the Christchurch City Council by Kawasaki Medical University Principal , Mr Shibata , and Professor Ueda , who were attending at the International Conference on Haematology in Christchurch.
- May Visit to Kurashiki by 45 members of the Christchurch Teachers College, Educational Study Tour (Leader , J Bryce).
- May Visit to Christchurch for Japan Week celebrations ,by a 6 member group including International Rotary Club Governor of 269 regions , Mr Kiyoshi Moriya , and Kurashiki Rotary Club President , Mr Takashi Ozaki.
- June Visit to Kurashiki by Christchurch City staff member , W Williams, City Planner.

- August Visit to Kurashiki by a 3 member group including the Chairman of the Christchurch . Kurashiki Sister City Committee , Mr B Graham.
- October Congratulatory Letter to Mayor H G Hay for re-election for a 5th term of office.
- October Visit to Christchurch by a 60 member Goodwill Group including the Mayor of Kurashiki , Mr Takizawa and the Chairman of the Kurashiki International Sister City Relationship Association , Mr Hiramatsu , who had been attending the 150th Anniversary Celebrations for N. S. W .
- November Congratulatory letter sent to the Chairman of the Christchurch . Kurashiki Sister City Committee , Mr B Graham , on receipt of his decoration (Order of Merit).

1987

- January Visit to Christchurch by Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries , Mr Mutsuki Kato , as part of his visit to New Zealand.
- March Letter sent to Christchurch advising the re-election of Mayor Takizawa for a third term of office.
- March 2 staff members sent on the First Kurashiki City Staff Overseas Study tour.
- March Visit to Kurashiki by a party of 7 , including the deputy Prime Minister of New Zealand , Mr Geoffrey Palmer and Mrs Palmer.
- April Visit to Kurashiki by Christchurch City staff member , Mr M Mackinson? and Mrs Mackinson.
- May Visit to Kurashiki by a 32 member group including Deputy Principal , Students and PTA members from Christchurch , Cathedral Girls College.
- July Visit to Christchurch by 13 members of the local branch of “Kokujuukyou”.
- July Visit to Kurashiki by New Zealand soprano Kiri Te Kanawa. Performance at the Kurashiki Town Hall.
- August Visit to Kurashiki by 4 members of the New Zealand Gymnastic Team (Leader , D Allan).
- August The Executive Director of the Canterbury Manufacturers Association , Mr I Howell and Mrs Howell , visited Kurashiki for discussions regarding the display at the Commemorative Opening Exhibition of the Okayama Prefecture, Seto Ohashi Bridge.
- October Visit to Kurashiki by Mr M Ott , The President of the New Zealand Society of Chartered Accountants and the Honorary Consul for America in Christchurch, with Mrs Ott.
- October Visit to Kurashiki by Christchurch resident , Mr A Brazzel.?
- December Visit to Kurashiki by Mr B Graham , the Chairman of the Christchurch . Kurashiki Sister City Committee , for discussions with the Committee for the Commemorative Opening Exhibition of the Okayama Prefecture , Seto Ohashi Bridge , regarding displays at the Exhibition.

1988

March	Visit to Kurashiki by a 10 member group of Christchurch Youth Leaders (group Leader, R Moffat).
March	2 staff members sent on the Second Kurashiki City Staff Overseas Study tour.
April	Visit to Kurashiki By Mayor H G Hay and Mrs Hay , who were attending the Opening Ceremony for the Seto Ohashi Bridge.
July	Visit to Kurashiki by a 30 member delegation including Deputy Mayor , M Carter and a 59 member group from the Youth Brass Band who participated in the “Christchurch Week” events at the Commemorative Opening Exhibition for the Seto Ohashi Bridge.
August	Visit to Christchurch by Mr Suzaki , Principal of Kurashiki Chusho Public Primary School, as one of the members of the National Primary School Principals’ Association Study Tour.
August	Courtesy Visit to Kurashiki by a group of 4 members , including the newly-appointed Ambassador for New Zealand in Japan , Mr R J Gates and Mrs Gates.
September	Gift of pamphlets and 70 books picturing Japan and Okayama Prefecture.
October	A camphor tree and a maple tree sent from Kurashiki were planted to celebrate the 125 th Anniversary of the Christchurch Botanic Gardens.
November	Visit to Christchurch by Mr Hiramatsu , President of the Kurashiki International Sister City Relationship Association and representatives from Kurashiki who were visiting N. S.W. The group presented Mayor H Hay with a video and photographs from the Seto Ohashi Bridge Commemorative Opening Ceremony.

1989

March	Visit to Kurashiki by Mr B Graham , The Chairman of the Christchurch . Kurashiki Sister City Committee to discuss participation in the New Zealand Trade Fair.
April	Visit to Kurashiki by Mayor H G Hay , Mrs Hay and City Treasurer , B Lineham.
July	Visit to Kurashiki by Christchurch Press Photographer , Mr J Cosgrove , to cover the 24 hour marathon with the theme “Discover Kurashiki”.
July	5 members were sent as part of the first Youth Lifestyle Education Program to Christchurch.

August	Visit by 78 members of the Tamashima Youth Choir (Leader, Hiroshi Tanaka) for Goodwill performances in Christchurch.
August	Visit to Kurashiki by Christchurch residents, Mr C Hannam and Mr A McGeorge , assistant language Teachers on the Overseas Youth Teachers Exchange Program to Kurashiki.
August	Visit to Kurashiki by ex Christchurch City staff member, Mr J Freeman.
September	Visit to Kurashiki by Mr B Graham, Chairman of the Christchurch .Kurashiki Sister City Committee with M Withers, lawyer.
October	Mr S Kinley and Mr J Scott of the Christchurch Iaido Club visited Kurashiki for exchanges with Kurashiki City Iaido Groups.
October	Visit to Kurashiki and Lecture by Christchurch Children's Author, Margaret Mahy.
October	Visit to Kurashiki by the President of the Canterbury Floral Art Society, Mr J Taylor to discuss participation in the International Flower and Greenery Expo in Osaka.
November	As a result of Administrative reforms into Local Body Zoning, a new Christchurch City was established. Mayor H G Hay left office and Vicki Buck became the new Mayor. A letter of Thanks was sent to Mayor Hay and a letter of Congratulations to Mayor V Buck.
December	Visit to Kurashiki by Christchurch City Drainage Board Staff member , Mr K Couling.

1990

January	15 books on Japanese Culture and Language were presented to the Canterbury Public Library.
January	Visit to Kurashiki by 5 members of the Christchurch City Karate Goodwill Mission.
February	2 staff members sent on the Fourth Kurashiki City Staff Overseas Study tour.
April	Courtesy Visit to Kurashiki by a 6 member delegation , including newly appointed Mayor , Vicki Buck and her husband ,also to promote Japan Week , one of the events of the New Zealand 150 th Anniversary Celebrations.

May	Visit to Kurashiki by the retired Chairman of the Christchurch. Kurashiki Sister City Committee , Mr B Graham, and colleague.
May	The Ambassador for New Zealand in Japan , Mr Rodney Gates made an inspection visit to Kurashiki.
June	Visit to Kurashiki by Christchurch City Deputy Mayor Fahey and Mrs Fahey who were attending New Zealand Day events at the International Flower and Greenery Expo.
July	A representative group of 15 members from Kurashiki City including the Deputy Mayor ,Mr Suwaki , took part in the New Zealand Day events at the International Flower and Greenery Expo as well as the Commemorative Tree Planting Ceremony in Osaka.
July	Visit to Kurashiki by a 15 member group , including the President of the Canterbury Floral Art Society , Mr J Taylor and Mrs Taylor , who had been attending New Zealand Day events at the International Flower and Greenery Expo.
July	A 220 member Goodwill Mission from Kurashiki , including Mayor Takizawa and Mr Hiramatsu , President of the Kurashiki International Sister City Relationship Association , joined the Japan week events as part of the New Zealand 150 th Anniversary Celebrations. The Bichu Shinto Music and Dance Group of Kurashiki and the Tankokai Japanese Tea Ceremony Group presented items of Japanese Culture (Japan Week Festival).
July	10 members were sent as part of the second Youth Lifestyle Education Program to Christchurch.
July	Visit to Kurashiki by Christchurch Press Ltd . Journalists J Dunbar and brother to cover events in Kurashiki.
July	37 items by local Christchurch disabled children were sent to be part of the First Kurashiki International Sister City Exchange Exhibition of works by Disabled children.
August	Visit to Kurashiki by Lucy Watkins , Student Goodwill Envoy from Lincoln High School.
August	Visit to Kurashiki by 15 members of the Hillmorton High School Softball team participating in the Okayama International Exchange Festival '90. Goodwill games played with local teams.
November	Congratulatory telegram sent to previous Mayor of Christchurch , H G Hay, on receipt of his Knighthood.

November Visit to Christchurch by the Manager of the International Exchange Program, with Assistant English Language Teachers , for the selection of further Assistant English Language Teachers for the Program.

1991

January 34 books on Japanese Culture and Language were presented to the Canterbury Public Library.

March 32 items were sent from Allenvale School for the Second Kurashiki International Sister City Exchange Exhibition of works by Disabled Children.

April Visit to Kurashiki by Mrs N Wright , Wife of Christchurch City Councillor Ron Wright.

May Visit to Kurashiki by 18 students from Lincoln High School.

July Visit to Kurashiki by Mr R Penman , Chairman of the Christchurch Kurashiki Sister City Committee and Councillor C Evans to promote the "Sister City World Forum".

July 10 members were sent as part of the third Youth Lifestyle Education Program to Christchurch.

July Visit to Christchurch by 113 students of "Seishin" Junior High School , for their Summer Overseas Study program.

September Visit to Kurashiki by Mr T Westwood , Co-Ordinator of the Christchurch Sister City program.

September Visit to Kurashiki by Mr M Richardson , Christchurch City Manager.

October Visit to Kurashiki by a 14 member Student Goodwill Mission from Christchurch City (Leader , B Gillies).

October Visit to Kurashiki by A Greenup of the Christchurch City Council , Technical Services Department.

November Visit to Kurashiki by Mr M Harris , Christchurch Manager, Japan Airlines.

1996

February Six Kurashiki City Councillors visited Christchurch for a 'fact finding tour' for 3-4 days.

May Christchurch/Kurashiki Pen Pal Scheme was officially launched on 1 May. One hundred names were forwarded from Christchurch to Kurashiki.

July Nine students from Kurashiki were hosted by Villa Maria College for a two week exchange.

A group of four teachers from different schools and Kindergartens in Kurashiki visited a wide range of educational institutes and enjoyed the city sights as well.

Deputy Director of the Kurashiki International Relations section, Tsunao Kameyama and his wife Keiko were treated to many exciting activities and outings by committee members.

1997

February Kurashiki Assistant English Teacher Programme
5 Christchurch people selected for 1 year terms.

February Visit of Kurashiki City Hall staff - 2

July Student Exchange to Christchurch hosted by Mairehau - 9

September Student Exchange to Kurashiki - 16

October Visit of Physically Challenged Group -

October Annual Exchange of artwork between Allenvale School, Christchurch and a school in Kurashiki

October The initiation of a sister school link between Mount Pleasant School, Christchurch and Dai Shi Fukada School, Kurashiki, with accompanying art and correspondence exchanges.

1998

March The Christchurch Boys' Choir sang at the Kurashiki Music Festival. - 50

May Official Christchurch delegation of 14 visited Kurashiki to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Sister City Exchange 18 - 26 May.

May	'Youth Make their Mark' art exhibition, Kurashiki City Art Gallery. The exhibition featured the works of senior art students in Canterbury. 26 May (1 week).
July - August	Annual student exchange from Kurashiki. Nine students and a leader were hosted by Chisnallwood Intermediate and Aranui High Schools. - 10
July - August	A Judo Group of 13 from Kurashiki were hosted by and competed with members of the Christchurch Judoka.
July - August	Kurashiki's Chor Kleine Choir and Yayoi Koto Ensemble performed with Christchurch's Sweet Adelines in 'Silver & Gold' at the James Hay theatre. The choir also sang at St Luke's Church and the Koto group, soprano and flautist performed in Christ Church Cathedral.
August	A large group of kendoists from Kurashiki were hosted by the Sei Tou Ken Yu Kai Kendo Club of Christchurch and competed with Kendoists from throughout New Zealand. - 120
September	The Christchurch under 17 Youth Soccer Team played a Kurashiki under 17 Representative Team and took part in a six Aside Tournament in Kurashiki
October	Annual student exchange to Kurashiki. Nineteen students from various Christchurch high schools and three leaders visited Kurashiki.
November	Mayor Nakada of Kurashiki, as leader of a Civic Delegation and a Councillors' Delegation from Kurashiki visit Christchurch to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Sister City relationship.
November	Allenvale School's artworks displayed as part of the art exhibition for the intellectually and physically challenged students of Kurashiki's sister cities.
November	Donation of a stone lantern from Kurashiki for Garden of Friendship at Canterbury University.

Ongoing exchanges between Mount Pleasant and Dai Shi Fukada Schools

1999

January	Dr Koch, Kake Educational Group visited Christchurch for 4 days to discuss the possibility of forming links at various educational levels. While in Christchurch Dr Koch met with University of Canterbury, Christchurch College of Education, Christchurch Polytechnic and a representative of Education Christchurch.
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February	Mr Ishida visited Christchurch to interview 21 of the 42 applicants for the Assistant English Teacher Programme with 10 finally selected for teaching positions in Kurashiki.
April	Polytechnic student group visited Kurashiki
July/August	<p>Kurashiki Student Goodwill Mission to Christchurch. A group 9 students from various schools throughout Christchurch and a leader spent almost 2 weeks being home hosted in Kurashiki and attending classes at schools in the city.</p> <p>150 students from Seishen Junior High School visited Christchurch for 17 days. During their stay they attended the Dominion Language School where they studied English and made a number of sightseeing visits in and around Christchurch and Canterbury</p>
August	Youth Soccer Tournament held in Christchurch. A tri-series between teams from Kurashiki, Songpa-Gu (Korea) and Christchurch. The 18 players were accompanied by 5 adults for
August	Festival of Japan.
September	<p>Annual Student exchange. A group of 14 students and 2 leaders visited Kurashiki for almost 2 weeks. The students were home-hosted during their time in Kurashiki and attended local schools some days.</p> <p>Craig Oliver, Parks Manager, visited Kurashiki to look at their parks and gardens to get a feel for the style of these to enable him to better plan the Kurashiki Garden in the Sister Cities' Gardens at Halswell Quarry.</p>
October	<p>Christchurch Experience Tour. A group of 33 residents of Kurashiki, many of whom have home hosted Chch people, visited Christchurch to experience a little of our culture. Many of them were home hosted by people who have been home hosted themselves.</p> <p>Craig Oliver, Parks Manager, visited Kurashiki to advance the plans for the Kurashiki Garden in the Sister Cities' Gardens</p>
November	<p>Bitchu Kagura Cultural group, of 8 performers lead by International Relations Co-Ordinator, Sam Dyer, visited Christchurch for 4 days to perform at the Japanese Festival which was sponsored by Kintetsu International.</p> <p>Graham Bennett held an exhibition of his work in Kurashiki over a period of 6 days.</p> <p>Ian Leggatt, Chairperson TP 2000, visited Kurashiki to advance plans for the Kurashiki Garden in the Sister Cities' Gardens.</p>

Allenvale Primary Schools intellectually disabled students artworks went to Kurashiki to be included in an exhibition.

Chugoku Productivity Centre delegation (encompassing the Kurashiki region) of 17 visited Christchurch on a fact finding mission.

2000

- January David Bolam-Smith, Deputy Chairman, Christchurch - Kurashiki Sister City Committee visited Kurashiki to advance various Committee initiatives, including the obtaining of plans and advice for a garden shelter and entranceway for the Kurashiki Garden in the Sister Cities Gardens. While there he presented a certificate, in recognition of the link between Dai Shi Fukuda and Mt Pleasant Primary schools, to the Principal of Dai Shi Fukuda.
- February Masahiro Murakami, a sculptor from Kurashiki visited Christchurch to participate in the Art in the Park symposium, which was held over a period of 3 weeks. Masahiro's sculpture was sold, by auction, and the proceeds were donated by Kurashiki City Hall to the Christchurch-Kurashiki Sister City Committee.
- April Around 100 artworks were provided by students from various Junior High schools in Kurashiki for an exhibition at Christchurch's CoCA Gallery's Student Art Zone. The theme of the exhibition was "How we see our environment 100 years from now" and a fantastic array of interpretations were sent and displayed alongside 100 works from local students.
- July Nine Junior High School Students from various schools in Kurashiki and 1 leader from City Hall, Naohiko Koga, visited Christchurch for 2 weeks in the annual Kurashiki Student Goodwill Mission. The students attended local Christchurch High Schools for several of the days and the remaining days were spent sightseeing in and around the Christchurch and Canterbury region.
- July/August 148 students from Seishen Junior High School visited Christchurch for 17 days. During their stay they attended the Dominion Language School where they studied English and made a number of sightseeing visits in and around Christchurch and Canterbury
- September A total of 14 students from local Christchurch High Schools and 2 leaders from the Chch – Kurashiki Sister City Committee visited Kurashiki for 2 weeks in the annual exchange. Five of the days were spent attending school at various Kurashiki Junior High's and the remainder sightseeing. The students also visited Hiroshima and Miyajima island on one of their day trips.

October

An adult delegation of nine Christchurch residents, led by Deputy Mayor Lesley Keast visited Kurashiki to sample the hospitality and sights of Kurashiki and it's people. They were home hosted for 3 of the 8 days they were in the city and all found the experience a highlight of their trip.

The Christchurch City Council's Legal Services Manager, Peter Mitchell made a brief trip to Kurashiki to meet with City Officials including Deputy Mayor, Matsuo. Peter was in Japan to deliver a paper at a conference in Tokyo and took the opportunity to visit our sister city while in the country.

November

Allenvale Primary Schools disabled students sent a large variety of artworks to Kurashiki for exhibiting at Kurashiki's annual Physically Challenged Childrens Art Exhibition.

Christchurch City Council's Councillor Carole Anderton and the New Zealand Ambassador to Japan's wife, Chansuda Gibson, visited Kurashiki briefly to meet with city officials including Mayor Nakada while Carole was on a personal visit to Japan.

Roy Sinclair and his partner, Haruko, visited Kurashiki while doing research for a series of articles and a travel guide on Japan. A most informative article was published in the Christchurch Press newspaper as a result of several interviews with Kurashiki people and city officials during his visit and a travel guide is in the planning stages.

Physically challenged Tomomi Fujiki, a 12 year old girl with Cerebral Palsy, visited Christchurch for a week. Tomomi was accompanied by her mother and two assistants, one of whom was her school teacher. She had a brilliant time in Christchurch and assured us she will be back!

2001

January

Mr Yohei Tanida, an English Teacher Consultant with the Kurashiki Board of Education visited Christchurch for a week to conduct interviews for 10 Assistant English Teaching positions in Kurashiki. He was accompanied by AET, Douglas Rapley who assisted with the interviews and selection.

February

Mayor Nakada and a delegation of 27 Kurashiki citizens including his wife visited Christchurch for a week to attend the opening of the Sister Cities Gardens in Halswell Quarry Park. Mayors or heads of delegation from each of Christchurch's sister cities also attended the opening. As well as attending all the official functions associated with the Gardens opening, Mayor Nakada also visited Mt Pleasant School which has a sister school relationship with Dai Shi Fukuda Shougakko in Kurashiki.

April

Chch – Kurashiki Sister City Committee member, Julie Sakurai, was home hosted for 1 night in Kurashiki during her visit to Japan.

May	Kurashiki Deputy Mayor Nakato, Chairman of Kurashiki International Association, Mr Uenishi, and head of the International Affairs office, Mr Kameyama, visited Christchurch for 2 days after attending the Sister Cities New Zealand Convention in New Plymouth.
June	Kurashiki Secondary School students provided 100 artworks for an exhibition held at the CoCA Gallery's Childrens Art Zone. These works were displayed alongside 100 of those provided by Christchurch students. The theme for the exhibition was 'This is me' which led to some wonderful pieces being produced. The exhibition ran for 3 weeks.
July	Annual Kurashiki Student Goodwill Exchange of 9 students and City Hall official, Makoto Namba, visited Christchurch for 2 weeks during which time they were home hosted.
July/August	145 students from Seishen Junior High School visited Christchurch for 17 days. During their stay they attended the Dominion Language School where they studied English and made a number of sightseeing visits in and around Christchurch and Canterbury
August	Ten newly appointed Assistant English Teachers left Christchurch to take up their 2 year teaching contracts in Kurashiki.
September	Six students and the principal of Mt Pleasant Primary School, Dave Dewar, along with several other parents of the children, visited Kurashiki for a week. They were home hosted by the families of students at Dai Shi Fukuda Shougakko and attended the school on some of the days. The annual Student exchange of 14 students and 2 leaders spent 2 weeks in Kurashiki where they attended school for several of the days. They were accompanied by Christchurch City Council, International Relations Co-ordinator, Barbara August. All were home hosted during their stay.
2002	
March	Students from Christchurch's Christs College visited Kurashiki on their education exchange. The 6 students, 1 ex student, the Principal and a teacher were home hosted for the week of their stay.
April	Twenty seven members of the Kurashiki Ensemble visited Christchurch for 10 days during which they performed two free concerts for the people of Christchurch Jude Pani, a Christchurch City Council employee, and her husband Tewi were home hosted for 3 nights in Kurashiki during their Japanese holiday.
May	Christchurch Journalist, Adrienne Rewi, was home hosted in Kurashiki for 2 weeks while researching Japanese life for a book she is writing.

July	Annual Kurashiki Student Goodwill Mission of 9 students and City Hall official, Yasuko Kasai, visited Christchurch for 2 weeks during which time they were home hosted by students of various High schools in Christchurch.
July/August	104 students from Seishen Junior High School visited Christchurch for 17 days. During their stay they attended the Dominion Language School where they studied English and made a number of sightseeing visits in and around Christchurch and Canterbury
August	Dai Shi Fukuda Shougakko sent 9 students and 4 parents and teachers, the schools Principal, and a manager from the Kurashiki Board of Education, to Christchurch as guests of Mt Pleasant Primary School. The group spent a week in the city.
September	A group of 14 High School students, accompanied by the Principal of Chisnalwood Intermediate and his partner, visited Kurashiki for 2 weeks. They were home hosted for the whole time they were in Kurashiki and attended various Junior High Schools in Kurashiki on several days.
2003	
March	The Kurashiki Junior Orchestra of 80 members visited Christchurch from 29 March – 4 April. They performed at 2 open air venues to crowds of around 200 – 300 people as well as joint performance with the Christchurch Youth Orchestra to a capacity crowd of 700 at the Aurora Centre. Doug Neil, a local sculptor, won the 6 th Kurashiki International Sculpture Competition for his work “Pillars of Wisdom”. He was in Kurashiki from 1 – 23 March during which his win was announced. He won money to the value of around NZ \$120,000
April	100 Seishen Junior High School students attended the Victoria English School for 2 weeks
May	Two staff from Canterbury University visited Kurashiki as part of a promotional tour of Japan to promote the University as a tertiary facility that can provide superior education to Japanese students.
July	A group of 9 students and their leader from Kurashiki visited Christchurch from 20 July – 2 August in the annual Goodwill exchange. They were home hosted and attended local high schools during their stay in the city
August	Mayor Garry Moore and Mayoress Pam Sharpe led an official 17 person delegation to Kurashiki from 2 – 9 August, to celebrate the 30 th anniversary of the relationship. While Mayor Moore and a small delegation of 5 others departed the group after 4 days the remaining group stayed on. A photographic exhibition of 50 Christchurch images was held to coincide with this visit.

September

14 students from various schools in Christchurch and 2 leaders (Malcolm Harris and Tania McKenzie) visited Kurashiki from 21 September – 04 October. During their stay they were home hosted and attended several schools in the Kurashiki area.

6 students and 3 assistants from Mt Pleasant Primary School visited Kurashiki in a student exchange with Dai Shi Fukuda School from 21 September – 4 October. During this time they were home hosted and attended school.

October

A civic delegation of 47 Kurashiki citizens led by Mayor and Mayoress Nakada visited Christchurch from 26 October – 1 November to attend the local 30th celebrations of the sister city relationship. Mayor Nakada left after the formalities but the rest of the group remained to enjoy Christchurch. A photographic exhibition of 12 Kurashiki images was held to coincide with this visit.

A troupe of 25 from the Canterbury Ballet travelled to Kurashiki from 15 – 25 October to perform in a joint concert with members of the Kurashiki ballet. The ballet performed to a capacity audience of

November

Christchurch sculptor, Graham Bennett, went to Kurashiki from 3 November – 1 December to complete the sculpture “Lines Extending” which had been gifted to the city of Kurashiki by Mayor Garry Moore on behalf of the people of Christchurch.

2004

January

Dr Keiko Minai from Kibi International University in Kurashiki visited Christchurch from 5 – 9 January to interview local people as part of her study into the Internationalisation of Kurashiki. A questionnaire was also distributed to 100 Christchurch people who had taken part in recent exchanges.

February

Professor Wataru Hamasaka took up residency at the Christchurch Arts Centre from 21 Feb until 1 April as Art in Residence. He completed Kurashiki’s 30th anniversary gift to the Christchurch of a stone canoe which completed the set of two called “The Canoe in the Canoe”. While in Chch he worked on his sculpture at the Christchurch Polytechnic and gave 3 public lectures about his work.

March

The Kurashiki Youth Chorus comprising 31 youths aged between 10 and 18 and 9 support persons visited Christchurch from 24 – 30 March during which they performed two public concerts which were attended by approximately 600 people. They performed at the welcome ceremony at the New Zealand Sister Cities Conference. The chorus also participated in

workshops with choir members from two local schools after which they performed to the whole school in combined concerts.

Mr Hideki and Mrs Ikehata visited Christchurch on 23 March bringing greetings from the city of Kurashiki.

- April
- Christ's College students spent 2 days in Kurashiki from 7 – 9 April during a 2 week visit to Japan. While in Kurashiki they were taken care of by staff of Kurashiki City Hall and shown the sights of Kurashiki and the surrounding area.
- Maureen Kerr, Principal of St Patrick's Primary School and her husband, Jim, visited Kurashiki from 18 – 20 April on a study tour. Maureen won a Study Award Fellowship to travel to Japan for 10 days to visit Elementary Schools to learn about their operations. She visited two Elementary Schools in Kurashiki.
- Canterbury Development Corporation representatives, Larry Podmore and Jack Turner along with NZ Trade and Enterprise representative from Tokyo, David Fergusson, visited Kurashiki for 2 days to investigate business opportunities (mainly information Technology) in Kurashiki in preparation for Mayor Garry Moore's visit in August. They made a formal presentation about the CDC and the purpose of their visit to several high ranking city officials and were hosted by the Deputy Mayor.
- July
- 9 students led by Chie Sasaki spent 15 days in Christchurch on the annual Student Goodwill Exchange. As well as attending school on 6 days the students were able to take in the sights of Christchurch and Canterbury. The students spent one day and night at Flock Hill Station and spent the following day skiing at Porter Heights.
- July/August
- 148 students from Seishen Junior High School visited Christchurch for 17 days. During their stay they attended the Christchurch College of English where they studied English and made a number of sightseeing visits in and around Christchurch and Canterbury.
- August
- A group of 11 Ikebana practitioners from Kurashiki visited Christchurch from 20 – 24 August to work alongside local Ikebana people in an exhibition of their craft at the Festival of Japan.
- Ms Fujisawa, a teacher at Kurashiki Kashiwajima Elementary School visited Christchurch on 20 August on a learning exchange.
- Sept/Oct
- 14 Christchurch students, led by Barbara and Owen August visited Kurashiki for 16 days from 18 September – 3 October on the annual student exchange.
- Yumiko Nakagawa, a 4th year arts student at the Kurashiki University of Science and the Arts was home hosted for one month in Christchurch and

attended Canterbury University to study wood sculpting, carving and the promotion and organising art exhibitions and events. This exchange is the result of the Sculpture/sculptor exchange with artists Graham Bennett and Wataru Hamasaka which was part of the 30th anniversary events.

2005

February

Pupils of Somerfield Primary School and Nakashima Elementary School chatted to each other via a live video conference link. Somerfield students used the South Library's learning Centre which has a video conference facility for use by citizens of Christchurch for little or no cost. This link provided an opportunity for students to ask questions of each other to gain a better insight into their way of life. The conference was also beamed live to all schools in the Kurashiki area as it was the first time such a link had been attempted through the education system in Japan.

Two young men from Kurashiki and their carers were hosted by Independent Fisheries, based here in Christchurch to an all expenses paid visit to Christchurch for 2 weeks to experience life here in New Zealand. One was physically and the other one intellectually challenged. The wheelchair bound youth, Mitsonobu Hirata participated in the annual New Zealand Wheelchair Tennis Tournament which took place over 3 days of his stay. Both Mitsonobu and Hiroaki Oshima were challenged to the Sport Canterbury's Ropes Course for people with disabilities. This was the first of what is proposed to be a annual exchange for people with disabilities to be sponsored by Independent Fisheries.

April/May

Kate McIntyre, a 3rd year arts student at Canterbury University visited Kurashiki University of Science and the Arts for 5 weeks to study the arts scene there. She held a small exhibition of her work and a lecture while she was there. This was the return exchange from that of Yumiko Nakagawa in Sept 04.

July

The annual student group from Kurashiki was increased this year from 10 students and 1 leader to 14 students and 2 leaders. Another student, sponsored by the Kojima Rotary Club and hosted by the Bishopdale – Burnside Rotary Club, also accompanied the group and participated in all activities. They visited Christchurch for 2 weeks and all were home hosted for their entire stay with the exception of 1 night at Flock Hill where they planned to take a ski trip from. Unfortunately there was insufficient snow for this so the group went to Arthurs Pass for the day.

July/August

A contingent of 80 students and 5 teachers from Seishen Junior High visited Chch on their annual exchange. They stayed for 15 days, during which time they attended the Christchurch College of English to improve their language skills as well as went sightseeing around the Christchurch and Canterbury areas.

August Mayor Garry Moore, Mayoress Pam Sharpe, Sister City Chairman Malcolm Harris and 2 others visited Kurashiki for 2 days to discuss business opportunities including an E. Government project (high speed electronic data transferral system). During their stay they were hosted to an official dinner hosted by Mayor Furuichi

Sept/Oct Christchurch again sent it's annual group of 14 students and 2 leaders to Kurashiki for 15 days. Another student, sponsored by the bishopdale - Burnside Rotary Club also accompanied the group to Kurashiki and participated in all the activities. The group was lead by Kay Mason and Steve Wright and all were treated to the usual activities that Kurashiki City Hall organises. The students were home hosted for their entire stay and the leaders for part of it. They were accompanied on their day trip to Hiroshima and Miyajima Island by the 17 member Hillmorton High School Kapahaka delegation who were in Kurashiki at the time.

Rita (an Ikebana practitioner) and Murray Muir visited Kurashiki as the guests of Kurashiki's local chapter of Ikebana International. They stayed for 7 days and were home hosted for most of their stay.

October Hillmorton High Kapahaka delegation of 14 students and 3 leaders, visited Kurashiki for 4 days to perform at Kurashiki's International day celebrations and to sample Japanese hospitality. The students were home hosted but the leaders stayed in a hotel in central Kurashiki. The kapahaka delegations visit to Kurashiki was part of a longer tour which included another of Christchurch's sister cities, Songpa, Korea and also to the city Jeonggu, Korea where they also performed at major festivals in both these cities.

Nineteen members of the Kuwahara-Senkei School of Ikebana visited Christchurch for 5 days during which they held a 2 day exhibition and demonstrations of their craft at Retreat House of the Community of the Scared Name. The exhibition was a huge success and was enjoyed by many people. They were hosted by members of Christchurch's Ikebana Chapter 202.

December Tsunao Kameyama, from the Kurashiki Cultural Promotion Foundation and former manager of the International Affairs Office at Kurashiki City Hall, visited Christchurch for a week bringing with him 10 Photomurals from the annual Kurashiki Photomural exhibition which were displayed at the Chch Polytechnic for several months. It has now been agreed that some 50 or more photomurals are going to be exhibited at the Polytechnic annually.

2006

April Two people with disabilities Kerri Bonner and Stephen Kramer, their carers (their mothers) along with Trisha Ventom of KiwiAble and Justin Muschamp of Sport Canterbury visited Kurashiki for 2 weeks to experience life in a different culture. This visit was fully funded by Independent

Fisheries and the air travel gifted by Air New Zealand. While in Kurashiki they will be looked after by the Kurashiki Disabled International Exchange Association (KDPIEA) which was set up to handle this and future exchanges between the two cities.

May The University of Canterbury's Chancellor, Dr Robin Mann, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Roy Sharp and the Chief Operations Officer, Tom Gregg along with delegates of Sonoda University in Osaka visited Kurashiki on 12 May to chat with Mayor Furuichi about possible links between the 3 cities at a University level.

A University of Canterbury Gardens tour of Korea and Japan, led by Professor Bill Wilmott, stopped in Kurashiki for 3 days to enjoy some of the beautiful gardens of the city. They were escorted around the Bikan area by the Friends of the Bikan volunteers.

July Seishen Junior High School sent 100 students and 7 teachers which is around 1/3rd of its entire school to Christchurch on their annual student exchange. The students are home hosted for the entire 2 weeks of their stay and the focus of their visit is to improve their English and learn more about our culture. They visited Civic Offices where they were officially welcomed to the city by Tangata Whenua and city officials.

15 students and 2 leaders visited Christchurch on the annual Student Goodwill exchange. One student was hosted by the Harewood- Bishopdale Rotary Club. The group in the city for 2 weeks and were home hosted the whole time. This year, as well as going to local High schools they were also given intensive group English language tutoring in real life situations ie. shopping, sightseeing etc. as well as in a classroom environment.

August Mrs Fujisawa from Kasiwajima Elementary School and 7 others from various school in Kurashiki visited Christchurch for 3 days during which they visited Mt Pleasant Primary School to exchange books and play Koto for the students. They also visited the Consular Office of Japan and donated a Koto for the use by people of the city of Christchurch.

September Brian Cross, Executive Officer of Sister Cities New Zealand visited Kurashiki to discuss the Best practise Manual which has been funded by the Government from the Aiichi World Expo pavilion profits. The aim of the visit was to research the Japanese perspective on the past, present and future of their sister city link with Christchurch

Junko and David Bolam-Smith were the leaders of the annual 14 member student exchange to Kurashiki for 2 weeks in late September through to early October. All the students were home hosted for the entire time and the Bolam – Smiths for 4 days. The students attended school on 5 of the days and the other days sightseeing mainly in the Kurashiki area with a day trip to Hiroshima and Miyajima Island.

October

Barbara August, International Relations Co-ordinator stopped in Kurashiki for 3 days while on a private trip to Japan. While there she met with International Affairs senior staff at Kurashiki City Hall to discuss the exchange program for 2007 and other city to city related issues. She also visited the Photomural Exhibition in Tivoli Gardens to see many of the murals which are to be exhibited at the Christchurch Polytechnic in early 2007.

Newton Dodge, past Chair of the Chch – Kurashiki Sister City Committee and Cheryl Thorne, committee member also visited Kurashiki on a private trip. They had a courtesy call with Mayor Furuichi.

November

A contingent of 8 Ikebana practitioners from Christchurch visited Kurashiki for 4 days after attending the Ikebana International Conference in Tokyo. While in Kurashiki they were hosted by members of the 2 Ikebana groups who had visited in 2005 and early 2006. They also participated in small Ikebana exhibitions and workshops while there.

A large delegation of 29 Okayama Corporate Executives, some of whom were from Kurashiki, visited Christchurch City Council for an update by Gerard Quinn of Connect Canterbury, on the economic status of the city and possible business opportunities. They met with the Deputy Mayor, Carole Evans and also heard from Dave Hinman about the development and operation of the Christchurch Tramway.

Mr Abe, a member of the Waterworks department at Kurashiki City Hall visited Christchurch for 3 days, during which he spent a day on a fact finding mission at the Christchurch City Council. Gareth Phillips and Mie Ieta also took him to various locations throughout the city to follow the supply and disposal of water.

