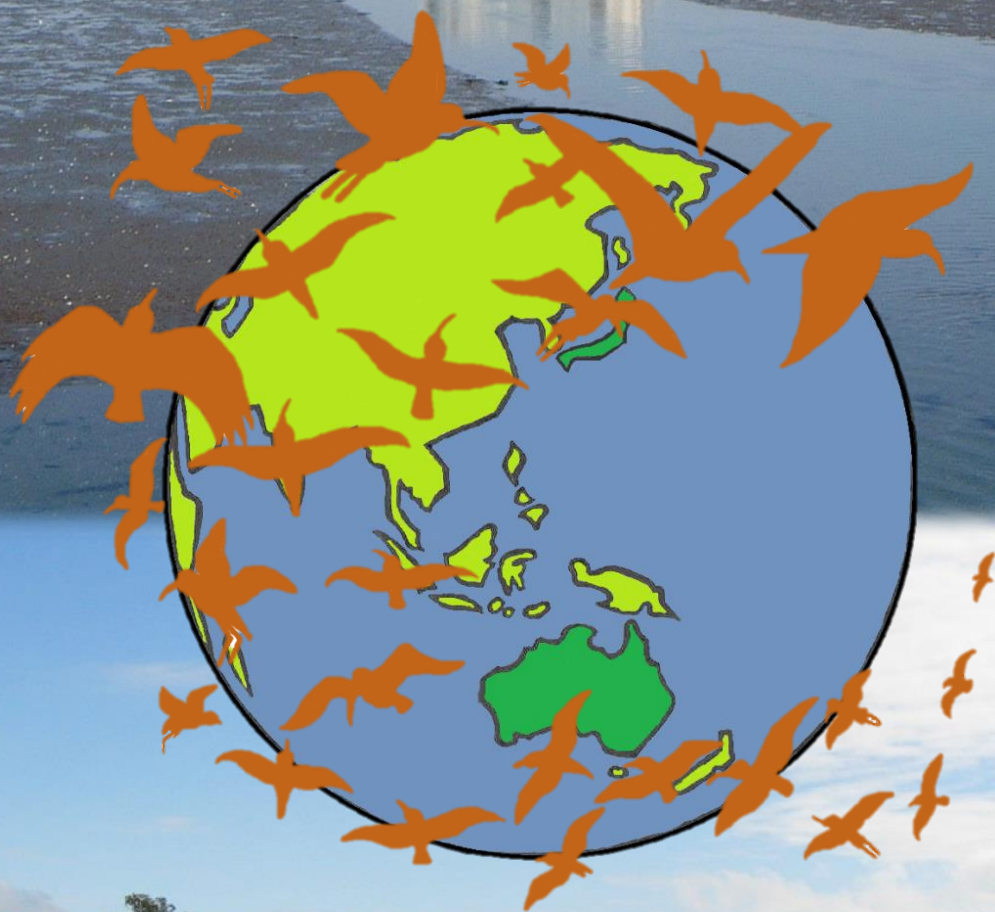
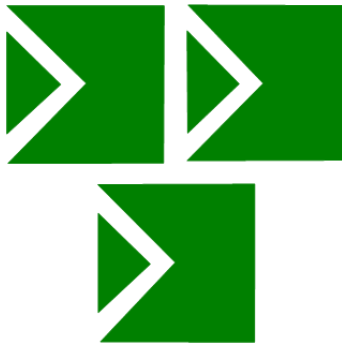


# NARASHINO & BRISBANE 20TH ANNIVERSARY.



The 20th Anniversary Booklet of wetlands  
Exchange between Narashino City, Chiba, Japan  
and Brisbane City, Queensland, Australia.

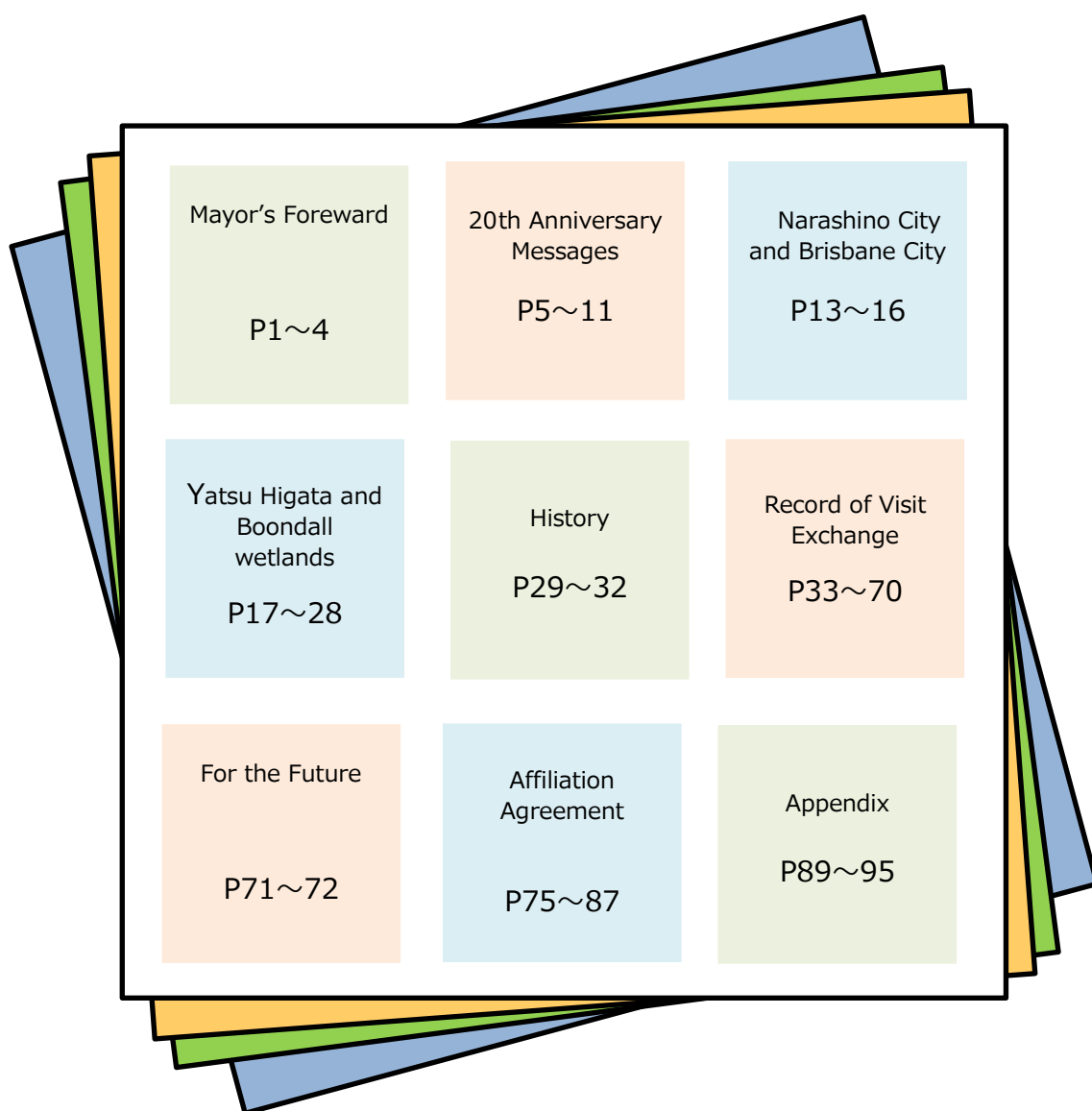


Narashino City,  
Chiba



Brisbane City,  
Queensland

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### Mayor'S foreword

### 20th Anniversary

～For the next generation～



**Taisuke Miyamoto**  
**Mayor of Narashino**

I would like to say a few words on the publication of NARASHINO & BRISBANE 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY.

The City of Narashino and Brisbane City Council had signed the agreement in recognition of the importance of protecting wetlands and the migratory shorebirds which depend upon the wetlands of both cities on February 25, 1998. Since then, we have deepened exchanges mainly by citizens from both cities operate in the Yatsu Higata Nature Observation Center (YNOC) and Boondall Wetlands Environment Centre (BWEC).

This year (2018) ,marks the 20th anniversary of the exchange, which is the result of the enthusiasm and efforts of the people involved in the exchange, and I would like to express my deep respect and gratitude as a representative of Narashino City.

Since the previous plan has expired, I visited Brisbane in February, 2017 to renew our Action Plan based on our Wetland Partnership Agreement.

By exchanging opinions directly with people involved in the conservation of the Boondall Wetlands, I have learned a lot about what we need to need to do in order to conserve wetlands and the international cooperation associated with the protection of migratory shorebirds.

It was also a very valuable experience to see each other's wetlands and talk about what we know, and I realized that this would be an irreplaceable experience in this exchange.

This booklet will introduce the history of Yatsu Higata (tidal flat) and the Boondall Wetland, the difference between them, as well as the history of our exchange. A lot of photographs of the exchange are posted. If you take a look at it, you should be able to sympathize not only with the need for activism, but also with the many people involved in the preservation of their respective wetlands and the local wetlands.

Migratory shorebirds inhabiting the Yatsu Higata and Boondal Wetland cross all countries without being influenced by human borders, so international cooperation is necessary for not only the conservation of wetlands, but also the protection of the migratory shorebirds.

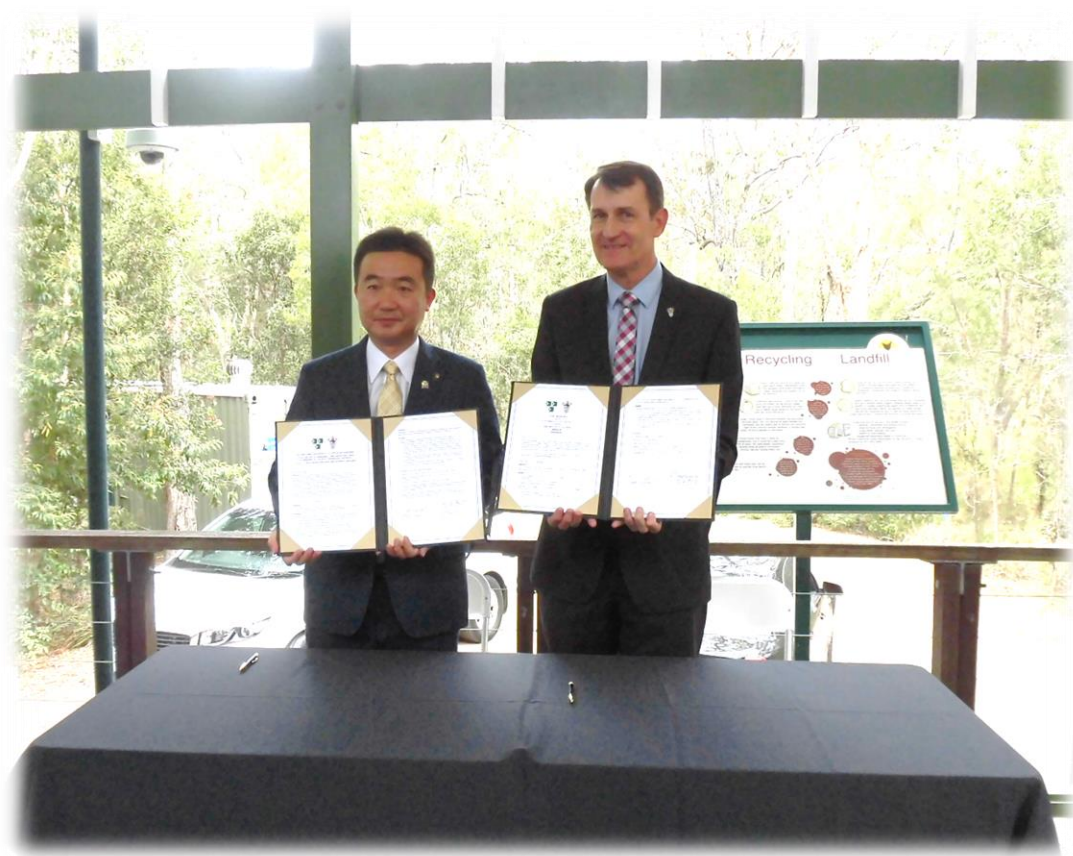




I would be happy if the records of our wetland exchanges provided in this commemorative booklet help those who will be involved with our exchange in the future.

To close my message, I wish that both cities will expand the range of exchanges in the future, learn a lot from each other, and forge a path to further development in both cities.

TAISUKE MIYAMOTO  
MAYOR



Right: Graham Quirk Lord Mayor of Brisbane

Left: Taisuke Miyamoto Mayor of Narashino



# Mayor's foreword



**Graham Quirk**  
**Lord Mayor of Brisbane**

Since 1998 Brisbane City Council has been a signatory to the Wetlands Affiliation Agreement with the City of Narashino, Japan. The Agreement seeks to promote the understanding, protection, and conservation of the Yatsu Higata Tidelands and Brisbane's Boondall Wetlands.

The Yatsu Higata Tidelands and Boondall Wetlands provide a critical habitat for migratory bird species crossing the East Asian-Australasian Flyway.

This Agreement is a response to a List of Wetlands of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands listing, which supports the protection of wetlands and their resources.

The first Wetlands Affiliation Agreement was finalised on 25 February 1998. Since this time, two further agreements have been successfully completed with the fourth agreement successfully signed in February 2017, during a visit by the Mayor of Narashino.

I am pleased to say that for this agreement, both Brisbane and Narashino have agreed to ongoing actions that will see the continued preservation and conservation of these vitally important wetlands.

In 2016, the 20th Anniversary of the opening of the Boondall Wetlands Environment Centre was celebrated. For this special occasion Brisbane was honoured to host delegates from Narashino.

Brisbane City Council is currently in the early design stages of building a new environment centre in Boondall, which is part of Council's commitment to keeping Brisbane clean, green and sustainable and making our city liveable and sustainable for our children, and their children to follow. The new centre will either replace or adjoin the existing Boondall Wetlands Environment Centre Building. The new centre will showcase the ecological significance and values of Brisbane's northern wetlands and their connection with Moreton Bay. It will showcase the unique flora and fauna that use the wetlands and the importance that wetlands play in coastal management. It will include features that inspire wonder and curiosity and encourage visitors to get out and enjoy the natural environment.

These wetlands are home to a wide variety of native bird life inhabiting its tidal flats, mangroves and open forests. The Boondall wetlands offer habitats for over 190 species



of birds, including:

- black-shouldered and brahminy kites, Australian kestrels and ospreys
- whimbrels, godwits, plovers, tattlers, sandpipers and curlews on the mudflats
- ducks, egrets, herons and cormorants foraging within the wetlands
- kingfishers in the mangrove forest
- rainbow bee-eaters on the mangrove boardwalk.

Migratory shorebirds from around the world feed on the food-rich mud flats and roost in the salt marshes and mangroves along the shoreline. Each spring they fly to Moreton Bay from as far as Siberia, China, Mongolia, Alaska, and of course Japan. Large numbers of international migratory shorebirds travel between Narashino and Moreton Bay each year, and they usually reside in the Boondall Wetlands between the months of September and March.

With the recent signing of the fourth Wetlands Affiliation Agreement between our two cities, I look forward to continuing to work with our partners in Narashino as we carry on protecting our valuable wetland ecosystems for future generations.

GRAHAM QUIRK

LORD MAYOR





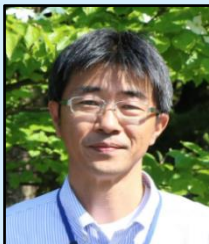


## 20th Anniversary Messages

### 20th Anniversary messages

Thanks to the support of many people, Narashino and Brisbane were able to celebrate 20th years anniversary of the relationship between the wetlands.

We asked those involved, such as Yatsu Higata Nature Observation Center, Boondall Wetlands Environment Centre, and the staff and volunteers when the relationship between the wetlands began, to give us a message and express their memories.



#### Wishing for the Continuous Development of the Relationship

#### Yatsu Higata Nature Observation Center Director Kazuki Arao

I extend my heartfelt congratulations on the memorable 20th anniversary of the relationship with the wetland of Brisbane City. Yatsu Higata was designated a Ramsar site in 1993 as a rare wetland left in city and Yatsu Nature Observation Center was founded the following year. Among the main work of our Center, such as environmental education, community projects, and conservation of Yatsu Higata, the most important is the international exchange and expansion of networks

At Yatsu Higata, shorebirds migrating from wintering grounds like Australia to breeding grounds like Siberia come to rest. The cooperation between each country is essential to protect these birds and we hold an annual exchange with Brisbane City for the further conservation of the migratory shorebirds and wetlands by sharing information and learning more about each other's wetlands.

May the deepening relationship with Brisbane City and the development of further conservation of wetlands continue in the coming years.



### To the Future, 20th Anniversary as a Turning Point

#### **Yatsu Higata Nature Observation Center Relationship between Wetlands Manager Fumiko Oyama**

Congratulations on the 20th anniversary. The relationship between the wetlands was able to last twenty years because of the affection for the shorebirds and the passion for the conservation of wetlands of the volunteers and everyone in Brisbane and I realize how extremely valuable it is to have witnessed the history. In the course of the last twenty years, the population of migratory shorebirds crossing borders has been declining and so has the number of the shorebirds coming to Yatsu Higata. We must perceive their messages more and take care of wetlands beyond the border. The Nature Observation Center is the base that connects people with nature and people with people. I hope that many see the migratory shorebirds and feel the connection with the world and I would like to pass the steps of the last twenty years on to the young generation, together think about what we can do for the shorebirds and wetlands, and move forward by making a fresh start.



### Celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the Relationship with Brisbane

#### **Yatsu-minami Elementary School Principal Shigemi Sakuma**

My sincere congratulations on the 20th anniversary of the relationship with Brisbane City. Our school is located on the opposite shore from Yatsu-Higata Nature Observation Center. We opened in 1986 as the sixteenth elementary school of the city and marked 32 years this year.

At Yatsu Higata that extends in front of our school, many migratory shorebirds visit every year. These birds go back and forth between Australia to Japan and Japan to Siberia. In other words, the environment is not just for one country.

Yatsu Minami Elementary School has had an active relationship with Brisbane City. Looking at the sources left at school, we have found out that the relationship began in 1998. We even found documents indicating there were not just letter exchanges but online interaction with some schools in Brisbane. However, they became slightly out of touch after events such as the 2011 earthquake.

Fortunately, the relationship was reestablished two years ago and we have invited the staff in Brisbane City over to our school which gave us a chance to spend some fun time with the children. These exchanges have been fun moments to remember for the children at our school.

I wish that Yatsu Minami Elementary School continues to play the role of connecting Narashino City and Brisbane City just like the migratory shorebirds.



## 20th Anniversary Messages



### **Yatsu Higata & Boondall Wetlands: As We Mark the 20th Anniversar**

#### **Yatsu Higata Nature Observation Center Former Director Akihito Hasegawa**

The clear blue sky, vivid green, the cool breeze that comes through the mangroves from the sea, the tidal flat that vastly extends, and the bright smiles on my friends' faces; this is the scene at Boondall Wetlands when I visited twenty years ago. Struggling to where to start at first, the staff, volunteers, and people from conservation organizations involved in both wetlands have all worked together. It gives me great joy that the biennial visits by those involved in both wetlands and the conservation work of wetlands and shorebirds continue to this day. I have visited Boondall Wetlands more than ten times as a part of the Yatsu volunteer team and made many friends there that now I feel as though it is my second home. Contrary to the concern that I left, visits by students have been made and my heart is filled with hope for the continuous participation of the children who will define the future.



### **Bond Between the Wetlands Deepened by Birds**

#### **Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba President Hideo Shimura**

We, Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba Prefecture, are in support of the affiliation agreement for "conservation of wetlands and protection of migratory shorebirds" established between Narashino City and Brisbane City in 1998 and have done birdwatching, observed bird banding, and hosted symposia together with Queensland Wader Study Group (QWSG) based in Brisbane during our visits there in 2002 and 2005.

A member of QWSG conducted birdwatching and a seminar in Japan in 2006, and a member of our society held a seminar in Brisbane City in 2008. Since this series of projects, we have deepened our relationship and in 2010, together we developed a joint project "Survey of migration routes of Grey-tailed Tattler using a geolocator" and resulted in success in 2016 after seven years of local work. This joint project is the embodiment of the "conservation of wetlands and protection of migratory shorebirds" and the fruit of the affiliation. I sincerely hope that we, as a bird conservation organization, continue to contribute to the relationship.





### NEXT 20

#### **Y&B Wetland Exchange Society Chairperson Hitoshi Akutsu**

Since 1999, I have been involved in “exchange visits by members of their respective local communities,” one of the five pillars of the affiliation agreement established between Narashino City and Brisbane City. As I continue to welcome the visits to Japan from Brisbane City, I became aware of the indispensability of the systematic work that goes beyond the individual level. The realization led me to found Y&B Wetlands Exchange Society in 2013 in order to contribute to the development and continuity of the exchange between both cities. Making the most of our experiences, we provide information and assist the bilateral visits. Moreover, we support the many community members who have visited Brisbane and wish to continue to play a part in the exchange. Oddly enough, we also receive requests to join us from those who are in support of our mission once the organization was founded. I hope to keep supporting the relationship between the wetlands by distributing information regarding the exchange both within and outside Japan, engaging the youth, and working on the challenges such as the diversification of community engagement channels, in addition to the ongoing projects, for the more deepening of this relationship given by the local governments.





## 20th Anniversary Messages



### **Boondall Wetlands Environment Centre Coordinator Andrew Meiklejohn**

Brisbane City Council's Environment Centres joins Yatsu Higata Nature Observation Centre in recognising an important occasion in our relationship-20 years of relationships, friendships and outcomes that we are very proud of.

Since establishing this partnership, we have worked consistently to raise awareness of the value and benefits of our wetlands and the plight of the amazing migratory shorebirds that call both of our wetlands home. We have encouraged people to adopt behaviours that look after our wetlands and shorebirds, and knowing that our flyway friends in Yatsu-Higata are also working alongside us is very heartening.

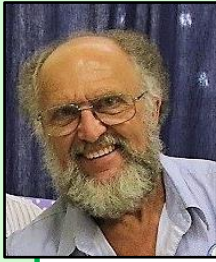
The Brisbane – Narashino Wetlands Affiliation Agreement has created a special and long-lasting relationship between our cities, leading to strong working relationships between the staff and volunteers of Narashino City's Yatsu Higata Nature Observation Centre, and Brisbane City Councils' Boondall Wetlands Environment Centre. Through sharing of ideas and resources we have developed numerous educational programs and materials. The 'wings of the world' program is a fine example of an educational program delivered to local schools which incorporates a 'Kamishibai' storying telling technique and the story of Tom the Red-necked Stint, gifted to us by Yatsu Higata Nature Observation Centre.

Through our relationship, we have held numerous community events such as World Wetland Day, Family Fun Days, and on many occasions staff and volunteers from Yatsu Higata have facilitated activities at these events. More recently we have promoted the agreement and the value of wetlands and shorebirds through the BrisAsia festival, Brisbane's annual Japanese cultural day and other culture festivals and events.

The agreement has also helped bring people together in Brisbane. We have worked closely and formed productive partnerships with various organisations such as the Queensland Wader Study Group, Port of Brisbane, Wildlife Protection Society of Queensland, Moreton Bay Marine Parks, and Nudgee Beach Environmental Education Centre. Together with these partners, we have created a Sharing Shorelines DVD and Kiosk, mobile interactive Sharing Shorelines display, and our shorebird Mascot Ellie the Eastern Curlew.

The wetland exchanges between the cities have also had a profound effect on the Boondall Wetlands staff and volunteers who have found the passion, commitment and creativity at Yatsu Higata Nature Observation Centre extremely inspiring and moving.

Looking after these special birds that call both of our wetlands home, is a task which requires international collaboration and action. This unique agreement leads the way and demonstrates how international effort can be organised to support efforts across the globe, and something we should both take pride in. Twenty years of this effort is a significant milestone and we look forward to a long and fruitful relationship into the future.



### **Queensland Wader Study Group Chairperson David Edwards**

The Queensland Wader Study Group (QWSG) is so pleased to be associated with this great agreement between two outstanding cities, their councils, their people and volunteer groups.

From the start the QWSG has been aware that the only way we can enhance the knowledge of waders and aid in their protection is by international co-operation. To this end the joint activities of the Queensland Wader Study Group and the Yatsu Higata Nature Observation Centre (YNOC) have been a great success and each new venture is eagerly awaited by all of the QWSG members.

Seeing how the Japanese group goes about educating the local people has been an inspiration to us here in Australia and we can only hope to achieve the level of junior volunteer participation that we have seen at YNOC. The junior ranger program has the potential to have a constant influx of very motivated adults in the future protecting the waders that visit both of our shores.

The QWSG has an active program of banding, flagging and using satellite transmitters. This has and in the future will give us all a vast amount of new information about the movements of the wonderful migratory birds that we all love so much. We have recently gained knowledge about the movements of Pacific Golden Plover both in their local sphere but also their international migratory routes. This will help to protect their feeding and roosting sites in the Brisbane area, but also sheds light on the international importance of various stop-overs, including those in Japan.

This work is expensive and we wish to thank most sincerely the co-operation and help that we have received from YNOC. This shows how we can work across boundaries to help species that know no such artificial constraints, but are affected by our decisions large and small.

One of the things that can be lost in the celebration at high level is the personal exchanges that take place and I know that everyone from the QWSG who has visited Narashino City Council and the YNOC has made contacts that we wish to continue for ever.

From the QWSG congratulations on the 20th anniversary of the agreement between Narashino City Council and the Brisbane City Council, plus the co-operation between YNOC and the QWSG.

Looking forwards to many more.

On behalf of QWSG its members and committee,





## 20th Anniversary Messages

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### **Boondall to Tinchy Tamba Wetlands Care President Jennifer Singfield**

The volunteers in the Boondall to Tinchy Tamba Wetlands group were involved in saving Brisbane's wetlands, both freshwater and tidal wetlands, well before the Narashino Agreement came into play. So when the Narashino Agreement was coming together we were a natural fit for this wonderful agreement.

Our members truly enjoy meeting our friends from Yatsu Higata. It is amazing to have such appreciative guests coming to look over one's backyard. No complaints about having to be smothered in sunscreen and insect repellent in our heat. Then when our members visit Yatsu Higata, we are not only overwhelmed with the hospitality but totally impressed with all the dedication of the volunteers of Yatsu Higata for their wetland which is totally surrounded by infrastructure. Yatsu Higata Day is very inspiring with hundreds of people visiting the wetlands centre. The physical differences between the two wetlands could not be more extreme but both groups share the same concerns for our environment and in particular our waders.

Plus, the local students from Nudgee Beach Environmental Education Centre and Earnshaw College are part of the team. Over the years many of these students have learnt about our local wetlands and visited Yatsu Higata – great learning experience. That the Narashino Agreement has been so successful over the years is a testament to all who have been involved – all levels of government in both Japan and Australia, schools in both cities and the many on-ground volunteers.

In our endeavours to save the waders and their habitats we have achieved a wonderful partnership and many friendships.

Long may our waders fly.



**Bits of knowledge  
(trivia)**

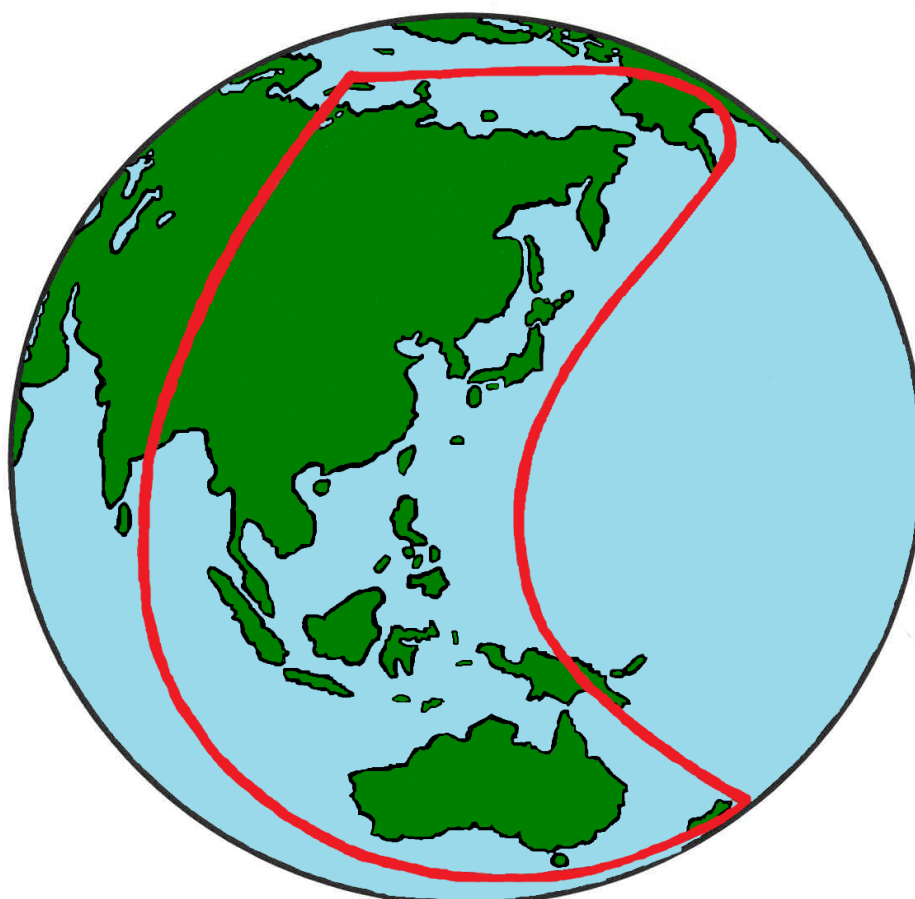
### East Asian-Australasian Shorebird Reserve Network

East Asian-Australasian Shorebird Reserve Network (EAASRN) is a multilateral network for a maintenance of shorebirds site.

The most important wetlands as breeding grounds, wintering grounds and stopovers for the shorebirds which move the longest distance, join the Network.

Both Yatsu Higata and Boondall Wetlands also take part in it.

Now it is taken over by East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership. (EAAFP)



※Shorebird Flyway is in the red frame.



# Narashino City and Brisbane City

Let's compare the two cities.

### The birth of Narashino City

In 1889, five villages (Yatsu, Kuguta, Saginuma, Fujisaki and Okuboshinden) were merged and 'Tsudanuma Village' was born. After that it became Tsudanuma Town. And the area of Mimomi and Yashiki became a part of Makuhari Village.

In 1873 a part of Koganemaki became an army training ground and it named 'Narashinohara' by Meiji Emperor. So Narashino City was born after merging a part of Chiba City.

### Features of Narashino City 1

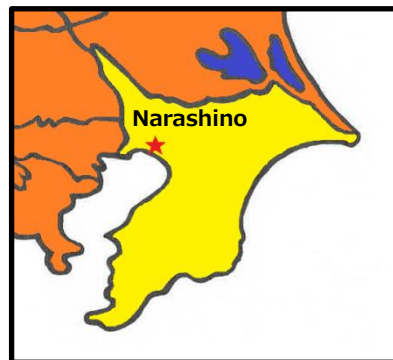
Narashino city is located in northwest part of Chiba prefecture. It borders Chiba City, Funabashi City and Yachiyo City and faces Tokyo Bay.

It has the fourth smallest land area. It is really a compact city but the population density is the third highest in Chiba prefecture.

### Features of Narashino City 2

Along Tokyo Bay area, houses on reclaimed land and factories are spread. There is a large height difference with inland of natural terrain.

## Narashino City



Area 20.97 km<sup>2</sup>

Population 170,923

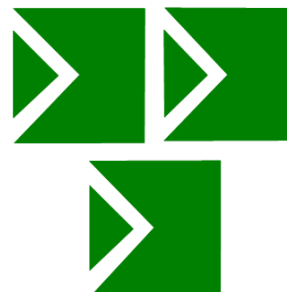
The number of households  
76,816

Year of municipal enforcement  
1954

\*Population: As of June 30, 2016

Households: As of June 30, 2016

City Emblem







## Brisbane City



Area 1,340.3 km<sup>2</sup>

Population 1,184,215

The number of households  
404,161

Year of municipal enforcement  
1859

\*Population: As of June 30, 2016

Households: From the census 2016

City Emblem



### The birth of Brisbane City

Thomas Brisbane, the governor of New South Wales Province, searched the land to accommodate prisoners and found out the land along the river. He named the place Brisbane after his name.

In 1859 Queensland area was separated from New South Wales and then the city of Brisbane was born and became the capital of Queensland.

### Features of Brisbane City 1

Brisbane is the capital of Queensland Province and the third largest city following Sydney and Melbourne in Australia.

It has the largest population in Queensland and one of the world's leading cities in Oceania.

### Features of Brisbane City 2

Brisbane River runs through the city so they use ferry as a public transportation to go to school or go to work.

And the system of renting bikes is in place.



The symbol flower of Narashino City  
**The Hydrangea**







The symbol flower of Brisbane City

**The Jacaranda**





## Yatsu Higata and Boondall Wetlands

### Yatsu Higata

Area 40 hectares

Ramsar Convention Registration Date June 10, 1993

#### Overview

Yatsu Higata is located in the innermost part of Tokyo Bay and is a rectangular tidal flat. It lies between houses and roads. In it, the tides ebb and flow and the highest sea surface reach about 1 m depth.







※Boondall Wetlands is a part of Moreton Bay registered under the Ramsar Convention.

## Boondall Wetlands

Area 1,166 hectares

Ramsar Convention Registration Date October 22, 1993

### Overview

Boondall Wetlands is located on the edge of Moreton Bay, about 15 km north of Brisbane's CBD. It lies on tidal flats, mangroves and grasslands, forests and so on.





## Yatsu Higata and Boondall Wetlands

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### < Yatsu Higata >

Yatsu Higata is a part of the beach-front tidal flat that once existed in the inner part of Tokyo Bay and became what is left today by the local conservation work in the midst of active reclamation of the areas around in 1970s.

A concrete wall surrounds the tidal flat and residential, commercial, and industrial areas extend nearby. The two creeks at both ends connects the flat with Tokyo Bay and brings in the ebb and flow of the tide.

Moreover, Yatsu Higata is in the flyway of some migratory shorebirds and a Ramsar site as well as a member of East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership.

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Yatsu Higata used to be a site for salt manufacturing taking advantage of the ebb and flow on the shallow beach until around 1911. However, it was converted into Yatsu Amusement Park after the salt manufacturing closed down as a result of multiple storms.

Yatsu Amusement Park, consist of zoo, rose garden, and many game and rides served as a popular entertainment facility until it closed in 1982.



## Yatsu Higata and Boondall Wetlands



Reclamation of the adjacent sea areas has begun in 1971, and protest by the local community against the construction and projects followed.

Thanks to the movement for the conservation by the local community, the reclamation plan was scratched and Yatsu Higata was able to be kept intact as a precious natural heritage located in the middle of a city.







## Yatsu Higata and Boondall Wetlands

In 1988, the Environmental Agency (today's Ministry of the Environment) designated Yatsu Higata (41.2 ha.) as a National Wildlife Protection Area and the majority (40.1 ha.) as a Special Protection Area.

Later in 1993, Yatsu Higata became a Ramsar site and the first tidal flat in the country to be one.

Yatsu Higata Nature Observation Center opened next year as a facility for observing wild birds and learning about environment.

It is equipped with an observation deck that allows a landscape view of Yatsu Higata as well as a lecture room where screenings take place and the rangers (staff) and volunteers provide a guided tour for the visitors.





## Yatsu Higata and Boondall Wetlands



City of Narashino determined 10<sup>th</sup> of June, the date Yatsu Higata was designated as a Ramsar site, “Yatsu Higata Day” for the purpose of raising conservational awareness of the precious natural heritage and sharing information.

Events are held on Yatsu Higata Day and many people gather over year.

In addition every year, about a month before and after Yatsu Higata Day began to be called “Yatsu Higata Day Festival” since 2016 and various events are hosted during this period.

### 谷津干潟の日宣言

わたくしたちは、1993年  
6月10日釧路会議において、  
ラムサール条約登録湿地に認定  
された谷津干潟を、貴重な自然  
財産と認識し、市民と行政が共  
に協力して、「都市と自然との  
共生」を目指した保全を図るこ  
とを誓い、ここに6月10日を  
「谷津干潟の日」とすることを  
宣言する。

1997年6月8日

習志野市長 鈴木 勇



At Yatsu Higata Nature Observation Center, we also hold events around World Wetlands Day on 2<sup>nd</sup> of February every year. We welcome many visitors at these occasions.

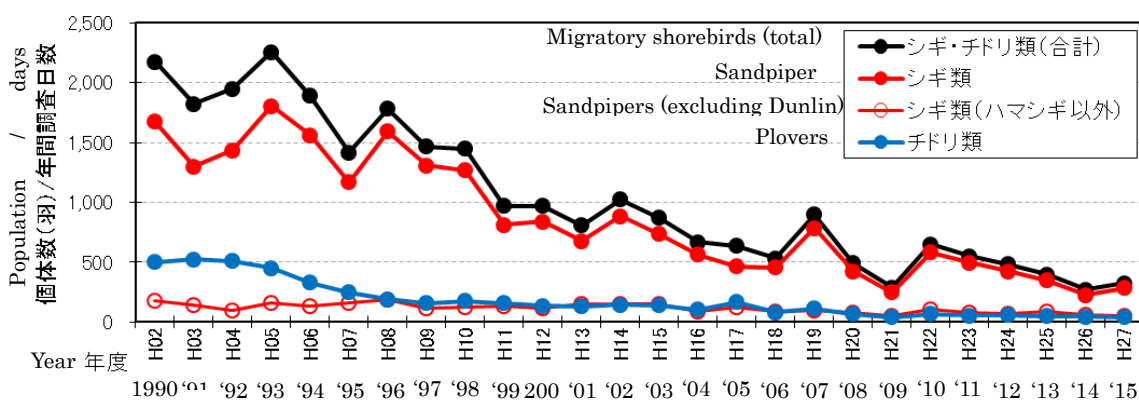


## Yatsu Higata and Boondall Wetlands

There has been a trend that indicates the decline of the population of migratory shorebirds that come to Yatsu Higata compared to when it was designed a Ramsar site.

The declining number of dunlin, which come to Yatsu Higata in good numbers, has led to the declining number of sandpipers. Especially, the population of plovers has decreased noticeably and still is.

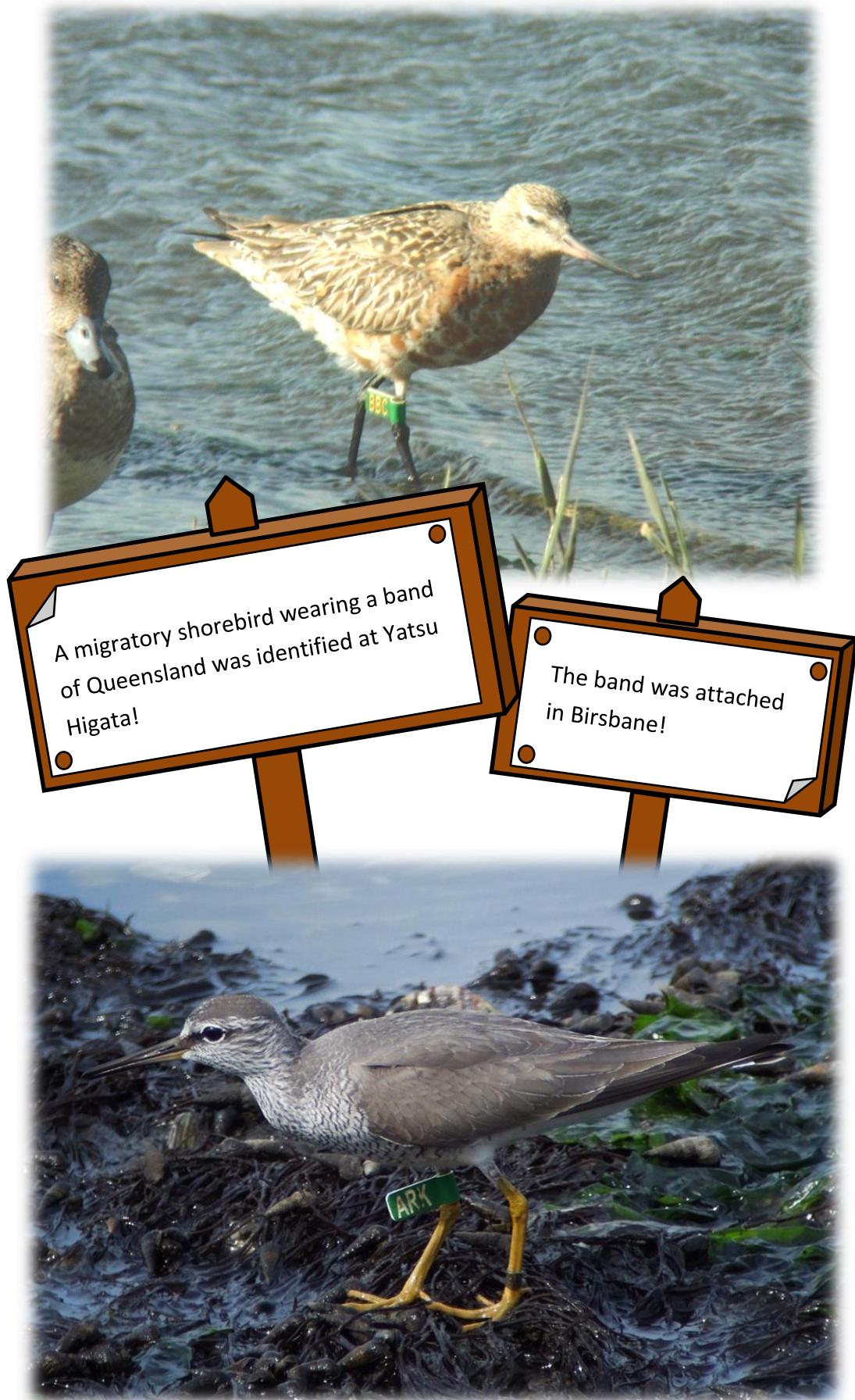
Each individual needs to take an interest in and work on the conservation of wetlands and protection of migratory shorebirds in order to stop the further decline of the bird population of those come to Yatsu Higata.



Source: Ministry of the Environment Kanto Regional Environment Office, 2016 Report for the Promotion Work of Conservation Project for Yatsu National Wildlife Protection Area.









### < Boondall Wetlands >

Boondall Wetlands are located on the edge of Moreton Bay, about 15 km north of Brisbane's CBD. It lies on tidal flats, mangroves and grasslands, forests and so on. It is the largest remaining wetland in Brisbane and has been registered under the Ramsar Convention as an important stopover and wintering ground for migratory birds. Boondall is an indigenous (Aboriginal) word meaning plants in primeval rainforests.



In 1976, the Mayor of Brisbane purchased lands in Boondall Wetlands for a large-scale canal development, but the plan was put on hold due to a redevelopment of an international airport. In 1985, a new city plan reclaiming Boondall Wetlands has been announced.



## Yatsu Higata and Boondall Wetlands



Conservation groups were formed to oppose the plan. Their strong opposition movement stopped the plan, and in 1990 a protection of Boondall Wetlands declared. Later, Boondall Wetlands Management Board was established to protect and manage the wetlands, and the Boondall Wetlands Management Plan was announced in 1992.



Whimbrel



With the cooperation of many people, Boondall Wetlands were protected, and on October 22, 1993, Moreton Bay including Boondall Wetlands was registered under the Ramsar Convention.





## **Yatsu Higata and Boondall Wetlands**

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In Boondall Wetlands, you can experience walking, cycling, fishing, canoeing, picnics, and so on.

Many people enjoy birding during September to March when migratory birds come.



## Yatsu Higata and Boondall Wetlands



In 1996, Boondall Wetlands Environment Centre was open to the public to allow visitors to learn and explore the natural environment. At Boondall Wetlands Environment Centre they conduct survey of environment, you can view environmental and cultural displays, and also you can be guided by staff or volunteers.



Many events are held on February 2, which is "World Wetlands Day". It is a good opportunity to reconsider wetlands and many people join the events every year.





# Story behind our Relationship

It all started at the Eighth Consultative Meeting of Japan-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement in 1995. City of Narashino and Brisbane City Council started to exchange since then.

In spite of differences of language and culture of Japan and Australia, feelings for wetlands and migratory birds are the same, and we have worked with international cooperation to preserve wetlands and protect migratory birds.

### <Migratory shorebirds and Wetlands>

Yatsu Higata is located on the **East Asian-Australian Flyway**.

Among migratory birds, most of the water birds, especially sandpipers and plovers **breed around Siberia and Alaska**. After the breeding season, they fly across Pacific Ocean to their **wintering place** such as East Asia, Australia or New Zealand. **Boondall Wetlands** is one of the wintering places and welcome those travelers every year.

The East Asian-Australian Flyway runs approximately 10,000km from north to south, which means migratory shorebirds need to fly 20,000km every year. Therefore, **Yatsu Higata**, as well as other wetlands, is a **vital wetland for migratory birds to eat and rest**.



Little Egret



### <Designation of Ramsar Site>

**Yatsu Higata** became a Ramsar site on **June 10, 1993** since it is important for migratory shorebirds.

Approximately four months later, **Morton Bay** including Boondall Wetlands in Brisbane was added to Ramsar site on **October 22, 1993**.

Bar-tailed Gotwit



### <Beginning of Wetland Exchange>

Australia Government suggested Japan Government having relationships between two countries at **8th consultative meeting of Japan-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement** in June, 1995.

Kushiro Wetlands in Hokkaido and Kooragang Wetlands in Australia have had relationships at this time, so relation of **Narashino and Brisbane is the second case** of that **between Japan and Australia**.





## History

### <City of Narashino's Vision>

Considering the suggestion from Ministry of Environment of Japan, City of Narashino decided to start wetland exchanges, judging that "**International recognition and cooperation is necessary to protect migratory birds flying across national borders to Yatsu Higata.**"

City of Narashino proposed exchanges with Boondall Wetlands because of the **many similarities** with the Yatsu Higata, such as the fact that it became a Ramsar site in the same year, the escape from landfill by the citizen movement, and the participation of citizens in the conservation of wetlands.

Rufous-necked Stint



### <Affiliation Agreement>

After discussions and inspections, City of Narashino and Brisbane City Council **concluded Affiliation Agreement on February 25, 1998.**

The ceremony celebrating this conclusion was held at Balmoral Room in Brisbane City Hall with guests from various institutions and organisations.

Kentish Plover







### <Contents>

In wetland exchange, we decided to promote exchanges **based on following five.**

1. Survey and exchange of information on wetland conservation and migratory bird conservation.
2. Support exchange programme for the replacement of staff involved in the conservation of wetlands.
3. Support children's exchange to raise awareness and understanding of nature conservation.
4. Enlighten conservation of wetlands and the protection of migratory birds both domestic and international.
5. Support citizen's exchange visits.

However, since specific activities were not mentioned, an **action plan** was formulated to facilitate our alliance.



Little tern



Common Sandpiper

### <The First-Five Year Plan>

Signed by both cities in March, 1999. After this, the **Second** and the **Third** Plans were decided every five years. After the Third Plan has expired, both cities signed the **Long-Term Plan** which has no period in February, 2017. We are still conducting wetland exchanges.



## Record of Visit Exchange

# Record of visit exchange

Narashino City and Brisbane City have visited and interacted with each other many times.

The titles listed will be the titles at the time of the visit.

YNOC: Yatsu Higata Nature Observation Center

BWEC: Boondall Wetlands Environment Centre

QWSG: Queensland Wader Study Group

BCC: Brisbane City Council

March 22 – 27 , 1996

Attendance at the 6th Ramsar Convention Conference of the Parties

### ▼ 8 visitors from Narashino

1	Isamu Araki	Mayor
2	Masami Sato	Assembly Chairman
3	Hiroshi Abe	Assembly Secretary General
4	Kozo Ono	Environment Department Manager
5	Akihito Hasegawa	YNOC Director
6	Izumi Hukushima	City Officer
7	Shiro Nonaka	City Officer
8	Akio Azuma	City Officer



### ▼ Contents

- Attendance at the 6th Ramsar Convention Conference of the Parties
- Attendance at the ceremony to launch the East Asian-Australasian Shorebird Reserve Network (EAASRN)
- Visit Boondall Wetlands due to consideration of wetland tie-up
- Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary inspection



November 13 - 16 , 1996

Deputy Mayor of Brisbane visits Narashino

▼ 1 visitor from Brisbane

1	John Campbell	Deputy Mayor
---	---------------	--------------



Center: Deputy Mayor John Campbell

▼ Contents

- Attendance at local government exchange seminars
- Courtesy visit to the Mayor of Narashino and Chairman of the City Council
- Visit Tokyo Bay
- City tour including Yatsu Higata



## Record of Visit Exchange

May 15 - May 17, 1997

Deputy mayor of Brisbane and staff visit Narashino City

### ▼ 2 visitors from Brisbane

1	Tim Quinn	Deputy Mayor
2	Bernard Green	BCC Officer



Left: Isamu Araki, Mayor      Right: Tim Quinn, Deputy Mayor

### ▼ Contents

- Discussing Alliance Agreement
- Visit Yatsu Higata and Yatsu Higata Nature Observation Center





November 5 - 9 , 1997

## Narashino City officials visite Brisbane

### ▼ 2 visitors from Narashino

1	Hiroshi Abe	Environment Department Director
2	Akihito Hasegawa	YNOC Director



### ▼ Contents

- Discussing Alliance Agreement
- Visit Boondall Wetlands and Boondall Wetlands Environment Centre
- Visit Nudgee Beach and Nudgee Beach Environmental Education Centre



## Record of Visit Exchange

November 5 - 9, 1997

Narashino City delegates visited Brisbane City

### ▼ 21 visitors from Narashino

1	Isamu Araki	Mayor
2	Miyoko Hozuki	Assembly Chairperson
3	Fumio Obikane	Assembly Member
4	Saburo Morita	Assembly Member
5	Minoru Tada	Assembly Secretary General
6	Hiroshi Abe	Environment Department Manager
7	Akio Azuma	General Affairs Division Officer
8	Akihito Hasegawa	YNOC Director
9	Tatsuyuki Tomioka	Wild Bird Society of Japan Staff
10	Yoko Suzuki	YNOC Officer
11	Jun Matsui	YNOC Officer
12	Kimiko Sekizawa	YNOC Officer
13	Yozo Hirakawa	Chairman of YNOC Management Roundtable
14	Yoko Nakamura	YNOC management social gathering committee member
15	Michiko Takeda	YNOC management social gathering committee member
16	Yuki Saito	Citizen
17	Yuko Konishi	Citizen
18	Naomi Yamazaki	Citizen
19	Yoshikazu Ito	Citizen
20	Mizuho Kimura	Citizen
21	Kiyoshi Ohama	The association that protects the tidal flats of Chiba Member



Cormorant

### ▼ Contents

- Conclusion of Affiliation Agreement on wetland tie-up
- Courtesy visit to the Mayor of Brisbane
- Discussion about Action Plan
- Lecture of Brisbane City Nature Conservation Plan



February 25, 1998

Affiliation Agreement concluded



Left: James Gerard (Jim) Soorley, Lord Mayor of Brisbane  
Right: Isamu Araki, Mayor of Narashino







## Record of Visit Exchange

June 5 – 10 , 1997

Brisbane city delegates visited Narashino City

### ▼ 4 visitors from Brisbane

1	Mark Bailly	City Councilor
2	Anne Beasley	Boondall Wetlands Management Committee
3	Mary-Ann Pattison	Nudgee Beach Environment Education Centre Principal Boondall Wetlands Management Committee Member
4	John Bowden	Boondall Wetlands Management Committee Member



### ▼ Contents

- Participation in Yatsu Higata Day event
- Interact with Yatsu Higata Nature Observation Center volunteers
- Citizen exchange barbecue participation
- Tour of Oonomatsu room and Kasumi Park



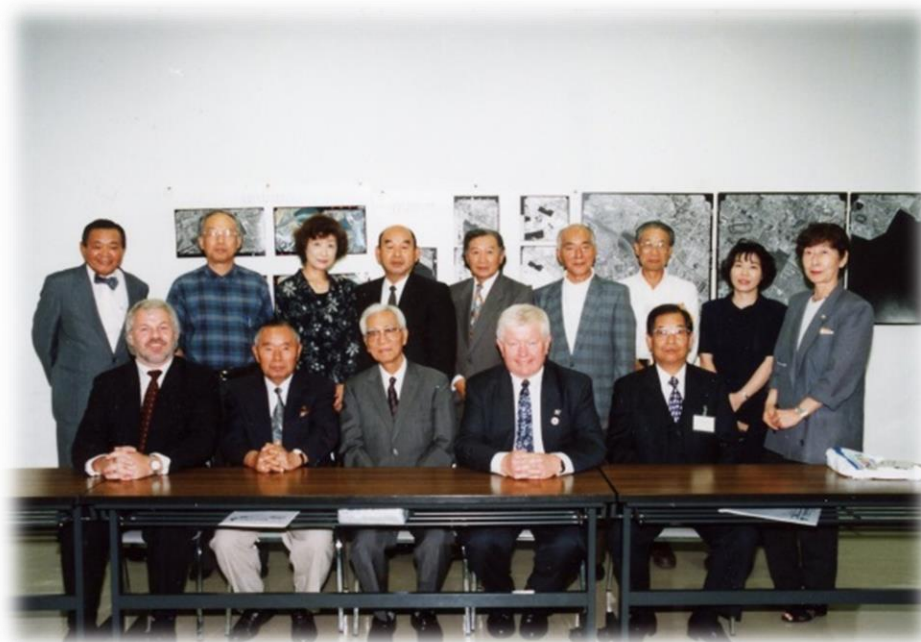


On July 17, 1998

Deputy mayor of Brisbane and staff visit Narashino City

▼ 2 visitors from Brisbane

1	Tim Quinn	Deputy Mayor
2	Jim Reeves	BCC Officer



Right: Tim Quinn, Deputy Mayor

Black-tailed gull



▼ Contents

- Courtesy visit to the Mayor of Narashino and Chairman of the City Council
- Interact with Yatsu Higata Nature Observation Center volunteers
- Discussion on the First Five-Year Plan



## Record of Visit Exchange

January 9 – 16 , 1999

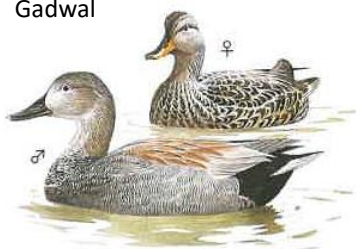
Narashino City delegates visited Brisbane City

### ▼ 10 visitors from Narashino

1	Akihito Hasegawa	YNOC Director
2	Koji Iura	YNOC Officer
3	Shigeo Sawa	YNOC Officer
4	Hitoshi Akutsu	YNOC Volunteer
5	Hiroshi Tosaka	YNOC Volunteer
6	Keiichi Tada	YNOC Volunteer
7	Sadataka Imamura	YNOC Volunteer
8	Yoichi Miyamura	YNOC Volunteer
9	Yoshikazu Ito	YNOC Volunteer
10	Hitoshi Nakano	YNOC Volunteer



Gadwal



### ▼ Contents

- Consultation with Brisbane City officials, Lawmakers, Boondool Wetland Management Steering Committee and NGO groups
- Carving class held at Nudgee Beach Environmental Education Centre
- Discuss the First Five-Year Plan
- Mangrove maintenance work in Boondoll Wetlands



March 4, 1999

Signing of the First Five-Year Plan







## Record of Visit Exchange

January 8 - 15 ,2000

Delegation from Narashino City visited Brisbane City

### ▼ 8 visitors from Narashino

1	Akihito Hasegawa	YNOC Director
2	Tomomi Shichi	YNOC Volunteer
3	Hitoshi Akutsu	YNOC Volunteer
4	Yoshikazu Ito	YNOC Volunteer
5	Sadataka Imamura	YNOC Volunteer
6	Hitoshi Nakano	YNOC Volunteer
7	Mitsuko Akutsu	YNOC Volunteer
8	Kazuko Arita	YNOC Volunteer



### ▼ Contents

- Carving class was held at Nudge Beach Environmental Education Centre
- Participation in Boondall Wetlands conservation work; 100 trees were planted
- Visit to Staff's home of Nudge Beach Environmental Education Centre
- Visit Brisbane City Council office





June 9 - 12 , 2000

Brisbane City delegates visited Narashino City

## ▼ 4 visitors from Brisbane

1	Doug Yuille	Lord Mayor's Environmental Advisor
2	Ivell White	QWSG Member
3	Desmond Sandy	Traditional Owner of Yuggera
4	Doug Watkins	EAASRN Staff



Turnstone



## ▼ Contents

- Participation in Yatsu Higata Day event
- Visit Yatsu-minami Elementary School
- Participation in a ceremony for launching Waterfowl Kids Information Network



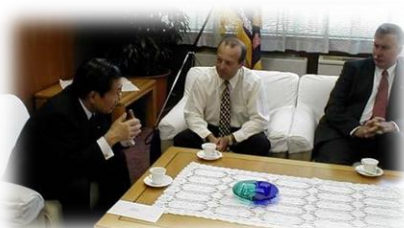
## Record of Visit Exchange

June 7 - 13 , 2001

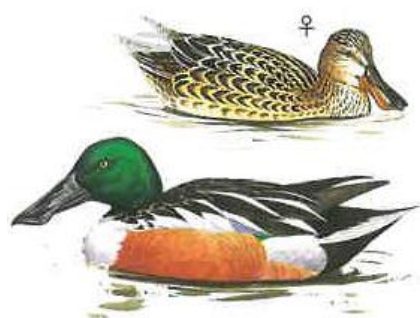
Brisbane City delegates visited Narashino City

### ▼ 3 visitors from Brisbane

1	Kim Flesser	City Councilor
2	Jim McDonnell	BCC Environment & Parks Branch Officer
3	Laurie Jeays	Boondall Wetlands Management Committee Member



Shoveler



### ▼ Contents

- Participation in Yatsu Higata Day event
- Tour conduction at Kasumi Park
- Visit Yatsu-minami Elementary School
- Discussion on "Waterfowl kids information network", etc.



September 28 - 3 , 2001

Narashino City delegates visited Brisbane City

## ▼ 10 visitors from Narashino

1	Hitoshi Akutsu	YNOC Volunteer
2	Sadataka Imamura	YNOC Volunteer
3	Hiroshi Sendoda	YNOC Volunteer
4	Yoichi Miyamura	YNOC Volunteer
5	Hiromi Hinata	YNOC Volunteer
6	Hiroshi Tanaka	YNOC Volunteer
7	Jyunko Kimura	YNOC Volunteer
8	Tomie Wada	YNOC Volunteer
9	Nobuko Watanabe	YNOC Volunteer
10	Shizuko Yamada	YNOC Volunteer



## ▼ Contents

- Carving class at Queensland Wader Study Group
- Visit to Brisbane City Hall
- Origami class at Mercy Elderly Caring Home
- Participation in benthos survey at Nudge Beach
- Flower laying at Look-Out of Anne Beasley
- River rafting with City Cat





## Record of Visit Exchange

June 8 - 10 , 2002

City council member and students from Brisbane City visited Narashino City.

### ▼ 2 visitors from Brisbane

1	Victoria Newton	City Councilor
2	Deane McLennan	Earnshaw State College Student



### ▼ Contents

- Sign on the draft of Education Cooperation Memorandum
- Visit Yatsu-minami Elementary School
- Participation in Yatsu Higata Day event
- Exchange with Yatsu Higata Nature Observation Center volunteers





November 8 - 14 , 2002

Narashino City delegates visited Brisbane City

▼ 10 visitors from Narashino

1	Hideo Shimura	Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba Chairperson
2	Hitoshi Akutsu	Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba
3	Kunihiko Ichibangase	Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba
4	Hitoshi Inaba	Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba
5	Takeshi Katsumata	Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba
6	Noboru Machida	Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba
7	Akiko Yoshida	Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba
8	Masako Keida	Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba
9	Machiko Kataoka	Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba
10	Keiko Nakagawa	Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba



▼ Contents

- Courtesy visit to the Mayor of Brisbane
- Visit Brisbane City Hall
- Visit Nadgee Beach Environmental Education Centre
- Visit banding works by QWSG
- Visit artificial roost site for shorebirds at Manly Boat Harbor



## Record of Visit Exchange

June 5 - 9, 2003

City council member and staff of Brisbane City visited Narashino City.

### ▼ 3 visitors from Brisbane

1	Kim Flesser	City Councilor
2	Russell Luhrs	BCC Environment & Parks Branch Member
3	Natalie Martin	BCC Environment Centre Coordinator



### ▼ Contents

- Visit city facilities
- Participation in event on Yatsu Higata Day
- Visit to Yatsu-minami Elementary School
- Discussion and decision on The Second Five-Year Plan
- Courtesy visit to Mayor, Superintendent and chairperson of City Council



October 19 - 23 , 2003

Narashino City delegates visited Brisbane City

▼ 17 visitors from Narashino

1	Isamu Araki	Mayor
2	Masashi Suzuki	Assembly Chairperson
3	Hideo Toyoshima	Yatsu Minami Elementary School Principal
4	Akihito Hasegawa	Environmental Department Deputy Director
5	Shigehiko Uzawa	City Officer
6	Kosaku Ebihara	YNOC Director
7	Shigeo Sawa	YNOC Officer
8	Sachiko Matsuhama	YNOC Officer
9	Kanji Aoyama	Yatsu Higata Steering Roundtable Chairperson
10	Hiroshi Yasukawa	Yatsu Higata Steering Roundtable Member
11	Hajime Naotsuka	YNOC Volunteer
12	Hiromi Naotsuka	YNOC Volunteer
13	Mutsuko Hasegawa	YNOC Volunteer
14	Etsuko Kanai	YNOC Volunteer
15	Kazuro Yamagishi	Citizen
16	Yoshiko Shimoto	Citizen
17	Yoshiko Hirokawa	Manko Waterbird and Wetland Center Staff



▼ Contents

- Participation in Asian-Pacific City Summit
- Sign on the Second Five-Year Plan
- Sign on Education Cooperation Memorandum
- Visit Earnshaw State College
- Visit Roma Street Park





## Record of Visit Exchange

October 22 ,2003

Signed on the Second Five-Year Plan and Education Cooperation Memorandum



Left: Tim Quinn, Mayor of Brisbane

Center: Anna Bligh, Minister of Education Queensland State

Right: Isamu Araki, Mayor of Narashino







June 1 - 7 , 2004

## Brisbane City delegates visited Narashino City

### ▼ 5 visitors from Brisbane

1	Geraldine Knapp	City Councilor
2	Victoria Newton	City Councilor
3	Mary-Ann Pattison	Nudgee Beach Environmental Education Centre Principal
4	Russell Luhrs	BCC Environment & Parks Branch Director
5	Norma Clarke	BWEC Volunteer



### ▼ Contents

- Participated in Yatsu Higata Day events, which commemorated the 50th anniversary of the incorporation of Narashino City
- Visit Narashino City Senior High School
- Visit Yatsu-minami Elementary School
- Visit Shibazono Incineration Plant
- Visit Fujiyoshida Youth House in Yamanashi



## Record of Visit Exchange

October 1- 6 , 2004

Narashino City delegates visited Brisbane City

### ▼ 12 visitors from Narashino

1	Hitoshi Akutsu	YNOC Volunteer
2	Yoichi Miyamura	YNOC Volunteer
3	Miwako Miyamura	YNOC Volunteer
4	Sadataka Imamura	YNOC Volunteer
5	Koichi Hatanaka	YNOC Volunteer
6	Kotoko Watanabe	YNOC Volunteer
7	Takemi Matsumoto	YNOC Volunteer
8	Hiroshi Sendoda	YNOC Volunteer
9	Hiroko Sendoda	YNOC Volunteer
10	Akira Ohash	YNOC Volunteer
11	Osami Yamamoto	YNOC Volunteer
12	Hatsue Yamamoto	YNOC Volunteer



### ▼ Contents

- Courtesy visit to Lord Mayor of Brisbane
- Boat cruise on the Spoonbill
- Meeting and information exchange with Queensland Wader Study Group
- Held an origami workshop at Boondall Wetland Environment Centre
- Participated in tree planting and other programs at BWEC



May 16 - 17, 2005

Deputy Lord Mayor of Brisbane and a Brisbane City officer visited Narashino City

## ▼ 2 visitors from Brisbane

1	David Hinchcliffe	Deputy Mayor
2	Nicole Scurrah	BCC Officer



Left: David Hinchcliffe, Dupty Mayor



## ▼ Contents

- Courtesy visit to the Mayor of Narashino city
- Visit Yatsu Rose Garden
- Visit Yatsu-minami Elementary School
- Discussion on presentation of roses from Narashino city





## Record of Visit Exchange

October 1- 6, 2004

Narashino City delegates visited Brisbane City

### ▼ 14 visitors from Narashino

1	Hideo Shimura	Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba Chairperson
2	Hitoshi Akutsu	Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba
3	Sadataka Imamura	Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba
4	Koichi Hatanaka	Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba
5	Takeshi Katsumata	Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba
6	Yutaka Matsukawa	Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba
7	Koichi Keida	Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba
8	Masako Keida	Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba
9	Akiko Yoshida	Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba
10	Machiko Kataoka	Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba
11	Keiko Nakagawa	Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba
12	Tatsuya Nakano	Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba
13	Moriko Takahashi	Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba
14	Hitoshi Inaba	Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba



### ▼ Contents

- Joint workshop with Queensland Wader Study Group
- Visit Downfall Creek Bushland Centre
- Class visit and meeting at Nudgee Beach Environmental Education Centre
- Visit to the port of Brisbane artificial roost site and reclamation areas





February 3- 8, 2006

## Narashino City officials and a YNOC staffs visited Brisbane City

### ▼ 7 visitors from Narashino

1	Akihito Hasegawa	Environment Department Dupity Director
2	Koji Iura	City Officer
3	Koichi Tada	City Officer
4	Takahiro Murayama	City Officer
5	Tomoko Koshikawa	City Officer
6	Makoto Nagayasu	Board of Education Officer
7	Nana Sakurai	YNOC Officer



### ▼ Contents

- Presentation of roses (catalog) from Narashino City
- World Wetland Day events in Brisbane
- Meeting with Brisbane City Environment Department
- Visit Nudgee Beach Environmental Education Centre



## Record of Visit Exchange

June 8 - 12, 2006

Brisbane city delegates visited Narashino city

### ▼ 3 visitors from Brisbane

1	Helen Abrahams	Councilor
2	Yuri Soma	Community Representative
3	Athera Moore	Tokyo office Queensland State Officer



### ▼ Contents

- Yatsu Higata Day events
- Visit Yatsu-minami Elementary School
- Visit Yatsu Rose Garden



February 1- 6, 2008

Narashino City delegates visited Brisbane City

## ▼ 9 visitors from Narashino

1	Akihito Hasegawa	Environment Department Director
2	Yoshio Shimada	YNOC Director
3	Hitoshi Akutsu	YNOC Volunteer
4	Koichi Hatanaka	YNOC Volunteer
5	Yoichi Miyamura	YNOC Volunteer
6	Yutaka Matsukawa	YNOC Volunteer
7	Shigenori Mitani	YNOC Volunteer
8	Seiji Shibuya	YNOC Volunteer
9	Keiko Nagata	YNOC Volunteer



## ▼ Contents

- Gave a presentation, held a workshop for making bird brooches and gave a "paper picture drama show" during World Wetlands Day events in Brisbane
- Visit Brisbane City Hall
- Visit Stradbroke Island
- Participated in wader banding work by Queensland Wader Study Group
- Visit Nudgee Beach Environmental Education Centre





## Record of Visit Exchange

February 7- 11 , 2009

Narashino City officials and a volunteer member visited Brisbane City

### ▼ 5 visitors from Narashino

1	Yoshihito Uematsu	Narashino City Superintendent
2	Takao Inoue	Sodegaura Higashi Elementary School Principal
3	Shiro Nonaka	Environmental Policies Section Chief
4	Takahiro Mitsunashi	City Officer
5	Hitoshi Akutsu	YNOC Volunteer



### ▼ Contents

- Attended the exhibition, commemorating the 10th anniversary of wetland exchange
- Discussion on the Third Five-Year Plan for Affiliation Agreement
- Visit Waterfall
- Visit Earnshaw State College
- Discussion on Education Cooperation Memorandum





May 30 - June 9 , 2009

Brisbane City delegates visited Narashino City

▼ 2 visitors from Brisbane

1	Andrew Geering	QWSG Chairperson
2	Jennifer Singfield	Moreton Bay Coast Care Member



## ▼ Contents

- Courtesy visit to the Mayor of Narashino
- Yatsu Higata Day events
- Discussion on satellite tracking of Grey-tailed Tattler flyways
- Visit Kasumi Park

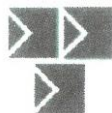


## Record of Visit Exchange

On July 31, 2009

The Third-Five Year Plan was signed

※The Third Five-Year Plan was signed by mail



THE THIRD FIVE-YEAR PLAN  
for the  
AFFILIATION AGREEMENT  
between



THE CITY OF NARASHINO, CHIBA PREFECTURE, JAPAN  
and  
BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA  
in relation to  
YATSU HIGATA TIDELANDS AND BOONDALL WETLANDS  
2009-2014

### BACKGROUND

Wetlands are one of the most important global environments valued for their biological diversity and high productivity. Despite recognition of the importance of various functions of wetlands for human society, the loss, destruction, degradation and misuse of wetlands continues in many areas of the world. In light of the ever-increasing pressure on wetlands, and in order to implement the conservation of wetlands and protection of migratory shorebirds through the involvement of the citizens of our two cities, an Affiliation Agreement was finalised on 25 February 1998. The agreement was supported by the First and Second Five-Year Plans that have now been successfully completed.

Representatives of Brisbane and Narashino have agreed on creating a Third Five-Year Plan with new actions to respond to increasing concern and awareness of both cities and their citizens regarding the conservation of wetlands and the protection of migratory shorebirds.





May 31 – June 9 , 2010

Brisbane City delegates visited Narashino City

## ▼ 3 visitors from Brisbane

1	David Fitzgibbon	BCC Environment Centre Coordinator
2	David Milton	QWSG Chairperson
3	Jennifer Singfield	Moreton Bay Coast Care Member



Wigeon



## ▼ Contents

- Participation in event on Yatsu Higata Day
- Discussion on satellite tracking of Grey-tailed Tattler flyways
- Participation in banding survey





## Record of Visit Exchange

February 23 – March 2 , 2011

Narashino City delegates visited Brisbane City

### ▼ 8 visitors from Narashino

1	Hitoshi Akutsu	YNOC Volunteer
2	Mariko Takano	YNOC Volunteer
3	Kazuka Motai	YNOC Volunteer
4	Masako Kawano	YNOC Volunteer
5	Hiroshi Abe	YNOC Volunteer
6	Noriko Abe	YNOC Volunteer
7	Akihito Hasegawa	YNOC Volunteer
8	Keiko Hasegawa	YNOC Volunteer



### ▼ Contents

- Courtesy visit to the Mayor of Brisbane
- Participation in event on World Wetlands Day
- Class experience at Nudgee Beach Environmental Education Centre
- Special teaching class on bird painting
- Tour to Port of Brisbane and Osprey House





August 16 – 21 , 2012

Brisbane City delegates visited Narashino City

## ▼ 6 visitors from Brisbane

1	David Fitzgibbon	BCC Environment Centre Coordinator
2	Lisa Johnston	BCC Environment Centre Education Officer
3	Jacinta Hamilton	BCC Environment Centre Education Officer
4	Felicity Moore	BCC Environment Centre Education Officer
5	John Coleman	QWSG Chairperson
6	Martin Ryan	BWEC Volunteer



## ▼ Contents

- Courtesy visit to the Mayor of Narashino
- Discussion on the Long-Term Plan
- Tour to Yatsu Higata Nature Observation Center
- Participation in mini-festival about Yatsu Higata & Boondall Wetlands
- Volunteers exchange



## Record of Visit Exchange

October 23 - 30 , 2013

Narashino City delegates visited Brisbane City

### ▼ 9 visitors from Narashino

1	Akihito Hasegawa	YNOC Volunteer
2	Hitoshi Akutsu	YNOC Volunteer
3	Shunko Uchida	YNOC Volunteer
4	Yoko Hino	YNOC Volunteer
5	Akiko Hino	YNOC Volunteer
6	Toru Ishida	YNOC Volunteer
7	Taizo Genda	YNOC Volunteer
8	Yuki Fujita	YNOC Volunteer
9	Rikuto Ito	YNOC Junior Ranger



### ▼ Contents

- Participation in Twentieth Anniversary Event on registration to Ramsar Convention of Moreton Bay (Boondall Wetlands)
- Visit Downfall Creek Bushland Centre
- Visit Nudgee Beach Environmental Education Centre
- Teaching class on handmade bird brooch
- Tour to Brisbane City Hall



May 23 - 26 , 2015

Brisbane City delegates visited Narashino City

## ▼ 3 visitors from Brisbane

1	David Fitzgibbon	BCC Community Conservation Partnerships Senior Coordinator
2	Linda Cross	QWSG Coordinator
3	Phil Cross	QWSG Coordinator



## ▼ Contents

- Courtesy visit to the Mayor of Narashino
- Bird watching at Chiba Prefectural Makuhari Kaihin Park, Kasai Seaside Park Tokyo Bay
- Lecture at Yatsu Higata Nature Observation Center
- Discussion on the Long-Term Plan
- Visit Yatsu-minami Elementary School
- Exchange with Yatsu Higata Nature Observation junior rangers





## Record of Visit Exchange

October 21 - 24 , 2016

Narashino City delegates visited Brisbane City

### ▼ 7 visitors from Narashino

1	Yuki Yoshida	YNOC Director
2	Nana Hoshino	YNOC Staff
3	Fumiyo Ui	YNOC Volunteer
4	Mitsuko Akutsu	YNOC Volunteer
5	Mizuho Shiina	YNOC Volunteer
6	Emi Oikawa	YNOC Volunteer
7	Mikiya Oikawa	YNOC Junior Ranger



### ▼ Contents

- Participation in the 20th anniversary event of Boondall Wetlands Environment Centre
- Class experience at Nudgee Beach Environmental Education Centre
- Visit Karawasa Forest Discovery Centre
- Bird watching at Tubul Coast, Kakadu Beach

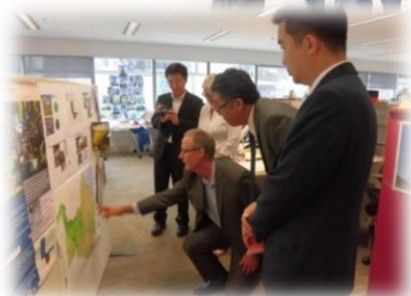


February 11 - 14 , 2017

Mayor Narashino and staff visit Brisbane

## ▼ 3 visitors from Narashino

1	Taisuke Miyamoto	Mayor
2	Keiichi Aizawa	Chief of Environment Policies Section
3	Nozomi Suzuk	City Officer



## ▼ Contents

- Signing of the Long-Term Plan
- Visit Brisbane City Council Natural Environment, Water and Sustainability Branch
- Visit Brisbane City Council office
- Ride on City Cat
- Visit Mt.Coot-tha
- Visit Consulate General of Japan in Queensland

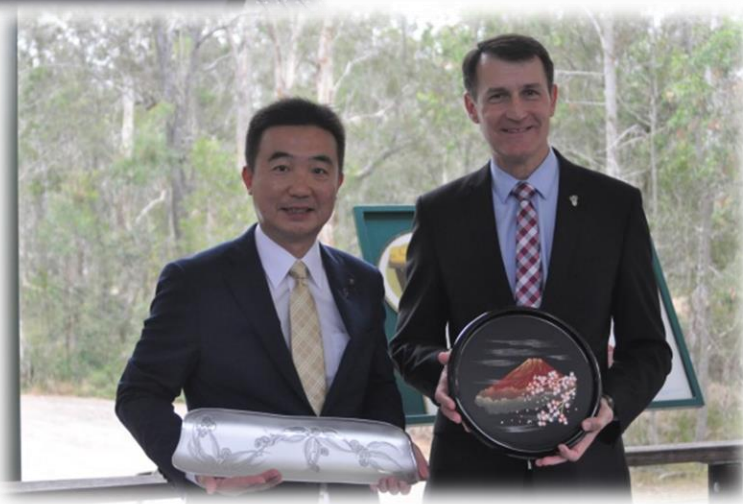




## Record of Visit Exchange

February 13 , 2017

Signed the Long-Term Plan



Left: Taisuke Miyamoto, Mayor of Narashino  
Right: Graham Quirk, Lord Mayor of Brisbane





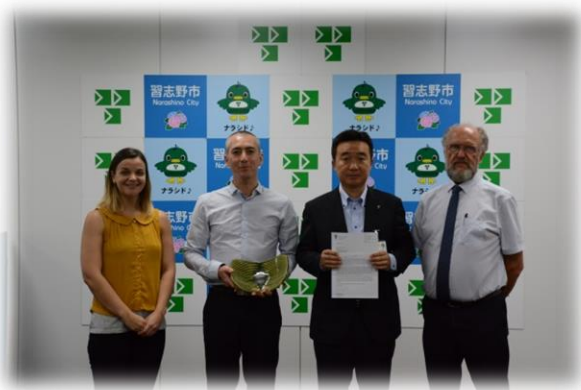


September 9 - 11 , 2017

Brisbane City delegates visited Narashino City

## ▼ 3 visitors from Brisbane

1	David Fitzgibbon	BCC Community Conservation Partnerships Senior Coordinator
2	Gemma Hawes	BCC Environment Centre Volunteer Coordinator
3	David Edwards	QWSG Chairperson



## ▼ Contents

- Courtesy visit to the Mayor of Narashino
- Visit Narashino City Clean Center
- Participation in Great Reed Warbler nesting survey
- Wetland exchange meeting in Brisbane & Narashino
- Visit Yatsu-minami Elementary School
- Participation in Shorebirds Count Tokyo Bay
- Bird watching at Kasai Seaside Park in Tokyo and Sanbanse



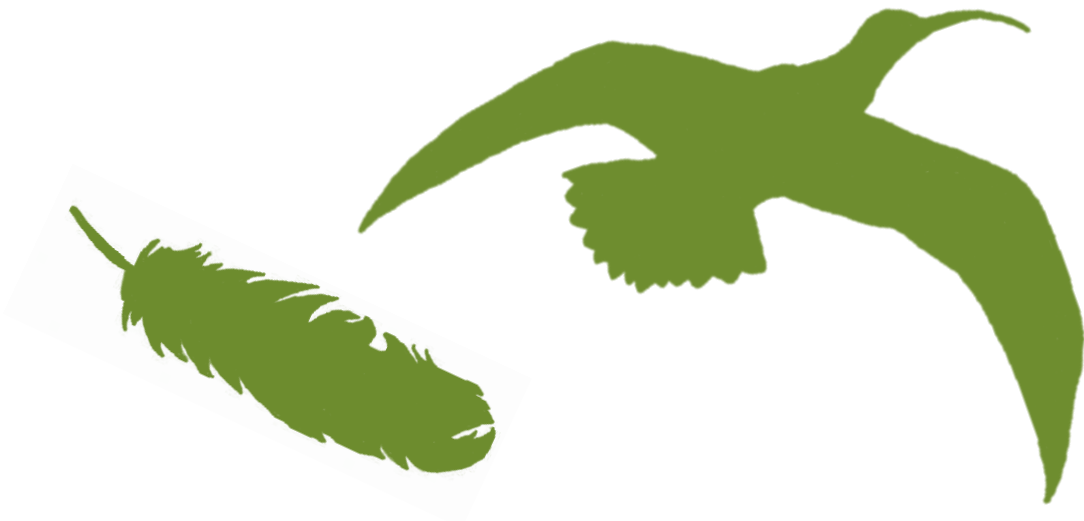
## For the future

Looking back on these 20 years, you can fully understand that Narashino City and Brisbane City have had well enough exchange

Both cities have interacted deeply not only by providing documents and exchanging information but also by visiting each other and meeting directly.

When we visit each other, there are a lot of things which we cannot tell through Internet or pictures. There is a great difference between Japan and Australia in cultures, languages, weather, environment and so on.

We have got over those difficulties and the 20th anniversary of Wetland Exchange is here.





However, the 20th anniversary is not a goal and Wetland Exchange will continue still continue.

It is our task to hand the Wetland Exchange down in the future and spread the exchange to the people of wide generation.

To leave Yatsu Higata and Boondall Wetlands in better condition to the future, we need not only the protection of the migratory birds and the maintenance of the wetlands but understanding the significance and process of the wetland existence and also the grace that the wetlands give us humans.

People of Narashino and Brisbane will learn a lot of each other through the Wetland Exchange and continue trying to lead to the next generation of Wise Use.













## Affiliation Agreement

# Affiliation Agreement and the Five-Year Plans

City of Narashino and Brisbane City Council signed the Wetland Affiliation Agreement on February 25, 1998, and action plans have been developed to carry out specific exchanges between the two cities since. Currently exchanges are facilitated by the Long-Term Plan under Affiliation Agreement.

### 【Affiliation Agreement】

Signed on February 25, 1998

Affiliation Agreement between Narashino City, Chiba Prefecture, Japan and Brisbane City Council, Queensland, Australia in relation to Yatsu Higata and Boondall Wetlands.

### 【Action Plans】

Signed on March 4, 1999

The First Five-Year Plan for Affiliation Agreement between Narashino City and Brisbane City Council 1999-2004.

Signed on October 22, 2003

The Second Five-Year Plan for Affiliation Agreement between Narashino City and Brisbane City Council 1999-2004 in relation to Yatsu Higata and Boondall Wetlands.

Signed on July 31, 2009

The Third Five-Year Plan for Affiliation Agreement between Narashino City and Brisbane City Council 1999-2004 in relation to Yatsu Higata and Boondall Wetlands.

Signed on February 13, 2017

**NOW**





## AFFILIATION AGREEMENT

between

THE CITY OF NARASHINO, CHIBA PREFECTURE, JAPAN

and the

BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA

in relation to

THE YATSU TIDELAND AND THE BOONDALL WETLANDS



25 FEBRUARY 1998

Wetlands are one of the most important global environments to be valued because of their biological diversity and high productivity. Despite recognition of the importance of various functions of wetlands for human society, loss, destruction, degradation and misuse of wetlands continue in many areas of the world.

Given the ever increasing pressure on wetlands, it is essential that local government and its local communities promote wetland conservation to maintain these delicate and fragile environments and to restore global wetlands to a pristine condition so that they may be passed on from generation to generation.

The East Asian-Australasian Shorebird Reserve Network was approved and inaugurated at the Sixth Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention held in Brisbane City in March 1996. This network suggests that cooperation between each country involved and collaboration between the wetlands is important for the preservation of wetlands and the protection of migratory shorebirds. Furthermore, Recommendation 6.3, adopted at the Sixth Ramsar Convention calls for the consideration of how local people should participate in the preservation of wetlands.

Brisbane City (Queensland, Australia) and Narashino City (Chiba Prefecture, Japan) support internationally important wetlands, including those registered under the Ramsar Convention and wetlands forming part of the East Asian-Australasian Shorebird Reserve Network. Both cities will strive to preserve their own wetlands and protect waterbirds. In addition, both cities are aware of the importance of working together with the local community to protect wetlands and have a deep understanding of the significance of projects for the preservation of those wetlands being undertaken in a sister wetland relationship.

In recognition of the importance of protecting wetlands and the migratory shorebirds which depend upon these wetlands, the City of Narashino and the City of Brisbane have reached the following agreement to:

1. Support joint research and the exchange of research and study information in relation to wetland preservation and the protection of migratory shorebirds.
2. Support the exchange and reciprocal training of persons involved in wetland protection.
3. Support the exchange of students to increase their awareness and understanding through educational programs of the importance of protecting the natural environment.
4. Support the development of domestic and international educational projects for the preservation of wetlands and the protection of migratory shorebirds.
5. Support exchange visits by members of their respective local communities.

The above activities are entered into in the spirit of mutual benefit.

It is for the confirmation of the above that both mayors hereby affix their signatures to declare the Affiliation Agreement established in Brisbane City on Wednesday February 25 1998.

ISAMU ARAKI  
MAYOR OF NARASHINO

JAMES SOORLEY  
LORD MAYOR OF BRISBANE

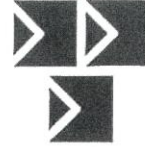


## Affiliation Agreement

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The First Five Year Plan  
for  
the Affiliation Agreement  
between the  
City of Narashino  
and the  
Brisbane City Council  
1999-2004



*4 March 1999*

Wetlands are one of the most important global environments to be valued because of their biological diversity and high productivity. Despite recognition of the importance of various functions of wetlands for human society, the loss, destruction, degradation and misuse of wetlands continues in many areas of the world.

In light of the ever-increasing pressure on wetlands, and in order to implement the conservation of wetlands and protection of migratory shorebirds through the involvement of the citizens of our two cities, an Affiliation Agreement was concluded on 25 February 1998.

The following goal, general objective and strategies have evolved to respond to the increasing concern and awareness of both cities and their citizens regarding the conservation of wetlands and the preservation of migratory shorebirds.

### 1. GOAL

Promote local wetland conservation initiatives, undertaken by Local Governments working with their communities, so that the delicate and fragile global wetland environments are restored and serve migratory birds and society from generation to generation.

### 2. GENERAL OBJECTIVE

Conserve the wetlands within the East-Asian Australasian Shorebird Reserve Network by:

- A. supporting the Convention of Wetlands International Importance (Ramsar Convention);
- B. working with and encouraging other Japanese and Australian Local Government Authorities to develop "twin" agreements with other wetlands

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- located in the East-Asian Australasian Shorebird Reserve Network:
- C. supporting initiatives of the City of Narashino, Brisbane City Council and the local community which aim to promote wetland conservation along the East-Asian Australasian Shorebird Reserve Network: and
- D. the City of Narashino and the Brisbane City Council using examples from this agreement to influence and promote wetland conservation.

### 3. STRATEGIES and ACTIONS

- 1) Support joint research and exchange of information in relation to wetland conservation and protection of migratory shorebirds in Brisbane and Narashino Cities to promote the recognition of international cooperation.

Action	Time-Frames
A. Exchange open letters from the Lord Mayor of Brisbane City and Mayor of the City of Narashino addressed to the Mayor and local communities which aim to communicate recent achievements under the Five Year Plan.	Annually, initial letter June 1999
B. Support research and exchange of information on migratory shorebirds: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Research and exchange of data on fly-ways;</li> <li>b) Research and exchange of data on birds with flags;</li> <li>c) Support for research and studies by local communities; and</li> <li>d) Support research being undertaken in both wetlands.</li> </ul>	Ongoing
C. Support the exchange of wetlands information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Exchange of bilingual videos introducing wetlands. (e.g. translate the Boondal Wetlands Website into Japanese);</li> <li>b) Exchange lists of people and organisations involved in wetland conservation;</li> <li>c) Translation of information and documents which are of importance in the wetlands' conservation; and</li> <li>d) Provide information on both wetlands in Japanese and English.</li> </ul>	Ongoing  March 1999
2) Support the exchange and reciprocal training of persons involved in wetland conservation to enrich environmental education and expand knowledge of wetland conservation.	





## Affiliation Agreement

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Action	Time-Frames
A. Investigate opportunities for relevant employees of Brisbane City Council and City of Narashino to share projects and experiences in wetland policy and planning.	Ongoing
3) Support the exchange of students to increase their awareness of wetland conservation and understanding through educational programs to increase society's sensitivity to nature, concern for the environment on a global level and increasing our ability to progressively improve the environment.	
Action	Time-Frames
A. Develop joint ventures with local primary, secondary and tertiary schools teaching Japanese and English for student exchanges.	Ongoing
B. Foster wetland conservation activities between primary school students.	Ongoing
C. Promote children's understanding of, and cooperation with, the RAMSAR convention.	Ongoing
4) Support the development of domestic and international education projects for the conservation of wetlands and protection of migratory shorebirds to expand international cooperation between the cities.	
Action	Time-Frames
A. Establish displays in both the Yatsuhigata Nature Observation Center and Boondall Wetlands Visitor Centre to introduce the wetlands to local communities.	End of 1999
B. Investigate opportunities for a year 2000 launch of a Migratory Birds Environmental Cultural Project, which aims to promote the Agreement and wetland conservation, as part of Yatsuhigata Day and Brisbane River Festival.	1999-Ongoing
C. Provide information locally, nationally and internationally about this Agreement and the Five Year Plan.	Ongoing
D. Provide a joint report to the office of RAMSAR Convention in 2004 (at the end of the first five-year term).	2004

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E. Encourage and cooperate with cities who have wetlands on the flyway network to form special wetlands' agreements. Ongoing

5) Support exchange visits by members of local communities to provide those communities with a place for international cooperation to raise international awareness about conservation of wetland and preservation of migratory shorebirds.

Action	Time-Frames
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A. Support exchange initiated by local communities.	Ongoing
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B. Encourage the exchange of visits by local community members through the development of a "home stay" program.	Ongoing
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This plan is agreed to in the spirit of mutual cooperation between the people of our two cities.

To confirm their endorsement of the First Five Year Plan for the Affiliation Agreement, as of 4 March 1999, both Mayors hereby inscribe their signatures.

JAMES SOORLEY  
LORD MAYOR OF BRISBANE

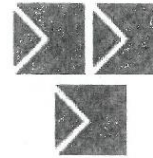
ISAMU ARAKI  
MAYOR OF NARASHINO



## Affiliation Agreement



The Second Five Year Plan  
for the  
**AFFILIATION AGREEMENT**  
between



**THE CITY OF NARASHINO, CHIBA PREFECTURE, JAPAN**  
and  
**BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA**  
in relation to  
**THE YATSU TIDELAND AND THE BOONDALL WETLANDS**

Wetlands are one of the most important global environments valued for their biological diversity and high productivity. Despite recognition of the importance of various functions of wetlands for human society, the loss, destruction, degradation and misuse of wetlands continues in many areas of the world. In light of the ever-increasing pressure on wetlands, and in order to implement the conservation of wetlands and protection of migratory shorebirds through the involvement of the citizens of our two cities, an Affiliation Agreement was finalised on 25 February 1998. The agreement was supported by the endorsement of the First Five Year Plan, a plan that has now been successfully completed.

Representatives of Brisbane and Narashino have agreed on engaging a Second Five Year Plan. The strategies have been revised to respond to increasing concern and awareness of both cities and their citizens regarding the conservation of wetlands and the preservation of migratory shorebirds.

*The key objective of the Second Five Year Plan is:*

**To promote and support both local and international wetland conservation initiatives so that delicate and fragile global wetland environments are restored to serve migratory birds and society from generation to generation.**

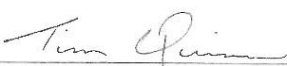
*Key strategies aimed at achieving this objective include:*


- Supporting the Convention of Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention);
- Initiate and support conservation initiatives along the East-Asian Australasian Shorebird Reserve Network.

*By affixing their signatures the Mayors of Brisbane and Narashino show their commitment to support:*

- Joint research and exchange of information in relation to wetland conservation and the protection of migratory shorebirds in both cities;
- The training of persons involved in wetland conservation to enrich environmental education and expand knowledge of wetland conservation;
- Information exchange between students to increase their awareness and understanding of wetland conservation which, in turn, will help to increase general sensitivity to nature, concern for the environment and the ability to progressively improve the environment;
- The development of domestic and international education projects focussing on the conservation of wetlands and protection of migratory shorebirds between both cities;
- Exchange visits by members of local communities to help reinforce cooperative partnerships and to raise international awareness about conservation of wetlands and the preservation of migratory shorebirds.

This Second Five-Year Plan for the Affiliation Agreement is agreed to in the spirit of mutual cooperation between the people of Brisbane and Narashino and to confirm their endorsement both Mayors hereby inscribe their signatures.

  
TIM QUINN  
LORD MAYOR OF BRISBANE

  
ISAMU ARAKI  
MAYOR OF NARASHINO

22nd October 2007  
DATE





## THE THIRD FIVE-YEAR PLAN

for the

## AFFILIATION AGREEMENT

between

THE CITY OF NARASHINO, CHIBA PREFECTURE, JAPAN

and

BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA

in relation to

YATSU HIGATA TIDELANDS AND BOONDALL WETLANDS

2009-2014



### BACKGROUND

Wetlands are one of the most important global environments valued for their biological diversity and high productivity. Despite recognition of the importance of various functions of wetlands for human society, the loss, destruction, degradation and misuse of wetlands continues in many areas of the world. In light of the ever-increasing pressure on wetlands, and in order to implement the conservation of wetlands and protection of migratory shorebirds through the involvement of the citizens of our two cities, an Affiliation Agreement was finalised on 25 February 1998. The agreement was supported by the First and Second Five-Year Plans that have now been successfully completed.

Representatives of Brisbane and Narashino have agreed on creating a Third Five-Year Plan with new actions to respond to increasing concern and awareness of both cities and their citizens regarding the conservation of wetlands and the protection of migratory shorebirds.

### STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS

#### Strategy 1

*"Raise awareness, understanding and appreciation of migratory shorebirds and wetlands with the intention of encouraging environmentally aware behaviours."*

#### Actions

1. Support environmental education through the centres' activities and programs.
2. Develop partnerships with local primary schools to support understanding and positive behaviour to conserve migratory shorebirds and wetlands and sharing of information and materials.
3. Promote understanding of the Ramsar convention and its objectives.
4. Brisbane and Narashino will hold an annual event (e.g. World Wetlands Day celebration in Brisbane and Yatsu Higata Day in Narashino) to raise awareness of wetland and shorebird conservation and to celebrate the environmental achievements of volunteers and staff in protecting wetlands, shorebirds and implementing the agreement. At each event there will be:
  - formal mention of the agreement
  - a display promoting the agreement and current activities
  - an activity to engage participants in the relationship
  - a memento/keepsake from the event to send to the other city's environment centre for display (e.g. video, guestbook, report, artwork, photos).
5. Cooperate with cities that have wetlands on the East Asian Australasian Flyway network by sharing information and providing support as requested.
6. Develop, maintain and update displays at Boondall Wetland Environment Centre (BWEC) and Yatsu Higata Nature Observation Centre (YHNOC) specific to migratory shorebirds and wetlands and rotate these through centres or facilities in both countries. The displays may:



## Affiliation Agreement

- promote this Affiliation Agreement
- provide information on the migratory shorebirds of Boondall Wetlands and Yatsu Higata Tidelands
- provide information and graphics on the East Asian Australasian Flyway used by the migratory shorebirds between Boondall Wetlands and the Yatsu Higata Tidelands

7. Support the training of staff and volunteers at BWEC and YHNOC in areas such as:

- environmental education
- wetland conservation
- migratory shorebird identification and protection
- cultural awareness
- community engagement.

### Strategy 2

*"Support the exchange of information in relation to wetland conservation and the protection of migratory shorebirds at Boondall Wetlands and Yatsu Higata Tidelands."*

#### Actions

1. Exchange relevant research, information and or resources on topics such as:
  - migratory shorebirds
  - wetlands
  - flora and fauna at Boondall Wetlands and Yatsu Higata Tidelands
  - habitat restoration/ bushcare
  - environmental programs
  - the impact of human activities on the above
  - methods of public education and interpretation
  - staff or volunteer training programs / manuals for BWEC and YHNOC (to share ideas on how to train and develop the skills of staff and volunteers)
  - monthly newsletters (i.e. the *Glider Gazette* and *The Birders*).
2. Investigate and support in principle opportunities to share projects and experiences in migratory shorebirds and wetland conservation.
3. Investigate the feasibility of video conferencing between YHNOC and BWEC (i.e. the ability to have live web exchange as part of the educational programs). This could facilitate experiential learning, create a stronger impression on participants and allow greater connection between the cities.

### Strategy 3

*"Maintain and enhance the relationship between Brisbane and Narashino's stakeholders to foster conservation of migratory shorebirds and wetlands".*

#### Actions

1. Seek to participate in regular exchange visits to support the agreement's strategies, preferably in accordance with the following guidelines:
  - a. Formal visits (i.e. Mayors, Councillors, Council staff)
    - once every two years for each city
    - support in arranging itinerary and activities by host city

Year	Brisbane visits Narashino	Narashino visits Brisbane
2009		X
2010	X	
2011		X
2012	X	
2013		X



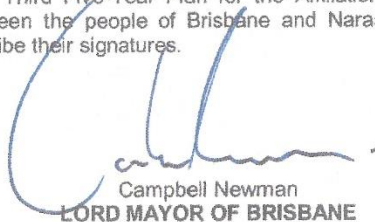
- b. Informal visits (i.e. volunteers)
    - once every two years (preferably in conjunction with formal visit)
    - limited support in arranging itinerary and activities by host city.
  - c. Visits are not mandatory and will depend on funding and support from current administration.
  - d. Endeavour to coordinate exchange visits with respective wetlands day to maximise the benefit of each visit (i.e. World Wetlands Day for Brisbane and Yatsu Higata Day for Narashino).
  - e. Where possible, support community volunteers in their fundraising activities for exchange visits.
2. Hold web exchanges in association with key events (e.g. Boondall Wetlands Celebration and Yatsu Higata Day) when resourcing permits.
  3. Create separate webpages in Brisbane and Narashino to provide worldwide access to the agreement and its aims and to assist in the conservation of wetlands and the protection of migratory shorebirds. The webpages will support the agreement actions and communicate activities of partners.
  4. Enhance relations between BWEC and YHNOC and their associated community volunteers and groups.

### ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

1. Monitoring will be based on confirmation that each action has been achieved.
2. Funding is conditioned on normal annual budget approval processes.

### EXECUTION BY THE PARTIES

This Third Five-Year Plan for the Affiliation Agreement is agreed to in the spirit of mutual cooperation between the people of Brisbane and Narashino and to confirm their endorsement both Mayors hereby inscribe their signatures.



Campbell Newman  
LORD MAYOR OF BRISBANE

Date:



Isamu Araki  
MAYOR OF NARASHINO

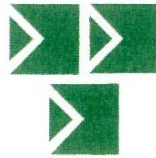
Date:

31/07/09





## Affiliation Agreement



**THE LONG-TERM PLAN (DRAFT) for the AFFILIATION AGREEMENT**  
between **THE CITY OF NARASHINO, CHIBA PREFECTURE, JAPAN**  
and **BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA**  
in relation to **YATSU HIGATA TIDELANDS AND BOONDALL WETLANDS**

### BACKGROUND

Wetlands are one of the most important global environments, valued for their biological diversity and high productivity. Despite recognition of the importance of various functions of wetlands for human society, the loss, destruction and misuse of wetlands continues in many areas of the world. In light of the ever-increasing pressure on wetlands, and in order to implement the conservation of wetlands and protection of migratory shorebirds through the involvement of the citizens of our two cities, an Affiliation Agreement was finalised on 25 February 1998. The agreement was supported by the First, Second and Third Five-Year Plans that have now been successfully completed.

Representatives of Brisbane and Narashino have agreed to ongoing actions to respond to increasing concern and awareness of both cities and their citizens regarding the conservation of wetlands and the protection of migratory shorebirds.

### STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS

#### STRATEGY 1

*"Support the exchange of information in relation to wetland conservation and the protection of migratory shorebirds at Boondall Wetlands and Yatsu Higata Tidelands."*

#### ACTIONS

1. Boondall Wetlands Environment Centre (BWEC) and Yatsu Higata Nature Observation Centre (YHNOC) will advocate for the exchange of relevant information on topics such as:
  - animals and plants in Boondall Wetlands and Yatsu Higata Tidelands
  - habitat restoration and bushcare techniques.

Information transfer will be further supported through the exchange of BWEC and YHNOC newsletters, displays and publications for display at public libraries and centres.

2. Support the exchange of research and information and activities by government and non-government organisations such as Japan Wild Bird Association in Chiba Prefecture and Queensland Wader Study Group, Queensland.



### STRATEGY 2

*"Support staff and volunteers to ensure they are effective advocates for the environment, wetlands and shorebirds within the wider community."*

#### ACTIONS

1. Support the training of staff and volunteers at BWEC and YHNOC to ensure they understand the agreement and the importance of protecting migratory shorebirds and their habitat.
2. Support staff and volunteers in BWEC and YHNOC and their activities by:
  - development and delivery of environmental programs for schools and the general public
  - publishing newsletters and communication materials
  - program promotion and communications relating to the agreement
  - promoting voluntary work at YHNOC and BWEC.
3. Support BWEC and YHNOC volunteers and groups associated with the agreement to build stronger networking and relationships.

### STRATEGY 3

*"Support the conservation of wetlands and protection of migratory shorebirds by engaging stakeholders and community both internally and externally around the international agreement".*

#### ACTIONS

1. Promote the importance of wetlands and migratory shorebirds through the programs delivered by BWEC and YHNOC in partnership with stakeholders.
2. Agree to provide web pages that will acknowledge the agreement, provide links to agreement partner websites, continue to raise awareness of issues facing the survival of migratory shorebirds and promote participation in organised activities.
3. Undertake strategies and actions to limit interference with shorebirds and their habitats.
4. Hold an annual event or a series of smaller events to raise awareness of wetland and shorebird conservation. These events will principally include the provision and promotion of:
  - the Ramsar convention, formal mention of this agreement and its objectives
  - information on the migratory shorebirds of Boondall Wetlands and Yatsu Higata Tidelands
  - a schedule of activities the community can participate in
  - information and graphics on the East Asian-Australasian Flyway used by the migratory shorebirds between Boondall Wetlands and the Yatsu Higata Tidelands.

A memento/keepsake from the event will be sent to the other city's environment centre for display (e.g. video, guestbook, report, artwork, photos).
5. Develop, maintain and update displays at BWEC and YHNOC specific to migratory shorebirds and wetlands and rotate these through centres or facilities in both countries.
6. Regularly communicate and share observation records with local schools and other community members.



## Affiliation Agreement

### STRATEGY 4

*"Maintain and enhance the relationship between Brisbane, Narashino and other international stakeholders to foster the conservation of migratory shorebirds and wetlands".*


### ACTIONS

1. Seek to participate in regular exchange visits and communications to support the agreement's strategies. Preferably in accordance with the following guidelines.
  - a. Both cities support voluntary visits by centre staff, volunteers and citizens from groups involved in the agreement. Visits are not mandatory and will depend on funding and support from current administration. In case regular exchange visits are not possible, either city will provide advice to the other party for alternative programs. If visits are not possible, the exchange of information can be facilitated by internet appointments (i.e. Skype).
  - b. Via the use of social media and the web, provide opportunities for staff, school students and citizens to connect and participate in dialog about the protection of wetlands and migratory shorebirds.
  - c. Cooperate with cities that have wetlands on the East Asian-Australasian Flyway network by sharing information and providing support as requested.

### ADMINISTRATION ARRANGEMENTS

1. Monitoring will be based on confirmation that each action has been achieved.
2. Reports will be exchanged every three years sharing achievements and outlining actions for the following three years.
3. Funding is conditioned on normal annual budget approval processes.
4. The long-term affiliation agreement will continue up until a time one of the parties requires a change to the arrangement. When a change is required the relevant party will propose alternative agreement details.

This Long-Term Plan for the Affiliation Agreement is agreed to in the spirit of mutual cooperation between the people of Brisbane and Narashino and to confirm their endorsement both Mayors hereby inscribe their signatures.



Graham Quirk  
LORD MAYOR OF BRISBANE  
Date



Taisuke Miyamoto  
MAYOR OF NARASHINO  
Date







## Appendix

### <Chronological Table>

June 10, 1993	Yatsu Higata was designated as a Ramsar Site at COP5. COP5:Kushiro city Hokkaido
Oct. 22, 1993	Moreton Bay including Boondall Wetlands was designated a Ramsar Site.
July 1, 1994	Yatsu Higata Nature Observation Center (YNOC) opened.
June 27, 1995	The Australian Government suggested to Japan having a second cooperating-relation between wetlands, following Kushiro Wetlands and Kooragang Wetlands at the eighth consultative meeting of Japan-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement. Kushiro Wetland and Coolagang Wetland have already engaged in wetland exchange.
July 19, 1995	Ministry of the Environment of Japan sounded out City of Narashino out about the suggestion from Australia.
Feb. 24, 1996	Representatives from Australia (Four members including the head of Department of Environment and Conservation) visited Narashino City to inspect Yatsu Higata and talked with the mayor of Narashino. City official responded that they would consider after attending COP6 held at Brisbane.
Mar. 16, 1996	Boondall Wetlands Environment Centre opened.
Mar. 22-27, 1996	The delegation from Japan attended COP6 and the launch ceremony of East Asian-Australasian Shorebird Reserve Network. Inspected Boondall Wetlands and discussed affiliation between wetlands.
Nov. 13-16, 1996	The mission including Deputy Mayor of Brisbane visited Narashino to attend Local Government Exchange Seminar held in Japan. They inspected YNOC and City of Narashino entrusted them an official letter to Mayor of Brisbane City.
May. 15-17, 1997	The delegation including Deputy Mayor of Brisbane visited Narashino and handled a formal letter from Mayor of Brisbane.
June 8, 1997	Yatsu Higata Day was established.
Nov. 5-9, 1997	The manager of the Environment department of Narashino official and the Chief of YNOC visited Brisbane.
Feb. 23-27, 1998	The Mayor of Narashino and some members had a visitation to Brisbane. Affiliation Agreement was signed on 25th Feb.
June 5-10, 1998	Councillors from Brisbane visited Narashino to discuss and establish The First Five-Year Plan for Affiliation Agreement.
July 17, 1998	The Deputy Mayor and some members visited at Narashino and discussed about the First Five-Year Plan.
Jan. 9-16, 1999	The Chief of YNOC and some staffs went to Brisbane to consult on The First Five-Year Plan for Affiliation Agreement. They also held a bird carving class and experienced paddling canoes and wetlands-conservation works.



Mar. 4, 1999	The First Five-Year Plan for Affiliation Agreement between City of Narashino and Brisbane City Council was signed by email.
Sep. 16, 1999	Officials from the Australian Government came to Narashino and inspected Yatsu Higata.
Jan. 8-15, 2000	The head of YNOC visited Brisbane and experienced conservation of wetlands.
June 9-12, 2000	Staffs from City of Brisbane visited Narashino. They participated Yatsu Higata Day events. A ceremony which enlights the launch of Children's Waterfowl Network was held. Bird carvings were made by school children of Brisbane and Narashino and they were sent to 25 wetlands in the world with their messages.
June 8-13, 2001	Councillors and others from Brisbane visited Narashino and joined Yatsu Higata Day event, and discussed about Children's Waterfowl Network.
Sep. 28 - Oct. 3, 2001	Volunteers from YNOC visited Brisbane to hold bird carving and origami (Japanese traditional art of paper folding) lessons. They also attended a benthos survey and offered flowers at the monument of Anne Beasley.
Feb.2, 2002	Anne Beasley's Lookout opened.
Mar. 21, 2002	Professor Itayama from the University of Tsukuba visited Brisbane and surveyed water and mud quality in Boondall Wetlands.
June 8-10, 2002	Councillors from Brisbane came to Narashino on Yatsu Higata Day and visited Yatsu-minami Elementary School. Education Cooperation Memorandum (Draft) was signed.
Aug. 28-29, 2002	Brisbane City Councillors visited Narashino and requested the attendance to the Asian-Pacific City Summit in Brisbane which was scheduled in 2003.
Nov. 8-14, 2002	Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba visited Brisbane and took part in banding survey conducted by QWSG.
June 5-9, 2003	Councillors from Brisbane attended Yatsu Higata Day events and discussed the Second Five-Year Plan for Affiliation Agreement.
Oct. 19-23, 2003	Mayor, Chairperson of City Council and others from Narashino visited Brisbane and attended the Asia-Pacific City Summit. The Second Five-Year Plan for Affiliation Agreement and Education Cooperation Memorandum were signed.
June 1-7, 2004	City Councillors from Brisbane came to Narashino and celebrated Yatsu Higata Day and the 50th anniversary of Narashino's municipality. They inspected some facilities of the city. Local schools in Brisbane and Narashino interacted online.
July 29-Aug.1, 2004	The former Mayor of Brisbane came on a visit to the Mayor of Narashino and inspected Yatsu Higata.





## Appendix

Oct. 1-6, 2004	Volunteers from YNOC visited Brisbane and paid a courtesy call on the mayor of Brisbane city. They also planted trees and held origami lessons.
Nov. 4, 2004	Students in Yatsu-minami Elementary School and Earnshaw State College interacted online and shared what they learned about their wetlands.
May 16-17, 2005	The Deputy Mayor and others from Brisbane visited Narashino to meet the Mayor and discussed the plan about presenting the Rose which is the flower of Narashino City to Brisbane.
June 5, 2005	The Mayors and citizens of both cities and Brisbane councillors had an online exchange.
Oct. 14-18, 2005	Wild Bird Society of Japan Chiba visited Mayor of Brisbane city and held workshops with QWSG.
Feb. 3-8, 2006	YNOC Rangers and staffs of Narashino official visited Brisbane and attended events of World Wetlands Day. The Rose of Narashino City was presented to Brisbane.
June 8-12, 2006	Brisbane City Councillors joined Yatsu Higata Day and visited Yatsu-minami Elementary School.
Oct. 2, 2006	Students and teachers from Earnshaw State College came to Yatsu-minami Elementary School and inspected Yatsu Higata. They also visited Mt. Fuji, the highest mountain in Japan.
April 1, 2007	YNOC introduced designated administrator system. Urban Nature Management Service Limited Liability Business Association (the first phase).
Feb. 1-6, 2008	The head of YNOC and others visited Brisbane and run some events at the festival of World Wetlands Day.
Feb. 25, 2008	The 10 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of Affiliation Agreement between Narashino and Brisbane.
Feb. 7-11, 2009	The Superintendent of Narashino City Municipal Board of Education and staffs visited Brisbane to discuss the Third Five-Year Plan.
May 30-June 9, 2009	The president of QWSG and some members visited Narashino on Yatsu Higata Day and discussed the flyway survey of Grey-tailed Tattler.
July 31, 2009	The Third Five-Year Plan was signed by mail.
April 1, 2010	The designated administrator of YNOC changed. Urban Nature Management Service Co.(the second phase)
Oct. 23-28, 2010	Ms Oyama YNOC ranger visited Brisbane for staff training and inspected BWEC, NBEEC and Earnshaw State College. She also inspected around Brisbane City and visited wintering places of migratory shorebirds.



Feb. 23 - Mar.2, 2011	YNOC volunteers visited Brisbane on World Wetlands Day and discussed the geolocator study of Grey-tailed Tattler's flyway. They paid a courtesy call on the Mayor of Brisbane.
Mar. 6, 2011	The Flyway survey of Grey-tailed Tattler using geolocator launched.
Mar. 30, 2011	Junior volunteers at Yatsu Higata, Boondall Wetlands, Fujimae Higata in Aichi prefecture, Japan and Swan Bay Wetlands in Geelong City in Australia held an online meeting and made presentations about their activities.
Nov. 23, 2011	An online meetup that connects Yatsu Higata, Fujimae Higata and Yonago Waterbirds Sanctuary in Japan and Students in Earnshaw State College was held.
May 3, 2012	YNOC and QWEC shared information about their conservation virtually and enjoyed the sound of the didgeridoo played by Mr Danny Drill.
July 31, 2012	A Grey-tailed Tattler with a Queensland State flag (JN) which was banded in Brisbane on Sep. 5 2009, was recorded at Yatsu Higata.
Aug. 12, 2012	A Turnstone banded with a Queensland State flag (HB) came flying to Yatsu Higata. The flag was marked in Brisbane on 3 April 2011.
Aug. 16-21, 2012	Staffs of Brisbane City visited Narashino and attended an event.
April 9, 2013	A Bar-tailed Godwit with a flag of Queensland State (BCC) which was put on it on 13 Jan. 2013, was recorded at Yatsu Higata.
May 1, 2013	Y&B Wetland Exchange Society launched by volunteers.
Aug. 24, 2013	As an event of Yatsu Higata Day, volunteers and citizens tied 17,000 handkerchiefs with messages written on including comments from Mayor and rangers of Brisbane and circled Yatsu Higata.
Oct. 23-30, 2013	YNOC volunteers visited Brisbane to celebrate the 20th anniversary since Boondall Wetlands was designated as a Ramsar site.
April 1, 2015	The designated administrator of YNOC changed. Yatsu Higata Wise Use Partners (the third phase)
May 23-26, 2015	Staffs from Brisbane paid a courtesy call on the Mayor of Narashino and visited Yatsu-minami Elementary School. The Long-Term action strategy between the two cities was discussed.
May 2015	The flyway survey of the Grey-tailed Tattler's flyway using geolocator was finished.
Mar. 2016	The report of the Grey-tailed Tattler was issued and the survey concluded.



## Appendix

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May 6, 2016	A Gey-tiled Tattler with a flag of Queensland (ARK) which was banded on 27 October 2013 in Brisbane, was recorded at Yatsu Higata.
Oct. 21-24, 2016	Volunteers from YNOC visited Brisbane to attend the 20 <sup>th</sup> anniversary ceremony of BWEC.
Feb. 11-14, 2017	Mayor of Narashino and some members visited Brisbane to sign the Long-Term Plan.
Sep. 8-11, 2017	Brisbane City staffs and others paid a courtesy call on Mayor of Narashino. They also joined a census of Oriental Reed Warblers' nesting and held Information share meeting (public symposium).
Feb. 25, 2018	20th anniversary of Affiliation Agreement between Narahino and Brisbane.





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# Afterword

We were able to publish NARASHINO & BRISBANE 20TH ANNIVERSARY in virtue of many people involved with Narashino and Brisbane's wetland exchange.

We were able to shed light on the history of our 20-year exchange by investigating past documents, interviewing people involved with exchanges, and arranging photographs according to the timeline.

The photographs shown in this booklet are only a small portion of the many photographs of our long relationship.

However, we feel that it is enough to think about the passionate feelings of the people who have been involved in this exchange and the deep bonds that have been nurtured between nations. We need to pass this precious experience on to the next generation. We hope that this commemorative booklet, which traces the history of 20 years of exchange, will be used for future wetland exchanges.

We would like to finish by saying thank you to all of those involved in the publication of the commemorative booklet.

March, 2018

City of Narashino

### NARASHINO & BRISBANE 20TH ANNIVERSARY

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