

Unveiling of the plaque commemorating the Japanese midget submarine attack

On 28 May, Dr Kohara attended the public unveiling of the plaque commemorating the 70th anniversary of Japanese midget submarine attack and the wreck of the M24 submarine which lies off the Pittwater coast.

The Consul-General paid tribute to those who lost their lives and expressed his deep sense of remorse for the suffering inflicted. He stated how moved he was when he first learnt of the great kindness shown by Australians at the time giving the Japanese sailors who died in the attack funerals with full naval honours.



AJS of NSW Awards for university students and talk

On 11 July, Dr Kohara gave a talk entitled The Japan-Australia Partnership in the Asia-Pacific at the Australia-Japan Society of NSW awards.

He proceeded his remarks by congratulating the recipients of the awards and commending AJS for holding the awards. The AJS university awards aim to support and encourage a new generation of Japanese speakers.

Opening of Ken Done Exhibition

On 18 May, Dr Kohara attended the opening of the Ken Done Exhibition ATTACK: Japanese Midget Submarines in Sydney Harbour at the Mosman Art Gallery. In his speech on the night, Dr Kohara said how he admired Mr Done taking on such difficult themes and how viewing the artworks made him wonder how he would have acted had he been born then, reflecting that he was fortunate to live in today's world when Australia and Japan share such a friendly and peaceful relationship.



Opening of the exhibition JAPAN: Kingdom of Characters in Darwin

The Consul-General took great pleasure opening the first -ever exhibition presented by the Japan Foundation in the Northern Territory. The exhibition showcased famous manga and animé characters that have been such a significant part of Japanese culture since the 50s.

He cut the ribbon together with Chief Minister of the Northern Territory, the Hon. Paul Henderson MLA, and Mr Nao Endo, Director of the Japan Foundation Sydney, on 14 June. Somehow, even when only half in the picture, Hello Kitty steals the scene.



Consul-General Kohara's activities

Consul-General Awards

Mrs Kazuko Chalker [second right], President of the Japan Club in Sydney, and Mr Yoshio Miyashita [second left], former club president, were presented with 'Consul-General Awards' by Dr Masahiro Kohara, Consul-General of Japan of Sydney, on 20 April. The awards were in recognition of dedicated service promoting mutual understanding and friendship between Australia and Japan.

The Japan Club of Sydney was established in 1983. www.japanclubofsydney.org



Rebuilding Tohoku Photo Exhibition University of Wollongong

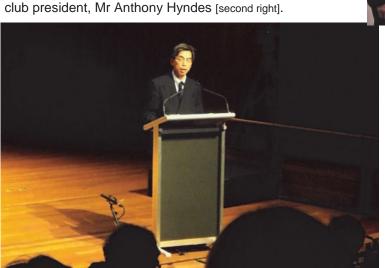
Dr Rowena Ward, convenor of the Japanese language program at the University of Wollongong, arranged for an exhibition held by the consulate in March and April this year at Customs House Sydney to travel to UOW. Extra photos were contributed by Dr Ward and two UOW students which they took during their visit to the Tohoku region on the JENESYS program in December 2011.

On 21 May, Dr Kohara attended the opening of the exhibition at the UOW library. He is pictured here with Dr Ward [right] and the Vice-Chancellor of UOW, Professor Paul Wellings [left]. Earlier that day at the university he gave a lecture on Australia-Japan relations.



On 6 July, Consul-General Kohara attended a charity luncheon held by the APRU Golden Oldies to raise funds for the Australian and Japanese Police Legacy Funds. In October, the Golden Oldies rugby team will tour Japan. This will be the first-ever tour by an Australian police team to Japan. The aim is to create friendships and show support for the families of fallen officers in Australia and Japan.

Dr Kohara with members of the Golden Oldies, including





6th Inoue Yasushi Award

Consul-General Kohara attended the 6th Inoue Yasushi Award Ceremony held at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music on 1 June 2012. The recipient of this year's award was Associate Professor Edwina Palmer, Victoria University, Wellington, New Zealand.

The Inoue Yasushi Award for Outstanding Research in Japanese Literature in Australia and New Zealand is presented annually for the best refereed journal or book chapter published during the previous year by a researcher based in Australia or, from 2012, New Zealand.

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Kohara's activities

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Australian Police Rugby Union Golden Oldies Committee Fundraiser

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Dr Kohara with members of the Golden Oldies, including club president, Mr Anthony Hyndes [second right].



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