

# Consul-General's Activities

## HMAS Kuttabul Memorial Service

On Friday 31 May, Consul-General Kohara attended the 71st memorial service commemorating the attack on Sydney Harbour when Japanese midget submarines killed 21 young Australian and British sailors on-board HMAS Kuttabul. The ceremony also recognised the six Japanese submariners who died.



*The Hon. Andrew Stoner MP, Deputy Premier of New South Wales, gave the congratulatory greeting at the 2013 CLAIR Forum, held in Sydney on 5 August. Consul-General Kohara attended the forum and was pleased that it was so well attended in this important anniversary year. The past 50 years of Australia-Japan sister-city relationships were reflected upon and ways to further develop these ties were discussed during the forum.*



*The Hon. Julie Bishop MP, Deputy Leader of the Federal Opposition, with Consul-General Kohara on 29 April*



*The Hon. Katrina Hodgkinson MP, NSW Minister for Primary Industries and Minister for Small Business, and the Governor of Wakayama Prefecture, Mr Yoshinobu Nisaka [left] with Consul-General Masahiro Kohara at a reception held on 7 May at his official residence to promote Wakayama Food and World Heritage*

## Mrs Tazuko McLaren recognised for her contribution to Australia-Japan exchange

Based in Lismore in northern NSW, Mrs Tazuko McLaren has been very active promoting understanding between Japan and Australia over many years. At Southern Cross University, she helped establish the Father Tony Glynn Japanese Centre and she has assisted with the organisation of multiple tours to Japan by the Lismore choir, Isabella a Cappella. Dr Kohara presented Mrs McLaren with her commendation on 3 June after a concert at his residence by the choir.



## Recognising exchange through sport: Mr Hiromasa Sano and Mr Shinji Ono

A shared love of sports can be a great way to foster friendship between people.

At a dinner on 31 May, Dr Kohara was pleased to be able to recognise the contribution of long-term Sydney resident, Mr Hiromasa Sano [left], who has promoted exchange through sport over many years. This includes his key role organising last October's inaugural tour of Japan by the Golden Oldies, an Australian Police Force rugby team. The tour aimed to create friendships and show support for the families of fallen officers in Australia and Japan.



On 23 April, the Consul-General hosted a dinner for a much more recent Sydney resident, Mr Shinji Ono, and several other members of the Western Sydney Wanderers football club. Mr Ono's role in fostering a new link of friendship between Australian and Japanese was acknowledged.



## Urasenke Tankokai grandmaster in Sydney

Dr Kohara watches on as Dr Genshitsu Sen (Soshitsu XV) performs the tea ceremony at Sydney's Australian National Maritime Museum on 6 June. The Urasenke Tankokai Sydney Chapter was established by Dr Sen in 1973 when he was head of the Urasenke school, a position now held by his son, Soshitsu XVI.

The following day, Dr Sen performed a tea ceremony in memory of the war dead aboard a NSW Police vessel at sea. The ceremony for peace took place above a midget submarine of the former Japanese navy, sunk during World War II.