

## A message from the Deputy Consul- General

*Dear Readers,*

This issue of our newsletter once again shows the breadth and depth of exchange between Japan and NSW. In particular it is wonderful to see three people from NSW being recognised with Foreign Minister's Commendations for their contribution to our friendship.

There are so many events that occur in NSW and the NT that we can't possibly cover them all in this newsletter, and I would like to encourage you to visit our website where we regularly post about events that the Consul-General attends or hosts. You can also follow us on Facebook—we often share information about upcoming events that we think will be of interest.

A final quick note: Japan Matsuri in Sydney will be held at Darling Harbour on Saturday 8 December and the Consulate will have a booth there. We hope to see you at the festival enjoying the many activities and performances the Matsuri Committee is planning.

*Hideaki Matsuo*

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## International Law Association

On 20 August, Consul-General Keizo Takewaka hosted a reception for attendees of the 78th Biennial International Law Association (ILA) Conference that was being held in Sydney (19-24 August).

The reception was graced by eminent members of the legal profession. Following the Consul-General's welcome, the speakers were Judge Shunji Yanai, President of the International Law Association, Japan Branch, The Rt Hon. The Lord Mance, Chair of the International Law Association, and Judge Yuji Iwasawa, Judge of the International Court of Justice. The Hon. Justice Margaret Beazley AO, President of the NSW Court of Appeal, proposed the toast, and later Dr Christopher Ward SC, President of the International Law Association, gave the closing remarks.

Established in 1873, the ILA is a non-governmental organisation which promotes the study and development of international law, as well as international understanding of and respect for international law.

The 79th ILA Conference will be held in Kyoto in 2020.



The Hon. Justice Margaret Beazley, Consul-General Keizo Takewaka, Dr Christopher Ward SC, Judge Yuji Iwasawa, Rt Hon. The Lord Mance, and Judge Shunji Yanai, President of the International Law Association, Japan Branch [left to right]

## Japanese wagyu beef returns to Australia



Parliamentary Vice-Minister Ryouzuke Kouzuki of the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) [fourth from left] came to Sydney especially for the launch event

On 20 August, the “Japanese Wagyu Beef Relaunch Reception” was held in Sydney. The Japanese Parliamentary Vice-Minister Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Mr Ryouzuke Kouzuki, flew into Sydney to promote Japanese wagyu beef in Australia.

During the reception, Parliamentary Vice-Minister Kouzuki, along with Consul-General Keizo Takewaka and the Hon. Victor Dominello MP, NSW Minister for Finance, Services and Property, took part in *kagami-biraki*, the ceremonial breaking open of sake barrels followed by a toast.

Parliamentary Vice-Minister Kouzuki personally served those present, and guests sampled Japanese wagyu beef steak and the dish *shabu-shabu* using thin slices of top quality wagyu.