

Consul-General Kiya attends Memorial Service for the Sinking of HMAS *Kuttabul*



Photos courtesy of RAN

On 1 June, Consul-General Kiya Masahiko attended the Memorial Service for the Sinking of HMAS *Kuttabul* held at the HMAS *Kuttabul* naval base on Sydney Harbour. Seventy-eight years ago, in the evening of 31 May through to dawn of 1 June 1942, Japanese Imperial Navy midget submarines attacked Sydney Harbour killing 21 Australian and British sailors. Six Japanese submariners also lost their lives.

The memorial service, conducted on a smaller scale than usual due to COVID-19, was held in honour of the Australian and Japanese victims, and Consul-General Kiya laid a wreath as the representative of the Japanese Government.

In a recent newsletter (no.17) entitled ‘HMAS *Kuttabul* and the Midget Submarines in Sydney – “We will remember them.”’, Consul-General Kiya describes the memorial service itself and invites readers to reflect with him upon the Japanese Imperial Navy midget submarine attack on Sydney Harbour, its history through to the present day and the significance of this.

www.sydney.au.emb-japan.go.jp/document/CGKiya_17newsE.pdf Change the ‘E’ to ‘J’ for Japanese language.

Consul-General Kiya visits Cowra

On 25 and 26 June, Consul-General Kiya paid his first official visit to the New South Wales’ town of Cowra, where he was guided around key sites and learnt about their historical significance.

His visit began at the Australian and Japanese War Cemeteries where he laid wreaths at both cemeteries with the Mayor of Cowra, Cr Bill West. The Consul-General took the opportunity to express his heartfelt gratitude to Australians and the Council for taking care of the place over so many years.



Among the locations visited was the beautiful Cowra Japanese Garden and Cultural Centre. The Consul-General learnt about the wealth of people-to-people exchanges between Cowra and Japan and had excellent discussions with the chairman and directors of the Garden and Mayor West to further promote exchanges toward the future.

[Cowra Japanese War Cemetery online database](#)
[Cowra Japanese Garden and Cultural Centre](#)
[Cowra Voices](#)

www.cowrajapanesecemetery.org
www.cowragarden.com.au
cowravoces.wordpress.com

The Cowra Japanese Garden appreciates donations to sustain its operations as it lost public admission charges for three months due to the COVID-19 crisis and was financially significantly affected.

Photos of the Consul-General’s visits and Consulate events are regularly uploaded to our website and Facebook.

Facebook: CGJSYD www.sydney.au.emb-japan.go.jp

Consul-General Kiya’s official Twitter account—www.twitter.com/CGJapanSydney