

Celebrating the contributions of NSW residents



On 16 February, **Mr Matsunaga Yoshiaki** received the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays from Consul General Kiya Masahiko.

Mr Matsunaga was among the 2020 Spring Imperial Decorations announced in April 2020; the actual conferment ceremony was delayed due to COVID-19. At long last, there was the opportunity for this important achievement to be acknowledged at the official residence of the Consul-General. Mr Matsunaga's family was present to mark the happy occasion with him.

Mr Matsunaga received the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays **in recognition of his services to the promotion of Japanese culture.**

Since becoming President of the Chado Urasenke Tankokai Sydney Association in 2007, he has led the Association as it has provided a wide range of opportunities for people in Sydney and around Australia to experience *chado* (Japanese tea ceremony) and has in this way contributed greatly to the promotion of Japanese culture as well as the promotion of goodwill and friendship between Japan and Australia.

On 10 March, Consul-General Kiya visited the Jun Pacific Office and presented the proprietor, **Mr Funayama Seijiro**, the Foreign Minister's Commendation award.

Mr Funayama received the Foreign Minister's Commendation in **recognition of his services to the promotion of Japanese food culture in Australia.**

As a Japanese wholesaler, Mr Funayama has contributed to the distribution of Japanese food products for more than 40 years, through the management of Jun Pacific Corporation and the Japanese food store "Tokyo Mart", laying the foundations of the Japanese food market throughout Australia by maintaining continued sales, and by efforts such as promoting understanding of Japanese food and food products.



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](https://twitter.com/CGJapanSydney)

Consul-General Kiya's newsletter

Consul-General Kiya writes a regular online newsletter. The purpose of the e-newsletter is to introduce various activities he engages in as Consul-General and to share some of his thoughts and feelings as he goes about his duties.

He hopes that through these newsletters more people will learn about the multi-faceted connections between Australia and Japan. Since the last issue, he has written on the following topics:

- No.37 **Japan-Australia Exchange - Coming together for areas affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake** (March 26, 2021)
- No.36 **Australia-Japan school exchange: "Tomodachi 2021" program leads to further expansion** (March 19, 2021)
- No.35 **Darwin and Japan: the Ties of History, Business and Security** (March 4, 2020)
- No.34 **Consular work during COVID-19** (February 18, 2020)

All previous issues are available online: www.sydney.au.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/about_consul_generals_newsletter.html

Also available in the Japanese-language original: www.sydney.au.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_ja/about_consul_generals_newsletter.html