

Press Release

29 April 2017

The Conferral of the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star upon Ambassador Phillip Gibson

The Government of Japan announced on April 29th the foreign recipients of the 2017 Spring Decorations. On this occasion, Ambassador Phillip Gibson, Special Envoy for Disaster Risk Management, Special Adviser and Director Christchurch of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, will be bestowed the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star in recognition of his contributions towards promoting the friendship and mutual understanding between Japan and New Zealand.

Ambassador Gibson has been contributing to the deepening of diplomatic ties and understanding towards Japan in New Zealand *in* various capacities including as former Chief Executive of the Asia 2000 Foundation (now Asia New Zealand Foundation) Ambassador of New Zealand to Japan, New Zealand Commissioner General for the Aichi World Expo, as well as other Ambassadorial collaboration and initiatives. He also provided invaluable assistance to Japan and towards Japanese citizens and their families affected by the 2011 Canterbury Earthquakes. Through such activities, Ambassador Gibson has made a significant contribution towards enhancing the mutual friendship between Japan and New Zealand.

Decoration: The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star

Service: Promoting the friendship and mutual understanding
between Japan and New Zealand

Name of recipient: Ambassador Phillip Gibson

Major Titles:

- Former Chief Executive of the Asia 2000 New Zealand Foundation

- Former Ambassador Plenipotentiary and Extraordinary of New Zealand to Japan
- Former NZ Commissioner General for the Aichi World Expo
- Special Envoy for Disaster Risk Management, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Special Adviser and Director Christchurch, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Press Release

29 April 2017

The Conferral of the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette upon Mrs. Adrienne Staples

The Government of Japan announced on April 29th the foreign recipients of the 2017 Spring Decorations. On this occasion, Mrs. Adrienne Staples, Councillor of the Greater Wellington Regional Council, will be bestowed the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette in recognition of her contributions towards promoting the friendship and mutual understanding between Japan and New Zealand.

Mrs. Staples has been contributing to the deepening of ties between Japan and New Zealand, as well as promote understanding towards Japan in New Zealand as the former Mayor of South Wairarapa. She encouraged local and national participation in the annual memorial ceremony in remembrance of the Featherston Incident, in which both the local Japanese and New Zealand community together remembered a common juncture in history where Japanese and New Zealand lives were lost. She also fostered mutual exchanges and understanding between Japan and New Zealand at the grass-roots level by strongly supporting the hosting of biannual visits by the Chor Farmer Male Voice Choir. Through such activities, Mrs. Staples has made a significant contribution towards enhancing the mutual friendship between Japan and New Zealand.

Decoration: The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette

Service: Promoting the friendship and mutual understanding

between Japan and New Zealand

Name of recipient: Mrs. Adrienne Staples

Major Titles:

- Former Mayor of South Wairarapa

- Councillor, Greater Wellington Regional Council