



# CONSULATE UPDATES

## Emperor's Birthday Reception

On 18 February, the 2026 Emperor's Birthday Reception was held at the Consul-General's Official Residence. We were very pleased to welcome Her Excellency The Honourable Dr Jeannette Young AC PSM, Governor of Queensland, The Honourable Ros Bates MP, Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training (Representing the Premier of Queensland), The Right Honourable Cr Adrian Schrinner, Lord Mayor of Brisbane, Queensland MPs, and friends of Japan in Queensland. In his remarks, Consul-General talked about peace, diplomacy and economic ties, also referencing the two historic milestones that symbolise the depth and strength of Japan and Australia's bilateral relationship, the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Basic Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between Japan and Australia, and the 130th anniversary of the opening of the first Japanese consulate in Australia, which was established in Townsville in 1896.



The Hon Ros Bates MP, Professor Nimmo, Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young AC PSM, Consul-General ISHIKAWA and the Right Honourable Cr Adrian Schrinner.

## Visit to Redland City

On 12 February Consul-General ISHIKAWA was very kindly invited by Redland City Council for a tour of key sites, including beautiful Raby Bay Harbour, Indigiscapes and Sirromet Winery. Consul-General met with Deputy-Mayor Julie Talty and Councillors, learning about Redland City's developing economy and its growing tourism, health care and construction sectors. The Consul-General of Japan in Brisbane would like to thank Redland City Council for their kind invitation. We sincerely hope for their continued growth and the development of further ties with Japan.



(Image courtesy of Redland City Council)

## GenreCon and Professor belne

On 20 February, Consul-General ISHIKAWA received a courtesy call from Professor belne and staff from Kaishi Professional University as well as the managing committee of Queensland Writers Centre. There was discussion of manga as an artform and means of expression, Kaishi Professional University's pioneering Faculty of Anime and Manga Arts, and the inaugural Manga Script Competition presented by Queensland Writers Centre. This year is the 50th anniversary of Professor belne's remarkable manga career. Professor belne headlined GenreCon 2026, held in Brisbane's West End. The Consul-General looks forward to seeing the further deepening of ties with Australia through this popular, unique and influential artform.



## What's On



**Sakura Fest**  
**Saturday 14 Mar 2026 1-7pm**  
**Wellers Hill Bowls Club, 34 Esher St, Tarragindi**  
 Celebrate the season of sakura with handmade goods, art, Japanese food, and live performances at Sakura Fest 2026! Connect through language exchange and meet local creators, chefs, and artists brought together by 'go-en' - the ties that bring people together.

[More information](#)



**JFF Theatre Online**  
 From films that celebrate traditional Japanese culture to stories that transcend timelines, you can browse JFF Theater's current lineup of free movies online.

[Watch online now](#)



**Consulate School Visits**  
**Term 2-4 2026**  
**Consulate-General of Japan in Brisbane**  
 Applications for our 2026 school visits program are now open! An exciting opportunity for students to learn more about Japanese culture at our office in Brisbane. Bookings are essential.

[More information](#)

## NARA Treaty

Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the signing of the NARA Treaty in 2026! Apply to certify your Japan-Australia exchange events and deepen Japan-Australia friendship. Gain official status, use the anniversary logo and be listed on Embassy sites! For guidelines, [click here](#).



**Application Guideline for 50th Anniversary Events**

**Let's Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Signing of the NARA Treaty (Basic Treaty of Friendship & Cooperation) in 2026**

Apply to certify your Japan-Australia exchange events (any field) & help deepen Japan-Australia relations!  
 Gain official status, use the anniversary logo & be listed on Embassy sites!

**APPLY NOW!**

[FULL GUIDELINES HERE](#)

## Visit by Osaka Delegation

February saw a visit to Brisbane by an Osaka Delegation, headed by Mr MIZUNO Tatsuro, Superintendent of Education of the Osaka Prefectural Government. The delegation met The Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP, Minister for Education and the Arts, was welcomed at a reception at the Official Residence, and visited Craigslea State High School. Important achievements of this visit included the signing of a Letter of Intent between Department of Education Queensland and Osaka Prefectural Board of Education, the signing of a Strategic Partnership Agreement between QIMR Berghofer and leading Japanese biomedical innovation hub Nakanoshima Cross, and the signing of a sister-school agreement between Craigslea and Sano Prefectural High School. The Consul-General of Japan in Brisbane hopes this visit will provide the impetus for even greater prosperity in the relationship between Queensland and Osaka.



Mr MIZUNO Tatsuro with the Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP and Consul-General ISHIKAWA.