2021 Autumn Conferment of Decorations
Mr Graham Sayer

Consulate-General of Japan in Auckland

November 3, 2021

Mr Graham Sayer of Auckland receives the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays for his contributions to promoting Kendo in New Zealand and furthering friendly relations between Japan and New Zealand. On November 3, 2021, the Government of Japan announced the list of foreign recipients of the 2021 Autumn Conferment of Decorations.

(LINK) Conferment of Decorations on Foreign Nationals (Ministry of Foreign Affairs Webpage)

https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/protocol/jokun.html (Japanese)

https://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/info/conferment/index.html (English)

- NAME: Graham Sayer (MR)
- AGE: 64 years old
- MAJOR TITLE:

    Current auditor for the International Kendo Federation

    Current President of Auckland Kendo Club

    Former President of New Zealand Kendo Federation

SUMMARY OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Mr Graham Sayer played a central role in the founding of the New Zealand Kendo Federation and served as President of the federation for 32 years until his retirement last year, contributing to the promotion of Kendo in New Zealand as well as furthering exchanges and friendly relations between Japan and New Zealand. He has been serving for 9 years as auditor for the International Kendo Federation.

Mr Sayer has also been serving as the President of the Auckland Kendo Club, the largest Kendo Club in New Zealand, for 33 years. He promotes exchange between Japan and New Zealand through Kendo in various ways, such as by regularly participating in international seminars organised by the All-Japan Kendo Federation, and organising Kendo exchange with the Shizuoka Kendo Federation. Mr Sayer has been also active in presenting and promoting Kendo at schools and local events.

For more information about Mr Sayer's activities, please visit our homepage below which features his profile.

https://www.auckland.nz.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_ja/mr_sayer_j.html (Japanese)

https://www.auckland.nz.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/mr_sayer_e.html (English)