



Glamorgan-Spring Bay Mayor Bertrand Cadart wearing his medal at the Hobart investiture on the weekend. Picture: GARY PRICE

Medal thrills Cadart

By MICHAEL LOWE

GLAMORGAN-SPRING Bay Mayor Bertrand Cadart has caught the eye of French President Francois Hollande, who has given the Bicheno resident a medal.

Mr Cadart, who is also a Liberal party candidate for Lyons at Saturday's election, has won the Order of National Merit.

It was awarded by French Ambassador Stephane Romatet at a ceremony in Hobart at the weekend.

Mr Cadart said the award was similar to the Order of Australia and marked services to French culture, and he was thrilled by the honour.

"The French thought this bloke had done a lot of good for

his country of birth since he left in 1970," Mr Cadart said.

"Since I have been here, I have promoted French-ness."

That work included helping to establish the France to Freycinet Festival, working in the French section of Radio Australia from 1972-1986 with a daily audience up to two million, and "being himself".

His award category recognises the achievements of French citizens living abroad.

Mr Cadart, who is a dual French and Australian citizen, said there were around four million French citizens living abroad, but only 18 received the medal in 2013.