



GLAMORGAN SPRING BAY
COUNCIL

Vicary Street,
PO Box 6 Triabunna 7190
Ph: 6256 4759 Fax: 6256 4774

MEDIA RELEASE

From: Mayor Bertrand Cadart
Organisation: Glamorgan Spring Bay Council
Contact details: Mayor Bertrand Cadart
Subject: Mayor Bertrand Cadart to formally receive prestigious French medal
Date: 8/3/14

For immediate release -

The Mayor of the Glamorgan Spring Bay Council, Councillor Bertrand Cadart, formally received a prestigious French medal - the National Order of Merit (*l'Ordre national du Mérite*) in Hobart today.

The medal was presented to Mayor Cadart by the Ambassador of France, His Excellency Mr Stéphane Romatet, at an official reception at the Henry Jones Art Hotel attended by dignitaries and Mayor Cadart's family, friends and colleagues. The Ambassador made a special visit to Tasmania to present the prestigious award as the French Republic's official representative in Australia.

The President of the French Republic, Mr François Hollande, announced in November last year that Mayor Cadart had been awarded the insignia of *Chevalier de l'Ordre national du Mérite*. Mayor Cadart's award category recognises French citizens' achievements while living abroad. There are around four million French citizens living abroad but only 18 received this medal in 2013.

Mayor Cadart said it was a surprise and thrill to be among such a small number of French people to receive this distinguished award.

"It is an immense honour and I feel extremely privileged to be personally receiving this award from the Ambassador of France, His Excellency Mr Stéphane Romatet, who has travelled from Canberra for the occasion.

"I also feel extremely honoured that the Consul-General of France in Sydney, Mr Eric Berti was also in attendance. "

Mayor Cadart has been living abroad for 44 years – the majority of that has been spent in Australia. During his time abroad, he was conscripted to the French military in the South Pacific, worked as a reporter, featured in a few films and started his own businesses.

"I then visited Tasmania and fell in love with the beautiful scenery and friendly people and decided I wanted to do my bit to improve the community."

For the past six years as Mayor, Bertrand Cadart has been working to put Tasmania's East Coast on the map – locally, nationally and internationally.

"When I was first elected Mayor, I was faced with tough issues such as water quantity and quality, industry downturns and declining tourist numbers and I vowed to make a change.

"I feel some positive changes have been made in those areas and I am humbled to accept the National Order of Merit on behalf of the whole Glamorgan Spring Bay community."

This is Mayor Cadart's third award for community service. In July last year he was presented with a Life Members' Award for Meritorious Service by the Local Government Association of Tasmania. In December 2012, he also received an award from a French organisation *L'Etoile du Bien et du Mérite* for his dedication to communities.

Ends _____

For more information please contact Mayor Bertrand Cadart. Phone: 0407 511 454