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MEDIA RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New 'water harp' a place to contemplate at the Shire

The Shire of Broome will this week complete the installation of its own Suikinkutsu, which translated from Japanese literally means "water harp cave".

Acting Shire President Cr Chris Mitchell said the Japanese garden ornament and music device had been installed at the entrance of the Shire's Offices and will be a lasting tribute of the Broome-Taiji sister-city relationship.

"The Suikinkutsu consists of an upside down buried pot with a hole at the top. Water drips through the hole at the top onto a small pool of water inside of the pot, creating a pleasant splashing sound that rings inside of the pot similar to a bell," Cr Mitchell said.

"The sounds are quite relaxing, and have already caused a few pleasantly surprised reactions from people walking past or those who have been able to take a few moments to listen and enjoy the serene environment created.

"The Shire's Suikinkutsu has been installed just a few weeks after one that was installed in Taiji, by the same craftsman.

"The fact that both towns now have a place outside their buildings for people to sit and contemplate and feel at peace, brings a nice sense of solidarity and connectedness, which I think is appropriate, considering this year marks the 30 year anniversary of the sister-city agreement.

"Taiji unveiled their new Suikinkutsu to the Broome delegates in a surprise ceremony which was broadcast via Skype to the rest of Council, who were able to view it and to comment, and confirm that the Broome version would be completed shortly."

The Suikinkutsu will be open for the public to enjoy next week.

Ends.

For more information on the Suikinkutsu built in Broome and Taiji, contact maker Simon 0487 409 459