

**IALA COUNCIL  
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The Japan Coast Guard and the Northern Lighthouse Board have been cooperating on a joint endeavour to establish a twinning arrangement between lights in Japan and Scotland. Japan and Scotland have a proud shared heritage through the Stevenson family, the Engineers to the Northern Lighthouse Board, who were contracted by the Tokugawa shogunate to chart Japan's coastal waters and to build lighthouses. After receiving training from the Stevensons, in 1868 Scottish Engineer Richard Henry Brunton was sent from Edinburgh to lead the project. Over the following seven and a half years he designed and supervised the construction of 26 lighthouses. The intent of this initiative is to link individual lighthouses in Japan and Scotland together in a twinning partnership between local community groups with the aim of highlighting the shared heritage and to promote tourism in each other's country. Initial discussions have taken place to twin Mull of Galloway lighthouse on the West coast of Scotland with Inubosaki lighthouse on Japan's Pacific coast. It is hoped that this arrangement will provide a model for other nations with shared lighthouse heritage to follow.

Mr. Richard Henry Brunton is the most well known Scottish engineer in the history of Japanese lighthouse building since the middle of the 19th Century, who was devoted to assisting in enhancing the safety of navigation in Japanese waters. The Inubosaki Lighthouse designed and built by Mr. Brunton in 1874 served as the most important coastal lighthouse to support the safety of maritime traffic in the Pacific Ocean approaches from and to Tokyo and Yokohama. Because of its practical importance as well as historical value, the Brunton Association has been established in the local community to support the maintenance and to raise public awareness of the Inubosaki lighthouse.

As such, Inubosaki lighthouse is the best historical landmark to match Mull of Galloway lighthouse. The Japan Coast Guard is delighted with the proposal of the Northern Lighthouse Board to arrange the unique sibling lighthouse between us, which will illuminate the future path of IALA together.