

## Reception to Celebrate the Emperor's Birthday

On December 12th, 2017, the Japanese National Day reception was held at a Hotel. Approximately 130 guests, including the Hon. Steve Blackett, M.P., Minister of Social Care, Constituency Empowerment and Community Development (Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade), four cabinet ministers and the Speaker of the House were in attendance.

This year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Japan and Barbados. This was the second reception held to celebrate the Emperor's Birthday, since the Japanese Embassy was established in January 2016.

The Embassy arranged a special booth for Nanyo City, the host city for the Barbados Olympic team for the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo. The city also contributed a selection of locally produced red & white wines, Japanese sake, fruit juices and salami to the reception. Also displayed were four *bonsai* provided by Bonsai Barbados. These *bonsai*, all cultivated in Barbados, were very popular with the guests at the reception and helped to make it a remarkable one.



Ambassador Shinada and his wife welcomes the acting Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade



The Hon. Steve Blackett (Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign trade ag.) with the Ambassador and his wife enjoying *bonsai*



The Hon. Steve Blackett gives a speech



Ambassdor Shinada gives a speech and toast



Scene from the venue 1



Scene from the venue 2

### Special Booth for Nanyo City

