

Karate Bulletin

April Shows

What a month last month was! We had the Grading at Coombeshead School, the visit from Renshi, and we finally got our permanent water supply connected at the Newton Abbot dojo (after only 3 years). Now we will add hot-water "handwash" units and hot air dryers for added comfort. And looking forward to April... well, it's very nearly gone already, there is so much in it.

March Grading

All students did very well! Although the list is too big to include here, we are featuring it in full in our Spring Journal (out soon).

Some of those who attended came along just for the experience, supporting the club. One graded even though she didn't mean to, and another went home with a double grading!

Tiring it was, but the spirit of the club shone through and everyone gave it their all. At the end of the day there were a good few people who went straight home to sleep. We're really proud of you, and you should feel proud of yourselves. There are less than 12 weeks to go before the next one. That means a minimum of 24 lessons. Plan to be involved.

Renshi!

Anthony Blades, the co-founder of our governing body (the OCI), gave a great seminar on Sunday 24th March. Most people don't know, but we also had a little session on the Saturday for the instructors' benefit, and of course, I get my private time with him.

Blades sensei was pleased with the effort displayed, and especially with what he *didn't* have to teach the brown belts and above. It's always a test with the head honcho, and I believe that we held our standards up at our end.

"You have a lot to be proud of" Anthony told me, concerning your de-

velopment. His next scheduled visit will be the 14th October, where we pray he will be joined by **Neil Ellison** sensei and **Stuart Howe** sensei.

Kick-a-Thon

Although we have had some fine suggestions for which Charity to support, there is just so much going on at the moment that we have decided to delay the Kick-a-Thon until the end of May.

SENI07!

The martial arts tradeshow happens in May (19th & 20th to be precise). It's a great day out and this year it will be held at the Excel Centre in London. There are lots of stands with all kinds of goods on sale, and displays of all manner of martial arts to see. More details can be found at www.senishow.com.

Buddy Day

The next buddy session will be on Sunday 6th May 2pm-4pm. Invite as many friends/family as you can, stand next to them in line, show them how good you are, be proud. Buddy passes can be obtained from Kim, just ask.

The student who brings the most buddies will receive a surprise gift worth £40.

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Timetable

NEWTON ABBOT

Tuesday	12-1pm 4.45-5.45pm 6-7pm 7.15pm-8.30pm	Open Open Open Open	Friday	4.45-5.45pm 6-7pm 7.15pm-8.30pm	Open Open Open
Thursday	12-1pm 4.45-5.45pm 6-7pm 7.15pm-8.30pm	Open Open Open Open	Saturday	10-11.30am 12.30-2pm	White-Green Belts Purple Belts +
			Sunday	5-6.30pm 6.30-8pm	Open Brown & Black Belts

TOTNES

All Classes are Open sessions

Wednesday	6-8pm
Saturday	10am-noon

TORQUAY

All Classes are Open sessions

Monday	7-8.30pm	Westlands
Wednesday	5-6pm 7-8.30pm	Riviera Centre Westlands
Friday	5-6pm	Riviera Centre

New Members

A big welcome to **Jamie Jones** who joined us during March. If you have a friend that you think would do well in our academy, hand them a Guest Pass, or give their details to Kim and she will invite them along for you.

LOO!

In order that we maintain the hygiene of the training area, we would remind all students to wear shoes when they leave the mats please. Easy slip-on "zori" are available from Kim at £5 or so.

Australian Japanese Canadian Sensei

May 21st will see the first visit from **Patrick McCarthy** 8th Dan Hanshi to our group. This seminar is not to be missed. Come and meet the man who created our flow drills and the floor kata. He's lived and trained all over the world, and is the author of the Bubushi translation and numerous other books. We have people travelling from all over the UK to take part, so there's no excuse if you are local.

Funakoshi Day

We are planning a memorial training day, exactly 50 years after Master Funakoshi's funeral on **May 10th**.

Exact training times and format will be announced in the next newsletter. This special training will have breaks for food and contemplation, and so that we have the right ingredients ready, it is vital that those who want to take part **book** their place. Call 01626 360999 now to be included.

April Timetable Exceptions

Wednesday lunchtime open floors for private training are back on.

Sunday 1st April There is no Brown & Black Belt training due to the Lynmouth seminar.

Monday 2nd Torquay Westlands class 7.15-8.45pm due to school function.

Friday 6th Newton Abbot. Easter special class 6-8pm replaces normal lessons.

Sunday 8th April There is no training due to Easter Sunday.

Monday 9th April There is no training due to Easter Monday.

Saturday 21st Newton Abbot. No classes due to private function. Classes in Totnes as usual.

Tuesday 24th-Thursday 26th. Newton Abbot, no lunchtime lessons.

Wednesday 25th Torquay. No Westlands class. Riviera Centre as usual.

Sunday 29th. Newton Abbot. No brown and black belt class.

Birthdays

The following students have birthdays in April

1st	Matthew Potter
3rd	Ruth Cooper-Haime
4th	Kyle Hawkins & Daniel Rock
5th	Jamie Hodgkins
7th	Vicci Hooper
12th	Marc Ireland
13th	John Christopher Burke & Jamie Millea
15th	Jack Degnan
16th	Dianne Gammidge
19th	Martin Carrick
21st	Clare Potter
22nd	Sean Thompson
24th	Joe Blackman
25th	Steve Dudley

Happy Birthday to you all.

Summer School

The twin events are now being booked. Week one currently has 10 spaces and week two has 12. Cost is £40 per week (call for family discounts). If you have a preference for which week you want then you should book your place now.

And Finally

There are only 11 weeks until the next grading - where do you want to be?

Upcoming Events: **April** 6th-9th Easter! **May** 10th **Funakoshi memorial** training, 18th-20th SENI07 exhibition in London, 21st **Hanshi McCarthy** flow drill seminar 6-9pm £20 members **June** Gasshuku 16th Demo at Shiphay Primary School, Torquay. 23rd Vic Cook sensei with Iaido 24th Grading Examination. **July** 30th-3rd August Summer School **August** 20th-24th Summer School **September** 15th Black Belt pre-grading **October** 14th **OCI Southern** Area Traditional Arts Seminar & Black Belt grading **November** 18th **Gala**—annual competition **December** Christmas Party