



This month's "Ask a Shido-in" question was sent in by Andy Humphreys:

Where do you see the UKA in 10 years time?

Peter Brady, Myo Shin Juku writes:

The UKA is thriving at the moment. Summer School this year was a resounding success both with the inspired teaching of Kobayashi Sensei, supported by the Shido-in, and on the social front, with the bar in the evenings positively throbbing with atmosphere, goodwill and intoxication. We have come through a year of turmoil with the passing of the father of the UKA Mr Smith and the consequent change of leadership being successfully introduced to Hombu and accepted. Both Kobayashi and Sugawara Sensei's feel at home in our organisation and this has got to bode well for the near future. But what about in ten years time?

The UKA at present has a hierarchy with approximately 160 odd years of experience in Aikido between them. Each

have their own teaching style but what they have all got is commitment. They rarely miss a class on a national course or at Summer school. The reason for this is that when these guys started there were very few senior practitioners of the Art and they would travel the length and breadth of the country to train with a Nidan. When Chiba Sensei came to the UK and showed everyone what true commitment could achieve, there was a motivation that has declined somewhat over the years.

There are seven Hombu recognised 6th Dans within a fifteen mile radius of central Birmingham: if a student misses practice one night they can always just practice the next!! The point I am making here is that the biggest threat I see to the evolution of the UKA is complacency. Many beginners will not com-

mit to more than one night of training and, as any serious student will know, one night is not enough.

The UKA is doing well at present but regarding numbers we are not actually growing as we have had new members join but have lost members too. I don't wish to be too downbeat and I don't have any answers but in my opinion we need to be aware of this and who knows, maybe we can change the way people think about martial arts.

Dennis Cantillon, Ren Shin Kan, writes:

After the passing of Mr Smith, the early recognition of Jones Sensei by Hombu and Doshu – followed swiftly by his promotion to Shihan - has reinforced the UKA's position in this country and in the international Aikido community. This provides a strong foundation upon which to continue

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Newsletter Article
Submission Deadlines

December 07
Deadline - 17th Nov 07



The Newsletter is now available online at: www.ukaonline.org.uk .If you wish to subscribe to the newsletter and receive updates on information and courses to do with the UKA then email webmaster@ukaonline.co.uk. The new look web site also has lots of other information on and about the UKA and Aikido. Lots will be happening to the online facilities the UKA will be offering its members over the next year, so let us keep you informed. Subscribe to the email newsletter and alerts today!



Ask A Shidoin - continued

to develop our Aikido. So what would I hope to see in ten years time?

In 2017 a wise old Shihan and a group of wise old Shidoin will be overseeing a new generation of Shidoin and Fuku-shidoin that have been exposed for more than a decade to Doshu Moriteru Ueshiba's Aikido. Thanks to regular Summer School study under the teaching and technical expertise of Koboyashi and Sugawara Senseis, they have a much greater understanding of contact, especially first contact. They also have an appreciation of the significance of tanden (the spiritual centre of Aikido) and the importance of ki. These

points are passed on in their teaching in order to impress on students that Aikido is not simply the practice and demonstration of technique, but a positive and effective martial art - a point that was always stressed by Mr Smith and is always evident in the Aikido of Mr Jones and the House Shidoin. For the same reasons, weapons practice remains an important and integral part of Aikido teaching in UKA clubs, helping to reinforce the relationship between Aiki Ken, Aiki Jo and body techniques.

As a result of the close ties with Hombu, many promising students - the Shidoin and Fuku-shidoin of the future - are

encouraged, sometimes sponsored and/or subsidised, to visit Japan and practice there.

The 'House' system is still at the core of the UKA, and whilst membership has expanded organically and through other clubs, organisations and countries being attracted to join, the UKA has resisted the urge to become the Aikido equivalent of the European Economic Community.

I shall, of course, still be around to see all this, thanks probably to the miracle of modern medicine!

Members' Notices

From The Newsletter Team.... Important Information for all Members

At this year's AGM, Chair Person, Gordon Jones, stated plans to take the UKA forward over the next five years. As the UKA develops, it is vital that members have access to up to date news and events.

Recent changes in the way the UKA Newsletter is being distributed means that most members now receive the Newsletter by e-mail. It is, therefore, important that members advise The Newsletter Team of their e-mail address and of any subsequent changes.

Please can all **Instructors / Club Secretaries** ensure that they make new members aware of this and take responsibility of passing on to The Newsletter Team new members' e-mail addresses. This will guarantee that new members start to receive the Newsletter.

Details to be sent to: newsletter@ukaonline.org.uk

Website Updates - Members' Area

The following documents have been uploaded to the Members' Area:

- Taking the UKA Forward
- Minutes of 2007 AGM

To access the Members' Area, follow the link from any of the main website pages.

To get the username and password, email your name and dojo to:
webmaster@ukaonline.org.uk

Prue and Tony Humphreys write:

As the redundant team for the stuffing of the UKA Newsletter we would like to say how impressed with the web version we are. With coloured photographs and logos, it is also easy to read. Good luck to the Editor and the guys that have spent many hours to get it up and running. We also had two very enjoyable evenings at this year's Summer School.

(A very big "thank you" to Tony & Prue for all the behind the scenes work that they've done over the years in getting the Newsletter out to us all. Stuffing 600 envelopes every 2 months can't have been much fun! Editor)

Summer School Yudansha Promotions

Congratulations to the following people who were promoted at Summer School:

Shodan
Paul Scally

Nidan
Richard Hughes
Masayo Susumu

Sandan
Neil Mould

Articles for Scribe

It's been great to have so many articles sent in recently – thanks to everyone who's taken the time to write about a foreign trip; a course or to write an article about an aspect of aikido.

May I ask you all to consider the length of the article you're sending. I've had a few articles recently that have been 3 pages long: this will nearly always be too long to included without some fairly major editing. Ideally, articles should be a maximum of 2 pages.

Many thanks and keep sending them in!

Cath Davies
Editor

Change of Address and Change of Address Notifications

Please note that notifications of change of address should be sent to Guy Needler, General Secretary, in the form of a new (and signed) membership form. This is the only way, legally, that we can accept notifications. Enquiries to the new General Secretary should be sent to:

Milestone Cottage
Alcester Road
Portway
Birmingham
B48 7HT

Courses

Kobayashi Yasuo Shihan
8th Dan Aikikai

18th - 21st October 2007

University of Bath
New Village Site, Claverton Down
Bath, BA2 7AY

UKA Courses 2008

- 20th January
- Winter School: TBC
- 8th June
- Summer School: 16th - 23rd August
- 19th October

UKA House News



Ren Shin Kan
 Ren Shin Kan Martial Arts Centre, 227 Halesowen Road, Old Hill, West Midlands.
 Tel: 01384 569286 | Website <http://www.renshinkan.co.uk/>

Date	Course	Date	Course
21 st October 2007	UKA Course	11 th November 2007	RSK Teachers Course
3 rd November 2007	Junior Grading	19 th December 2007	Junior Xmas Night



Miyo Shin Juku
 Chief Instructor – Peter Brady Sensei 6th Dan so Hombu
 Website <http://www.miyo-shin-juku.freeserve.co.uk/>

Date	Course	Times	Venue
7th October	Instructors	10.00am – 12.00pm / 12.30pm – 2.30pm	The Langley Dojo
11th November	Weapons	10.00am - 1.00pm	Land Rover
9 th December	General	10.00am – 12.00pm / 12.30pm – 2.30pm	The Langley Dojo



Te Shin Kai
 Chief Instructor – Keith Hayward Sensei 6th Dan so Hombu
 Tel 01952 403195 | Email: susan.hayward@sky.com

Class Schedules

Ken Mon Kan Oakengates Class Times
 Monday & Thursday – 7.45 – 8.45pm Juniors **7.45 – 10.00pm Seniors**
Friday 8.30 – 10.00pm
First Friday of every month – Instructors Course – 8.00 – 10.00pm
Second Friday of every month – Weapons Class



Kyu Shin Kan
 Chief Instructor – Peter Brown Sensei 5th Dan so Hombu
 Website <http://www.kyushinkan.com/>

Projected Course Dates at Kyu Shin Kan for 2007

Instructors Courses

December 9th
 Instruction by Sensei P Brown

All courses to take place at the DMU Dojo from 11am till 1.30pm

General Courses

November 25th

Dojo: TBC | Time: 10am till 2.30pm
 Instruction by Sensei P Brown & guest Instructors

All Kyu Shin Kan Instructors to attend a minimum of two of the above courses