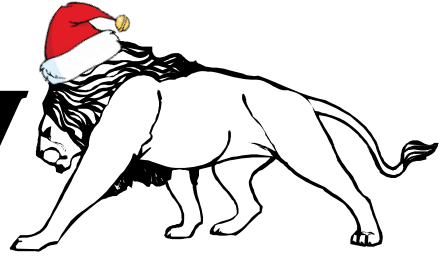


THE

LION!



THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE

CHILTERN KARATE ASSOCIATION

DECEMBER 2019



TAKUYA TANIYAMA 1965 - PRESENT

FOREWORD....



OSU!

Welcome to the December 2019 edition of **THE LION!**

The front-page features another of giants of Shotokan karate – **Takuya Taniyama Sensei**. Born in 1965, he was a student of Takushoku university. At the age of 25 yrs old he graduated from the JKA Instructors course and became a full-time Honbu dojo instructor.



A kumite specialist, he won the all Japan Karate Championships for kata in 1995, 1996, 1998 and 2001 and then decided to concentrate on kata. And then something extraordinary happened.... Taniyama entered the kumite competition of the 50th JKA championships, and at the relatively (in elite competition terms) of 42 years old....he won!

Members of the CKA were fortunate to train with Taniyama Sensei in Tokyo in 2018, at the Takushoku University.

My heartfelt thanks to you all for the support you have shown myself & the CKA during 2019. Without the commitment of you, the students, the CKA could not continue to thrive & flourish.



2020 looks set to be a bumper year for the CKA, with many guest instructors in the pipeline, access to external competitions and, of course, the annual BBQ! 😊

Good luck to everyone grading today!



ダベン
ポート

D C Davenport

Dave Davenport

Chief Instructor - 6th Dan EKF

CKA DAN EXAMINATION – SEPTEMBER 2019



OMETEDŌ GOZAIMASU !

- Olivier Javaud – Nidan
- Alex Ramsay – Sandan
- Paul Massey – Sandan



We expect further progress in skill and character building in the future....

SHIHANKAI PROMOTIONS – SEPTEMBER 2019



OMETEDŌ GOZAIMASU !

- Bernard Murray – Yondan
- Michael Thornton – Yondan



One of the changes we have recently made was to Dan Gradings. In the past, the final physical grading was Sandan, with Yondan & above being awarded honorifically as a mark of the time and dedication of the student.

Now the level has been raised, and a physical exam has to be passed up to & including Yondan.....much to Bernard & Mike's pleasure!

It should also be noted that each physical Dan grading is now compulsory accompanied with a written paper, that must be submitted prior to the grading day, on a subject that is given to the Student. This year the main question was "...Why did you start Karate, did you accomplish what you sought out to, and have your goals subsequently changed?..."



OMETEDŌ GOZAIMASU !

- Erin Thwaites – Rokudan
- Juliet Guerri – Godan
- Paul James - Godan



It is with immense pleasure that I can confirm the promotion of Erin, Paul & Juliet.

Erin, an original student of Sensei Croft, started her karate journey in 1992 (at the age of 16 yrs old 😊) when she joined a beginners class at the Chesham Dojo....she is a cornerstone of the CKA and her contribution to its success cannot be underrated.

Juliet started at the Denham Dojo in 1998 and Paul started at the Aylesbury Dojo in 2000. Both have contributed so much to the CKA over the last 20 odd years and both continue to be valued members of the Shihankai.

It is my honour to have you as my training partners.....and for helping the CKA continue to be a successful and flourishing organisation.

SCOTT LANGLEY COURSE

SUNDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2019



Once again, we had the pleasure of hosting Scott Langley Sensei (6th Dan Chief Technical Director HDKI) on Sunday 11th November.



The morning session focused on the many aspects of *kihon* (and more particularly *gyaku-zuki*), incrementally highlighting the importance of using your core, controlling the shape of your stance (i.e. whilst transitioning from *shomen* to *hanmi*), controlling your upper body and finally controlling your attack – whilst hiding your intent.

Time was spent looking at power generation techniques such as expansion / compression and the influence of appropriate distancing – highlighting differences with sport karate where power is irrelevant.

In a class full of ‘tensed’ students, Scott further highlighted the importance of relaxation (“Slow is smooth, smooth is fast.” as *Mitsuo Mayeda* used to say) and the importance of switching off all muscles that are not required – a form of laziness which aimed at maximising body efficiency.

The afternoon session was spent going through the details of *Bassai Dai* and most importantly, the need to transcend style (and Associations) to focus on the underlying principles of karate, and understanding that looking at the old can often help in interpreting kata and applications.

Key lesson of the day - apply and share the principles of karate but remember to be yourself, understanding your body (and its limitations) – this is your own karate journey!



CKA ON TOUR !!



2019 has been a fabulous year for the CKA, taking advantage of the many contacts we have carefully forged, which gives us access to World Class instructors. Here are some the different Sensei that CKA students have trained with over the last few months, proudly displaying the CKA logo!:-



- Nagaki Sensei – JKS Honbu Instructor
- Rick Hotton – Chief Instructor SMK
- Toyama Sensei – Honbu Instructor



THUNDEROUS STORM!

AN ARTICLE ABOUT TETSUHIKO ASAI SENSEI

Tetsuhiko Asai was one of the most unique masters to come out of the Japan Karate Association (JKA). Nicknamed "**Kaminari-arashi**" meaning "Thunderous Storm", he was a Shotokan Karate practitioner that infused other martial arts such as White Crane Kung Fu into his personal style. He was described by Kenneth Funakoshi, a former student, as an "Instructors Instructor". He also held 2nd Dans in Judo, Jukendo and Kendo. He also held a 3rd Dan in Jodo.

Asai was born on 7 June 1935 on the island of Shikoku, Ehime Prefecture, Japan. He was the eldest of five boys and four girls. His father, a policeman, taught in Judo and Kendo.

In the 1950s he attended **Takushoku** University where he joined the university's Karate club. At the club his instructor was **Masatoshi Nakayama**, with whom he forged a lifelong bond. Some of his gradings were conducted by **Gichen Funakoshi**. Some of the notable names that he trained with him at the club included **Hirokazu Kanazawa**, **Hiroshi Shirai**, **Keinosuke Enoeda** and **Takayuki Mikami**.

In 1958 Asai graduated from Takushoku University. At the suggestion of **Nakayama** he enrolled onto the JKA Instructors course (**Kenshusei**).

1960 saw Asai take part in the 4th All Japan Karate Championships where he finished joint third in the kumite event. The following year he became the tournaments third ever Grand Champion. He won the kumite event against Hiroshi Shirai, who would become Grand Champion the following year. In the kata event he came 2nd to Takayuki Mikami, the previous man to hold the title of Grand Champion. In 1963 he won the kata title against Toru Iwaizumi.

Asai graduated from the JKA Instructors Course in 1961, alongside the likes of **Katsuharu Kisaka**, **Maasaki Ueki**, **Keinosuke Enoeda** and **Satoshi Miyazaki**. That same year he met his future wife, Taiwanese actress Chen Hui-zhu (Keiko), who was working for a film company in Tokyo.

In 1965 Asai visited to Taiwan on route to his first JKA assignment in Hawaii. This was his first visit to Taiwan where he met his wife's older brother, **Chen Hong-zong**, who was an exponent of White Crane Kung Fu. Having martial arts in common, the two men soon became good





friends and started exchanging martial techniques. Asai started learning Kung Fu from Chen. Chan and his students eventually became students of Asai. He taught them the basics of Karate for a month, practising before and after work.

Asai arrived in Hawaii in 1966, following his visit to Taiwan. As the JKA's new Chief Instructor for Hawaii, he became the third JKA instructor to teach in Hawaii after **Hirokazu Kanazawa** and **Masataki Mori**. He enjoyed his time there,

extending his visa to over four years. Just as he had done in Taiwan, he spent time investigating other martial arts been practised. When his time was up, Kenneth Funakoshi was appointed the Acting Chief Instructor of the Karate Association of Hawaii.

In 1969 Asai returned to Taiwan where he remained until 1973. Although based in the city of Taichung, he travelled around the island with his wife and brother-in-law demonstrating and teaching Karate. He even appeared on Taiwanese television where **Chen Hui-zhu** translated his words into Chinese.

In what was to become a golden era in Taiwanese Karate Asai opened ten dojos on the island. Karate proved to be a very popular pastime. Many tournaments and demonstrations were held. He also arranged for Japanese instructors to come and teach at various locations on the island. Known as the open "Father of Taiwanese Karate", 80% of Taiwanese Karate practitioners can trace their Karate roots back to Asai.

In 1971 Asai arranged for his mentor, **Masatoshi Nakayama** to come to Taiwan. While there Nakayama conducted a number of courses where he taught and demonstrated his Karate.

In the March of 1973 Asai established the Chinese Taipei Karate-Do Federation.

Asai's continued success led to some unwanted trouble in Taiwan. Unfounded allegations were made of him being pro-communist and using Karate as a recruitment tool for the Chinese Communist Party. Although these allegations were proven to be untrue, student membership fell. The allegations eventually led him to leave Taiwan. He returned to Japan where he became the President and Director of the Futami Tsusho Co. Ltd.

While running his company Asai was still heavily involved in Karate. In 1976 he helped coach the Japanese National team. The following year he travelled to China, Hong Kong, and America to conduct training courses on behalf of the JKA.

In 1978 Asai had two books published, "Asai Tetsuhiko: Jitsugi Karatedō 1: Kihon Kata" and "Asai Tetsuhiko: Jitsugi Karatedō 2: Sentei Kata". Both books are rare and have become collectors' items. He also produced two videos in 1997: "Asai Tetsuhiko: Karatedō Jōkan" and "Asai Tetsuhiko: Karatedō Gekan".



Nakayama's 11-book series, "Best Karate" was published in 1979. The books feature some of the top JKA instructors demonstrating kihon, kata, and kumite. Asai featured in the following books:

- Book 3 – Kumite against Yoshiharu Osaka and against Hirokazu Kanazawa.
- Book 7 – He demonstrates the kata Empi.
- Book 10 – He demonstrates the kata Nijushiho.
- Book 11 – He demonstrates the kata Meikyo.

In 1983 Asai assumed the role of JKA Technical Director.

Asai's mentor and friend, **Masatoshi Nakayama**, died on 15 April 1987. This was a great loss to the JKA and the world of Karate. Nakayama's death led to deep divisions within the JKA. **Nobuyuki Nakahara**, a Tokyo businessman, had become the new Chairman of the JKA. Some instructors like

Asai disagreed with this new appointment. This led to a split into two opposing factions within the JKA. The **Nakahara** faction included **Maasaki Ueki**, **Yoshiharu Osaka** and **Masahiko Tanaka**. The **Matsuno** faction led by Asai, included **Keigo Abe**, **Akihito Isaka**, **Mikio Yahara** and **Masao Kagawa**.

The rift between the **Nakahara** faction and **Matsuno** faction led to a ten-year legal battle as to had the right to use the JKA name. In 1999 the Japanese High Court awarded the JKA name to that Nakahara faction.

In 1999 the **Matsuno** faction, that had now left the JKA, splintered into the following groups:

- Japan Karate Shotokai (JKS) led by Asai
- Japan Shotokan Karate Association (JSKA) led by Keigo Abe
- Karatenomichi World Federation (KWF) led by Mikio Yahara

In 2000 Asai founded the International Japan Karate Association (IJKA) and also the non-profit organisation, Japan Karate Shotorenmei (JKS). Also that year, the 1st East-European Asai Cup was held in Moscow, Russia.

Always looking to push the boundaries of Karate and personal development, Asai founded the Japan Wheelchair Karate-do Association in 2001. He also developed 10 wheelchair kata and kumite routines that were designed for disabled, elderly and able-bodied practitioners. In September of that year the 1st World Shotokai Karate-do Championships and Wheelchair Karate-do Championships were held by the JKS.



former JKA Grand Champion, was asked to lead the JKS.

After Asai's death, leadership of that IJKA had passed his wife. However, following a year of respect after Asai's death an IJKA congress was held in Budapest, Hungary. **Sadishige Sato** was asked to lead the association.

In 2013 the Asai Shotokan Association International (ASAI) was established by Kousaku Yokota, a former student of Asai. Yokota wanted an association that taught Asai's style of Karate.

Tetsuhiko Asai, although small in stature was a true giant of Karate. He believed first and foremost that Karate is a martial art. He also believed that to improve a karate-ka needed to have proper technique, proper timing and control one's body

On 7 February 2004 Asai was made an Honorary President of the Russian National Far East University in Vladivostok. This was in recognition for his contribution to the development of education, science and culture. He was presented with a pocket watch.

Asai underwent liver surgery on 10th February 2006. Later that year in June, he returned to Taiwan where he reunited and celebrated his birthday with some of his former students.

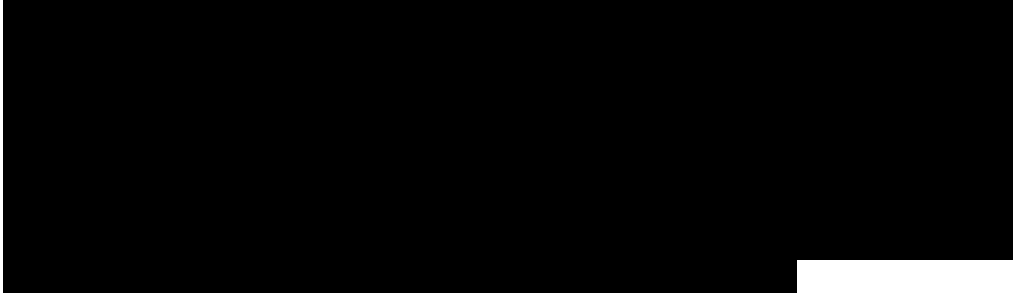
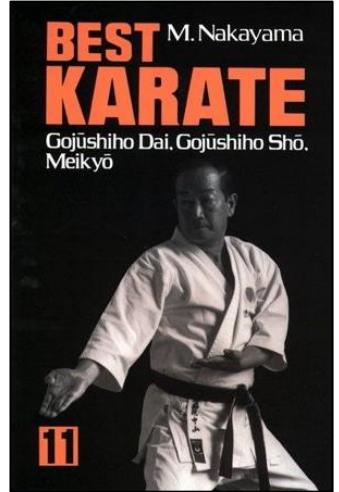
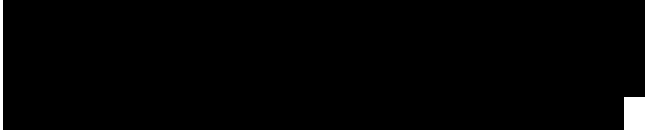
On 15 August 2006 Tetsuhiko Asai died from heart failure aged 71 years. He was survived by his wife **Chen Hui-zhu** and their daughter **Hoshimi**. A funeral was held on first on 1 September at the **Gokokuji** temple in Tokyo. More than 2000 people attended.

In 2006 Asai was posthumously awarded the rank of the 10th Dan after his death. Masao Kagawa, a

DAI OR SHO?

AN ARTICLE BY PETER CRAWFORD

This space was occupied with an article by Peter Crawford but unfortunately he has now asked us to withdraw the article due to copyright



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***CKA CHRISTMAS MEAL
THE SWAN, AMERSHAM***



THURSDAY 5TH DECEMBER

***COST IS JUST £25 PER HEAD, TO INCLUDE
3 COURSE MEAL & GLASS OF PROSECCO
LIMITED TO JUST 30 PLACES!***

***THIS IS A FANTASTIC SOCIAL EVENT TO END
THE YEAR***

PLEASE SUPPORT THE CKA!!



***BOOK YOUR PLACE
WITH PAUL ALLEN
Now !!!***



AND THAT'S IT....!

I hope you have enjoyed this edition of The Lion! **Please** get in touch with any content you want me to include for the next edition. It doesn't have to be a literary masterpiece! Just write down as many words as you can manage and I will do the rest - contact me at: - david.davenport7@aol.com

- Any special events at your club?
- Your thoughts about karate?
- What is it like to take a Dan grading?
- Any courses you have been on with other clubs / styles / instructors
- Birthdays!

Remember this is **your** magazine and it needs to reflect the **whole** of the CKA, not just me!

We are also always looking for new content to add to our website, Facebook group, Twitter and YouTube. If you have any ideas we will be glad to hear from you, email info@chilternkarate.co.uk

FINAL THOUGHT

清水の舞台から飛び降りる

kiyomizu-no-butai-kara-tobi-o-riru

“to jump off the porch at Kiyomizu”

“.....to take the plunge; Kiyomizu-no-Butai is the observation deck at Kiyomizudera in Kyoto and the legend says if you jump off without being injured, your wishes will come true.....”

Grading Examinations (subject to change)

Grading examinations will cover all grades up to 1st Kyu.

- **Sunday 8th March 2020**
- **Sunday 7th June 2020**
- **Sunday 13th September 2020**
- **Sunday 6th December 2020**

Venue: Chiltern Hills Academy, Chartridge Lane, Chesham.

Time: 10.00 am start (prompt)

Grades: All grades

Cost: Standard grading fees apply

Dan Examination

By invitation from the Chief Instructor of the Chiltern Karate Association.

- **Sunday 27th September 2020**

Venue: Holmer Green Dojo

Time: 10.00 am start (prompt)

Grading training (subject to change)

Class will be divided into groups and training focused on the grading syllabus including the kihon (basics) kumite (sparring) and kata required for grading examinations.

- **Sunday 12th January 2020**
- **Sunday 9th February 2020**
- **Sunday 15th March 2020**
- **Sunday 26th April 2020**
- **Sunday 14th June 2020**
- **Sunday 19th July 2020**
- **Sunday 11th October 2020**
- **Sunday 15th November 2020**

Venue: Chiltern Hills Academy, Chartridge Lane, Chesham.

Time: 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m.

Grades: All grades

Cost: Adults: £8.00 Juniors: £6.00



Don't forget to purchase your CKA mugs!
£6 each or 2 for £10

Essential for the complete martial artist 😊



TOKYO ● 2020

