Shikkari Karate Kai

Shotokan Karate

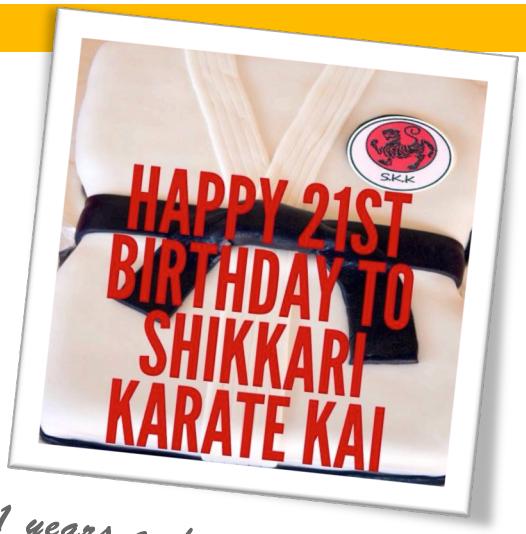
Annual Newsletter 2014

A brief summary of our achievements…

And what a year it's been…

Summary

There have been so many achievements this year for the club and for you personally as students. We have more students than ever training at the club and S.K.K celebrated its 21st birthday!! In the year of 2014 we have had the highest number of dan grading's...ever.



21 years and still going strong

New Club Badge

In March the new club badge was revealed, Sensei Carl Wilkie's design won the competition and was sent to the embroidery company to be professionally produced. Benjamin and Luke Potts design was also taken as an inspiration into the design of the S.K.K Kids logo for the new website.

Students' of the Month 2014

Stanley

Consett

Darrel Birkett

January

Mischa Frosdick

Charlotte Hughes

February

Hubert Otwinowski

Tammy Coleman

March

Grace Pearson

Cameron Smith

April

Ryan & Zoe Turney

Stanley

Consett

May

Josh Keall

Hope Tong

June

Josephine & James Liddle

Connor Arnell

July

Andrew Murray

Alan Crawley

August

Chris Henson

John Underwood

Stanley

Consett

September

Paul Hughes

Mei Tong

October

Grace McDonald

Emily Beales

November

Rebecca Tiplady

Connor Arnell

Student of the Year 2014

Congratulations to Darrel Birkett who has been awarded the Student of the Year trophy for 2014

A few words from Sensei Brett Wilkinson...
Darrel's commitment and dedication has been outstanding this year, not only to the art of Shotokan karate but also to S.K.K. It is a privilege to teach and have Darrel as part of our clubs as his enthusiasm is infectious to all. Darrel is one of life's good guys, in and outside of the dojo. Well done Darrel, you thoroughly deserve it!

23rd March 2014 Grading

The first grading of the year saw 39 students take part of which we had a fantastic 100% pass rate.

We also had three Dan gradings

- Gary Bowness
- Josh Keall
- Benjamin Potts

9th South Tyneside Open Martial Arts Tournament 24th March 2013

The South Tyneside open 2014 at South Shields was held where a handful of students competed. Dave and Sam Oliver won silver in the pair's kata category.

July 27th

Our website was re-designed and launched by Stephen Reed. Shikkarikaratekai.com is now much improved and very easy to use.

www.shikkarikaratekai.com

During the summer holidays we asked to see your photos of you training. The 'Karate in the summer holidays' turned out to be very popular and we will continue this as an annual competition.

Kacey Thomas with an amazing 110 likes on Facebook was the winner of a karate duffle bag.

Our new business cards were introduced. They match the design of the website and use our trademark colours of black, white and red.

Summer Special Offer Success

We started our summer offer, which allowed a parent to train for free once per week if they took the challenge to train with their child/children. This turned out to be hugely successful and we saw large numbers of parents take the challenge and who are still training with the club.

Anti-Bullying week was held 17th-21st November and to raise awareness and show our support we asked students to design a poster. We had some brilliant posters sent in and they were re-tweeted via twitter by Anti-Bulling alliance.

Kacey Thomas designed the winning poster. Everyone who took part will receive a prize for his or her effort.

21st September 2014 Grading

The 3rd grading of the year took place with a total of 36 students, 2 of which successfully graded for their 1st Dan

- Liz Lawson
- Mathew Watson

Liz also made the news with the headline…

"Super Gran, 71, gets her black belt in karate

Super Gran, 71, gets black belt in karate...

A GRANDMOTHER who took up karate after being assaulted by a neighbour has become a black belt at the age of 71.

Liz Lawson, a grandmother-of-one, who lives near Consett, County Durham, took up martial arts after she was attacked in a row over cat mess five years ago.

The incident left Mrs Lawson, who is 5ft 1ins tall and weighs just seven stone, feeling vulnerable and she joined Shikkari Karate Kai, training three times a week.

She has now earned her black belt following a gruelling grading session at The Louisa Centre in Stanley.

Mrs Lawson said: "I am so proud. I can't believe it. I never thought I would be black belt material.

"But I was the victim of a mild assault and stood frozen like a stuffed duck and decided I did not ever want to be in that position again."

By Gavin Havery
Staff Reporter
gavin.havery@nne.co.uk
Twitter @GavinHaveryEcho

movements and sparring, for up to an hour in front of other students and experts.

Mrs Lawson attends classes in Stanley and Consett with up to 100 others whose ages range from five to 40.

She said: "I am a bit short of stamina sometimes and the younger ones are better at remembering when they put several moves together at times. I sometimes forget.

"My generation knows nothing about self defence so after the incident I went watched a karate lesson and joined the club. It is one of the best things I have ever ever done."

Chief Instructor Brett Wilkinson, who has been teaching karate for over 25 years, said Mrs Lawson is

The new S.K.K club tracksuit was revealed, again it matches the club colours and has the new club badge embroidered on to it. If you would like to buy a tracksuit, you can via the website.

http://www.shikkarikaratekai.com/shop

Liz Lawson nominated for Northern Echo Local Hero Award

Liz Lawson, 72, was a finalist at the Northern Echo Local Hero Awards, which took place at The Dolphin Centre on 11th December. She was in the 'Award for Remarkable achievement senior category'. The night was very inspirational and we are very proud of her achievement

21st December 2014 Grading

The last grading of the year saw an amazing 56 students breaking the club record for the most Kyu gradings and 3 Dan gradings. Fantastic effort by all, which showed in an outstanding 100% pass rate

- Luke Potts (1st Dan)
- Emily Henson (2nd Dan)
- Sensei Tony Smith (3rd Dan)

Dates for your Diary

First lessons of the year

4th January- Louisa Centre ,Stanley

5th January- Belle Vue, Consett

7th January- Oxhill youth club

12th January- East Stanley School.

15th March- South Tyneside Open, South Shields.

Grading dates for 2015

22nd March

21st June

20th September

20th December

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a merry Christmas and all the very best for the New Year.

Sensei Brett Wilkinson
Sensei Tony Smith
Sensei Carl Wilkie
Sensei Lesley Reed