



ASHINGTON KARATE CLUB

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

Sensei Jill Kelly, 6th Dan

DECEMBER 2016 NEWS

Sensei Trish Bruce, 5th Dan



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HAPPY NEW YEAR

We would like to wish all our students and their families a happy and healthy new year 2017. A summary of 2016 can be found attached to this newsletter.

CHRISTMAS PARTY 2016

Our Christmas Party and Presentation Evening 2016 was held at the Miners in Ashington on Saturday 10th December. As always, a great night was had by all and we would like to thank our committee members for their hard work on the night.

Sensei Jill and Sensei Trish presented each of our club members at the party with a medal for being part of the club in 2016. Special awards were also given out;

Best Overall Senior - Dylan Gibson

Best Overall Junior - Billy Jobson

Most Improved Senior - Gemma Gibson

Most Improved Junior - Macenzie Barnett

Best Overall Attendance - Jake Coultas

Thank you to all our families for your generosity with the donations for our tombola and hamper. A special thank you to Mariam McCulloch from the Miners who provided us with the venue and helped us with our fundraising through selling a large amount of raffle tickets and domino card numbers.

After all party costs were covered we raised an amazing £397 on the night which will be a good start to our fundraising for 2017.

Thank you to Katie Parsons for the photos which can be viewed on our Facebook page.

GRADING WITH SENSEI FRANK BRENNAN

Congratulations to everyone who graded with Sensei Frank Brennan, 8th Dan at Newbiggin Sports Centre on 18th December 2016. There were some fantastic performances, with many of our students being told by Sensei Brennan that they have a good attitude. A special well done goes to Jessica Peel, who gained a pass and a half to go from temporary 3rd Kyu to full 2nd Kyu. The results for all members of Ashington NKA can be found on the club website.

There are some very good photos from the grading on the website. Can everyone have a look and also see if there is anything about their form that they feel they could improve upon in 2017, because we all can improve! That is the motto for 2017 - "improve my karate!"

BOWLING TRIP – SUNDAY 15th JANUARY

Our free bowling trip will take place on Sunday 15th January 2017 at Strike Bowling, Concordia Leisure Centre, Cramlington at 2pm. If you would like to put your name down or are unsure if your name is already down, speak to Kay or Lynn.

DECEMBER BONUS BALL WINNERS:

03/12/2016: Sensei Jill Kelly (36)

10/12/2016: Jacqueline Brown (34)

17/12/2016: Kay Parsons (14)

24/12/2016: Nick Sandeman (45) [Drawn on 28/12/2016]

31/12/2016: Ashington Karate Club (1)

STUDENT OF THE MONTH:

There was no Student of the Month for December due to the short break from training and several of our members being away for Christmas/New Year.

The next Student of the Month for January will be presented at the beginning of February 2017.

ATTENDANCE OF THE MONTH:

Macenzie Barnett

Thomas Butler

Nicky Chisholm

Jake Coultas

Gary Cowell

Nathaniel Cowell

Daniel Jackson

Lennon McCulloch

Jessica Peel

This award is given to all students who have had full attendance at both the Thursday and Saturday class throughout the month.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday 6th-Friday 11th August 2017

KUGB Summer Residential Course

Lancaster University

If anyone is interested in attending this week-long course in the summer, please let Sensei Jill know.

2017 Grading Dates:

Sunday 26th March 2017

Sunday 16th July 2017

Sunday 17th December 2017

Venues to be confirmed.

Keep an eye on our website
ashingtonshotokankarate.co.uk
for dates for 2017 being added to the Events page.



ASHINGTON KARATE CLUB: 2016 SUMMARY



Below is a special report remembering all that occurred in Ashington Karate Club in 2016. Take time to read this and reminisce on everything that happened throughout the year.



2016 has been a memorable year for Ashington Karate Club. We began the year moving to our new dojo at the new Ashington Leisure Centre. This move proved a huge success with a large increase in membership to the club.

Our three England Squad members Dylan, Niamh and Gemma were reselected onto the KUGB England National Squads. They competed for England at two Grand Slams, and represented Ashington Karate Club at many competitions throughout the year, with several good results. The club also attended a couple of local competitions held in Sunderland, where it was great to see many club members enthusiastic about competing, some who attended for the



first time. At the Gateshead Youth Championships, we only had a small number of five competitors attend, but all five placed in their categories, and we came away with a total of 10 placings, including three firsts!



We held three gradings this year with Sensei Andy Sherry and Sensei Frank Brennan, and many of our members performed very well at these gradings, with at least one student getting a pass and a half or double grade at each one! We had a special grading success in November when three of our students passed their Dan Grading to become black belts. Louis, Luke

and Evan trained very hard this year to achieve this grade and it was well deserved.



The club was fortunate to receive a grant from the Ashington Leisure Partnership this year, which was used to provide our members with additional training opportunities to prepare themselves for important Kyu and Dan gradings throughout the year or in the near future. Our committee also continued to raise funds through several events such as bag packs and our annual Karate on the Beach, which despite the once again poor weather, was still enjoyed by everyone who attended.



After several good results this year, Niamh was selected to represent KUGB England at the ESKA European Championships in Greece. Niamh fought well at this competition and came home with a silver medal in the Cadet Female Team Kumite event!



The year was also a special year for the KUGB, who were celebrating their 50th anniversary. This occasion was celebrated at the 50th KUGB National Championships in May. We

are proud to be part of this organisation, and look forward to the next 50 years!

We celebrated the year at our annual Christmas Party and Presentation Evening, where all members present were rewarded for their hard work and dedication as members of the club over the course of the year. Special awards were also given out to our Best Overall Senior and Juniors Dylan and Billy, our Most Improved Senior and Juniors Gemma and Macenzie, and our Best Attender for the year Jake.



Sensei Jill and Sensei Trish would like to pass on their personal thanks to our club committee, who work tirelessly throughout the whole year, to put on fun events, such as the Christmas Party and bowling trips for all our students, arrange fund raising events such as the Karate on the Beach and the weekly Bonus Ball, which results in some competition fees being paid for out of club funds, and travel assistance for our squad members. The support that we receive from our club members in generously participating in these events is also very much appreciated, and makes our club one of the best in the country in which to be a member!

We wish all our members a happy, healthy and prosperous new year, and look forward to seeing you all in 2017!