



October Report

New members 2

Total number of adults training 68

Total number of teens & children training 51

Results of Getsurei Shinsa on 19th & 20th October

5 th Kyu	Simon Nordon	4Y8 step	Matthew Watson	S3 step	Steven Bannah
6 th Kyu	Gareth Badcock	4Y5 step	Lee Stemm		Matt Hede
7 th Kyu	Stephen Cuthbert	3Y12 step	Ryan Slavin	S2 step	Greg Smith
9 th Kyu	Graham Sanders		Lawrence Monforte	S1 step	Dominic Hogan
		2Y3 step	Adam Winlaw		

Events in November

1. Self-defence Class & Demonstration

- **Self-defence class; Saturday, 24th November 1:00pm~2:30pm**
- The class is not for public but only for the members.
- Everyone who wishes to participate in the self-defence class needs to register at the counter with **\$15** cash participation fee. (will be used for BBQ party and drinks)
- BBQ Party will be held after the demonstration and everyone including your family and friends are welcome to join us.
- **Demonstration; 2:45pm~**
- All of the black belts and Mori Sensei will display their demonstrations after the class. You can invite your family and friends for the demonstration.

2. Getsurei Shinsa

- Training starts, Friday 9th 7:15pm~
- Steps, Friday 16th 7:15pm~
- Shinsa, Saturday 17th 1:00pm~

3. Children and Teens demonstration, new colour belts awarding ceremony and X'mas Party

- **Saturday 17th 10.00am~**
- A small demonstration by all the children and teens will start at 10am.
- Awarding ceremony, some games and X'mas party are planned after the demo.
- Dojo will provide some soft drinks and a small X'mas gift for each child.
- Please bring a plate with you.

4. This Month's Holiday

- **Dojo's Holiday** 19th Monday

Sharing the feeling of Black Belts

My story begins at a bathhouse where I would see this lovely Japanese lady that would come every night and would always make sure everything was turned off as she was leaving, all of the girls that I worked with at the time thought she was great and really appreciated her for doing so. To me I assumed she was a teacher of some description but I never would have guessed that it would be of all things a martial art, Shuko of course was this person.

During grading training, techniques that I thought I had a solid understanding of seemed to just evaporate. When I trained I over thought every detail and would easily forget the techniques. Of course I was really scared of this happening during my grading something that I am sure a lot of you would understand.

With the grading itself I felt like I was holding kamae and waiting for Sensei to call out techniques, for what seemed like forever, I've never been so nervous or sweated so much from just standing!! But I managed to get through it all and took everyone's advice not to over think and just to let my body do what I've been practicing. I remember having Richard for my



very first lesson and he asked me what my name was I answered and was then swiftly told that he would not remember it until I received my brown belt. So to my great satisfaction I can now say that I have received my black belt so he will have to remember it!

So I have Shuko to thank, for introducing me to the wonderful world of aikido and her ongoing support in and outside the dojo, Sensei for sharing his knowledge, his ongoing encouragement and (a lot of) patience and Kaido for being my uke and being so gracious even when I would accidentally knee him in the head or stab him in the temple with a tanto during my grading's.

I would especially like to thank Lawrence, my partner in life and Aikido! Thank you for being patient when I would get frustrated, pushing me beyond my limits and for believing in me. I would not have made it this far without you.

I believe that our dojo is an amazing place where we get to experience some pretty magical things. I want to thank everyone who I've had the opportunity to train with, you have all made it a journey to remember and I'm looking forward to continuing training hard with you all.

OSU

Mai Bui

Fight For Life Brisbane 2012

Everyone knows someone. Someone who has left us too soon. Everyone has felt the sense of injustice and powerlessness as we watch them go, taken by a creeping disease that has no mercy and cares not for innocence, social status or how the world will be a poorer place for their passing.

My Wife's sister, Debra, passed away last year from brain cancer at just 52 years of age. It was horrific to watch this wonderful, vibrant person gradually lose every part of who she was. She was a daughter, a mother, a sister, an aunty, and she was a beautiful person, on the inside, where it counts.

When I heard the story of Wendy Carroll, Kyoshi, 5th Dan, of the Idokan in Melbourne, it resonated with me. A martial arts friend from South Australia said I should get involved with the 2012 Fight For Life. I read Renshi Kevin Walsh's words:

"As martial artists we cannot fight this invisible foe but we can give the scientists and medicos the necessary tools to fight. Singularly we can achieve very little, but united we can make a difference"

and these words meant something to me. I realised that this is something that means a lot to a lot of people. I decided that I would organise the Fight For Life Brisbane seminar, to thank my Sister-in-law for her wonderful but too-short life; to honour the warrior spirit of Wendy Carroll (who never gave up but lost her fight in August of this year); and to recognise the fight that goes on every day against cancer and the human face of that fight.



I decided that I would run an event over four hours, with four top martial artists, all the National representatives of their art. I knew straight away that I must ask Sensei Mori to be a part of it. I have never organised anything like this before so I was a bit nervous approaching Sensei. I was delighted when he said that for a good cause, he was happy to do it. Immediately my elation turned to disappointment however, when the date was checked and Sunday the 14th Sensei was involved at a church function. I determined that the date would be changed to the 7th. This took a bit of doing, but thanks to the cooperation and good-will of the PCYC admin., the date was able to be changed to the 7th of October.

Other instructors came on board (Sensei McCarthy of Koryu Uchinadi and Aiki Kenpo Jujutsu, Deane Lawler of CTD, Tony Burke of Australian Unarmed Combat). I was then able to enter the next phase of planning, which was to actually sell the tickets. I had thought I would need 6 weeks or more to sell all the tickets. I was amazed and humbled when all of the tickets were taken in just over two weeks. 14 of the 50 available tickets were sold to members of the Brisbane Yoshinkan Dojo. This is more than was sold to any other group represented. To my training partners at Yoshinkan, OSU!!! You are not only serious martial artists with heart and spirit in bucket-loads, you are also wonderful human-beings and I am honoured to know you.

The weeks passed and the small jobs got done, one at a time. With only one or two major dramas and many small ones, Sunday the 7th of October rolled around. I arrived at the PCYC at 8:45, to organise furniture and sweeping. With the event starting at 10:30 I was surprised to find there were already 3 other people there. We set about organising the final touches to the martial arts room. People continued to arrive. By 9:30 there were too many to introduce to each other. By 10:15 all of the presenters had arrived and there were more on the Hills District PCYC tatami than I had ever seen. I was worried that people would be injured in what was clearly going to be very tight training space. There were in the end 52 people training from 11 different martial arts schools.

At a few seconds past 10:30 everyone took their place and I explained a bit about why we were there. Alone we can do little, but together we just might make a difference, even if it is just to say to those who fight cancer, or to those who have lost that battle: "These are people. They are important to us, and as people, we stand together to remember them and honour them". The next four hours for me went by in a flash.

We bowed on. Sensei Mori took the floor and led the class through a renzoku exercise to warm up. Then he taught a series of techniques that were alien to some, familiar to others, but with a twist that made each one new in some way, even to those who were familiar with Nikajo, sankajo, etc. The applause was loud, the audience more than appreciative. Then Sensei demonstrated the power, spirit and beauty that is Yoshinkan Aikido, with the assistance of Lawrence and Kaido. 52 martial artists from 11 schools sat in absolute silence. Sensei demonstrated the tan-jo single person, Lawrence and Kaido were pushed to the point of exhaustion with empty-hand and bokken attacks, singly and together. Many of my Jujutsu friends later commented not just on the technique and spirit that was shown, but also on how distance, timing and angles were demonstrated to perfection, not as a theoretical concept, but as an integral part of the attack-defence cycle. This time the applause was more than loud. We can all be proud to be students of Sensei Mori. With his actions and words, he shows the true essence of his martial art with dignity and pure sincerity. No-one can mistake it. OSU! Sensei, domo arigato gozaimas!

NEWSLETTER



After a quick drinks break, McCarthy Hanshi, 9th Dan of Koryu-Uchinadi Kenpo Jutsu and Aiki Kenpo Jujutsu, lectured on the origins, culture and philosophy of the martial arts, and taught a segment of Naihanchi Kata bunkai, the applications of an Okinawan kata. Many people who practice traditional styles of Karate practice Naihanchi Kata, but are never told what the movements mean. Sensei McCarthy's ideas of how to unlock the principles within kata resonated not only with the Karate-ka present, but to everyone who practices Japanese or Japanese-derived martial arts. The kata is the map. The map is not the territory. Learn the principles contained in the kata, and allow these principles to guide you through the territory.

Next on the floor was Tony Burke, a martial artist of more than 50 year's experience, who demonstrated and taught traditional Taekwondo. Before he even got onto the mat, he was breaking a brick for the cameras of Briz-31. Correct stance, strategy and tactics for the kicking game was taught and many unfortunate boards broken.

The last teacher on the mat for the day was Deane Lawler. Deane has a deep background in several martial arts including Choy Lay Fat and Arnis, but was this day teaching Reality Self-defence tactics. The drills he taught enabled each martial artist, no matter what his or her background to see immediately how they could apply what they already knew to a 'street' situation. The attacks included hair-pulls and face slaps and focused on surviving the first few seconds of a fight, getting in position to use your skills, and then using them (even when you're dizzy and disoriented!)

Of course, my deepest thanks to everyone who shelled out \$100 of their hard-earned to be there and support this most worthy cause. Over 50 martial artists were there and trained their hearts in out in 35 degree heat with no ego and no injuries on what was a very crowded mat. Many were also present to observe for the price of a \$20 donation. The Hills District Police Citizens Youth Club must also be thanked for providing the venue at a much-reduced rate. The community television Briz-31 was also there, shooting a truckload of footage and interviewing the presenters. Thank-you for your support, Kris!

Finally, on a serious note, to anyone who has gone through or is going through cancer, either themselves or a supporting a loved one, you are not alone, never give up. If your spirit is not bowed, you are not beaten.

Peter Hills,

Fight For Life 2012 Brisbane Coordinator.

