
2015 HIGHLIGHTS

A Year in Review

As the year ends we wish you well for 2016 and reflect back on our organisation's achievements throughout the year.



At the end of 2014 our organisation was placed in a very difficult position, a former director of the WJJF UK Ltd wanted to donate Soke Clark's personal possessions to a very worthwhile cause, fortunately the Clark family did not want these items separated, as many others have been in the past, after recovering items of personal sentimental value, his wife and daughter entrusted Soke's remaining possessions to the safekeeping of our Managing Director Robert Hart to display at The Clark Centre the spiritual home of our Soke.

Kinen Seminar at The Clark Centre, 8th February 2015

January saw Kancho Hart, finding the responsibility a great honour set about (with the help of a number of dedicated students) altering the

storage area, prior to that some may remember it as a training room or even the boxing ring, into a fantastic memorial, displaying Soke Clark's Gi's, photographs, certificates and memorabilia collected by him over his illustrious career.

February saw the memorial opened on the 3rd anniversary of Soke Clark's passing with a masterclass, in his honour, we are sure he would have been proud to witness the intensity and atmosphere of the class, the quality of the event and amount of the home-grown master grades who participated, most of whom Soke Clark had personally instructed, international representatives attended and those that couldn't be there sent letters of support, all showing homage to our Soke's memory.

March saw the first seventh Dan gradings at the Clark centre since the passing of Soke Clark, Sensei Mike Widdall and Sensei Andrew McConville, both bearing the brunt of the higher standards now expected from all students who take not only high grades but all grades.

May saw the end of an era when our former president and lifelong friend of Soke Clark, GSB chose, some believe coerced or led by greed, to end his collaboration with the World Ju-Jitsu Federation (WJJF) and continue in his own direction as the World Ju-Jitsu Kobudo Organisation (WJJKO), deemed by some outside our organisation, as a step back in our progression, we saw this as a positive move, as it made it possible for the WJJF to open its doors to all students from the past, regardless of disputes or differences, we are now able to unite with the one common goal, which is to honour the person we all admire, SOKE Robert Clark.

In July our management team was formed, they have now taken up the position of Directors within the WJJF UK CIC, with the responsibility this entails and are tirelessly working hard for the benefit of the organisation, with no personal financial gain.

August saw another pivotal moment in our progression when the logo used by the WJJF for some 40 years was legally registered as our official trademark, thus preventing its use by those wishing to impersonate the WJJF in any form whatsoever.

With all profits now being reinvested back into the company, September saw the start of further renovations to the centre, new lighting in the dojo, rewired electrics to the whole of the building, decorating to the communal areas and additional training equipment was acquired.



WJJF 40th
Anniversary
Commemorative
Badge

October saw further seventh Dan grades, Sensei Nick Horton and Sensei John Kenney showing the way, along with other students taking the coveted WJJF Dan grades, all demonstrating the higher standards we now not only expect, but demand.

November saw fund-raising by the parents resulting in the arrival of our much coveted (for the safety of young and old) Defibrillator. Mark King the founder of the Oliver King foundation presented the life-saving equipment to a packed class of students and parents, the twelve participants of the training course, enabling its use, were also presented with their certificates.

2015 has also seen a record number of new members joining or rejoining our federation, as the past three years hard work finally begins to bear fruit.

2016 promises to be a very exciting year, our 40th anniversary and we start it off by collaborating with overseas groups, with a view to rebuilding our international representation. At this point, we would like to welcome all those listed below back to the home of the WJJF.

- Shihan Rene Skovdal representing Denmark
- Shihan Denis Vanhees representing Belgium
- Shihan John Glimmerveen representing the USA
- Sensei Nadine Park representing Kuwait

We are also looking forward to our new Italian representatives Shihan Guido Nicoli, representing his group, "Nama" and Shihan Andrea Colombini, represent his group "PMA" visiting the Clark Centre memorial for the first time in January.

Furthermore, we are delighted that they all have the foresight to believe their future belongs with the original WJJF and it is now our responsibility to support their groups in any way necessary to enhance our united organisation.

Moving forward 2016 will be the 40th year anniversary of the WJJF and the event the "KINENBI" is being held in LIVERPOOL the birthplace of our founder and where it all began, we also have a VERY special exhibit to unveil, (very few people will have seen this before) this will be a permanent addition to the display at the Clark centre, so don't miss it.

All are welcome to attend without exception our doors are always open.

Finally, we wish you all a happy and prosperous 2016 and hope to see as many of you on the tatami enjoying the work Soke practised and dedicated his career to.

“2016 is the 40th Anniversary year of the WJJF, founded in 1976 by Soke Robert Clark”