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INCORPORATING BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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February 1976





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1975 European Team Event. Brian Jacks is lifted head high by Obadov of Yugoslavia before being thrown to the mat, Jacks twisted out of the throw but partially dislocated his back, just managing to hold on till the end of the contest and force a draw.

Photo by David Finch

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## John Goodbody

reports on the

# SENIOR NATIONAL TRIALS FOR MEN

with pictures by David Finch

Perhaps it was because the Olympics were still eight months away. Perhaps it was because the squad system has robbed the National Trials of the crucial significance that they had until 1970. Perhaps it was because everyone knew that in two classes — the light-heavyweight and middleweight — only injuries would prevent Dave Starbrook and Brian Jacks from being picked to represent Britain in the Montreal Games. But whatever reasons there were we felt a distinct lack of intense atmosphere when the Olympic Judo Trials took place at Crystal Palace on December 13 and 14.

In far too few contests were we aware that people were fighting for their places at the Olympics. Too few competitors seemed to have the attitude of Al Oerter, who won four successive Olympic discus titles: "These are the Olympics" he once remarked, "you die for them." Of course the week-end did not entirely dampen our spirits but what was depressing was that there were hardly any young competitors of genuine international potential in evidence. It was surprising therefore, that Starbrook and Jacks should react with such explosive and original violence to any thought that they might be superseded by other British com-

petitors by Montreal. They provided the most glittering spectacles of the week-end.

One of the most distinct qualities that marks a true champion is the ability to raise the level of one's performance when it is needed. Both of these fighters have done this so frequently in the past that we have come to expect it of them. And once again we were not disappointed.

Both had awkward final contests — Starbrook against Peter Donnelly, the Midlander who did so well in the World Championships, and Jacks against his training partner Roy Inman. But both seemed to go into a higher gear when the challenge was presented. They, at any rate, were not going to be prevented from going to the Olympics again.

Starbrook had gone through the early contests with rugged efficiency. His famous left tai-otoshi was hardly glimpsed as he knocked opponents to the ground and then affixed unbreakable hold-downs, armlocks or strangles. Donnelly, however, was expected to present Starbrook with plenty of problems. After all he had only lost to the Japanese champion Ishibashi on a koka at the World Championships — a performance that must have given him great confidence in his own un-



David Starbrook throws Peter Donnelly of the Midlands for ippon with tai-otoshi within 10 seconds of the start of their light-heavyweight final contest. Donnelly was runner-up to Starbrook.

questioned ability. He lasted 11 seconds against Starbrook.

The Londoner clamped on his favourite grip, swept in for tai-otoshi and Donnelly was spun over the outstretched left leg for ippon with Starbrook landing solidly on top of him. It was a throw of equal force to the one that sent Angelo Parisi

to the mat at the last Olympic Trials. The crowd, for the only time during the week-end, erupted with admiration at the sheer physical magnificence of the move, while Donnelly stood up, shaken at the unexpectedness of the action. But he shouldn't be depressed at the experience. Starbrook's determination to





finish the contest quickly indicates how highly he regards him. If Donnelly can put on another three-quarters of a stone he should earn himself a place in Britain's Olympic team in the Open category.

Jacks, competing in these Trials for the 13th successive year, added ko-uchi-gari to his contest repertoire this time, which he worked in smoothly with his famous left seoi-nage (a technique that he brought in just before he won his first European title in 1970). Often he grabbed his opponent's leg which he had scooped up with this movement. Even Inman, who has given Jacks so many bitter battles in recent years, was deceived by the combination of moves as the Olympic middleweight bronze medallist escalated the contest. The first four minutes had provided no knock-downs but Inman, I thought, was marginally ahead on attacks. Then Jacks took the bout from the tempo and dexterous skill of the National Trials into a world class contest. He scored four times (twice with ko-uchi-gari and twice with seoi-nage) within a minute and a half to end the bout with a destructive display of force and finesse. Inman can content himself with the thought that in most other countries in the world he would have been the regular No. 1 for many years. In third place was Travis of the Army, who fought with commendable consistency and solidity and gave Inman, in particular, some anxious moments.

The most disappointing feature of the Trials was the absence of Keith Remfry from the heavyweight class. Although he had entered the event he had severe stomach pains and was advised by a doctor not to com-

pete. Usually for a person of his reputation — twice World Championships bronze medallist and European silver medallist — this wouldn't matter, but Remfry hasn't competed because of injury since May 1974.

At his best Remfry could easily win a medal in the Olympics. Not only will he be facing just one entry from each country (unlike the World Championships when two fighters are permitted for each class), but also each country will have to consider whether they should put their best heavyweight in the Open division. Some heavyweights will be able to fight in both classes (as Ruska and Glahn did at Munich) but unlike 1972 there will be no four day gap between the lightweight division and the start of the Open category which allowed Glahn and Ruska nine days to recover from their exertions in the heavyweight division before having to fight again. This year the six categories follow each other on successive days beginning with the heavyweights and ending with the Open. This means that at Montreal there will be considerable advantage in fighting in just one category rather than doubling-up. I suspect that both Japan and Russia will pick their best fighter for the Open class and field their second best for the heavyweight division. And what happens if Remfry is in one pool and the Japanese and Russians are in the other? He can't meet them before the final! And there is no other heavyweight from any country who is in the same league as the Remfry who smashed Iwatsuri at the 1971 World Championships, who delighted us all by hurling Novikov to the mat in the 1974 European Team Event Final, who gave Ruska such a gruelling time in the 1971 World Championships. The possibilities for him in this situation are endless.

But he hasn't fought seriously for two years and he must provide some evidence of his fitness if he is to get

*Opposite:* During the trials Roy Inman won many contests with his superb uchi-mata. He was pleased with the fact that he was regaining some of the form he displayed as a light-heavyweight.





Brian Jacks, seen here in superb form, fought his way through to a repeat of last year's final against Roy Inman. The contest was dominated by Jacks who won with three wazaris.

the support to make the British team. With Parisi now a French citizen — his nationality papers came through last month — and Ives suffering from a horribly damaged knee, there is little experienced opposition to encounter. But it is simply unfair to people like Bob Bradley, who finished first in these Trials, for Remfry to expect to return as Britain's No. 1 heavyweight simply on his past reputation. As it was, Bradley looked solidly competent in defeating Errol Carnegie for the title and he can surely be excused if he doesn't feel rather grieved at not being able to tackle Remfry.

The welterweights threw up one of the few promising youngsters to have emerged recently — Neil Adams, a European Junior bronze medallist this year and a person who showed tremendous resources of spirit and skill. He finished fourth eventually. Ahead of him were three contest-hardened competitors, Dave Lawrence, Willie Woods and, in first place, Vass Morrison. Lawrence should still be a lightweight and has never threatened to be a medallist in the European Championships in the welterweights as he certainly did at lightweight. His physical strength at lightweight (acquired from years

of weight training) was enormously impressive. But at welterweight he finds that the leading competitors are his match in this department and often edge him out on skill. Woods, Britain's only bronze medallist in the 1968 European Championships, was a welcome return. He gave the category a depth of solidity and experience that was pleasing. But even he could not wear down Vass Morrison whose unusual techniques and dexterity brought him home in first place.

Given a lucky draw Vass has the chance of a medal in Montreal. Like Remfry, much depends on what mental frame he is in on the day. But if he can dedicate himself to six months regular training he might spring a surprise. His greatest gift is that he possesses an unusual variety of moves. And if Nevzorov and the Japanese are in the other pool there are few welterweights whom he can face before the final who could match his ability. But first he must prove to Team Manager Ray Ross that not only is he indisputably Britain's best welterweight, but also that he is a person who can be depended on.

The lightweights provided the toughest category. There was an astonishing depth which prevented even such established competitors as Solihull's Keith Cannaby making the Squad. Rather surprisingly Ray Neenan finished first although he was a controversial winner over Constantine Alexander in their bout. Danny Da Costa, whom we will always remember for his silver medal in the 1974 European Championships, was suffering from an injury, something that prevented him from mounting an even more powerful challenge. As it was, he was third and is still very much in contention for a place at Montreal. After all, he is the only British lightweight to have won a medal in a major international event during the 1970's.

Neenan looked more impressive than at any time that I have seen him. He strung together a series of sensible victories in which he was expertly guided in his tactics by Brian Jacks. But he will still have to continue this improvement at the British Open and European Championships to be sure of getting the Olympic place in such a fiercely contested category.

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# In vino veritas

(In wine the truth)

by Richard Cullen

It was Sunday 26th October 1975, the plane was cruising at thirty thousand feet, over only heaven and the pilot knew where, en route between Vienna and Heathrow. I was sitting only a few seats from a bitterly disappointed British team, which was returning home from the 1975 World Judo Championships, without a medal between them. After sipping copious champagne cocktails my mind slipped away from my present surroundings to successes of the past and the shape of things to come.

Many years have passed since the British team last failed to gain a medal of some kind or another in international competition. Looking at the disappointment on the faces of our players, I asked myself the question; Why? Why did we fail to take one single medal at the Championships?

Why? The answer is simple. My thoughts drifted to the three days of gruelling contests I had just witnessed. Who had won? Who had lost? It was all too clear. Amateurs and professionals. 'Amateurs and professionals?' you say, 'Professionals are not allowed to compete in the International Judo Federation's World Championships.' No of course they are not. I know that and you know that, but I am lost for any other word to describe any of the

competitors who stepped onto the victory rostrum in Vienna. Because if you do not call a soldier who does nothing else all day but train at judo, or a man who is paid vast sums of money for training people to practice judo and to train with the National squad of his country, day in day out, a professional then there is something sadly lacking with my knowledge of the English language.

The nearest I saw to an amateur on the rostrum in Vienna were the Japanese, but there again they are mainly students or policemen with as much time as they need to train. Some are in business, well that is what they call it, whether they go to work for more than a minimal period of time a week is debatable.

'Well they should not be allowed to compete in the Olympics, if they are professionals, should they?' you ask. No, of course they should not but unfortunately the everyday definition of a 'Professional' is not the same as that of the Olympic meaning of the word, so they get away with it. It would appear from Vienna, that this country and a few others are the only ones which remain true to the amateur tradition.

My heart, as did the hearts of many other British spectators, went out to our team, they came, they saw the odds and they fought to the best

of their ability. Not for them a minimal effort, they gave one hundred per cent for their country. We all expected, (unfairly I believe), so much of them. Many of you who were not in Vienna, might be excused for saying that they let us down. Yet take it from one who was there they did not. What if they did fail us? They gave us their best and we can ask no more.

If principles matter to you, either the values of the Olympics must change, or the principles regarding amateur sport in this country must be radically altered to fall in line with foreign countries.

None more prolific may be found in the field of sham amateurism than the Eastern bloc countries, we have all watched their astonishing rise to fame in all sports, none more noteworthy than their successes in Judo.

Where lies the remedy?

Money, yes money, that is the word. We are in a world now ravaged by inflation, where material things count, more than values. The day has gone when we could expect players, such as Brian Jacks and Dave Starbrook, to exist on next to nothing and give their all for British Judo.

It is impossible for a person to work a full day, which one has to, to earn a living wage, train every spare minute to maintain a high standard in Judo and have a social life as well. Somehow the money has to be found to either, a) compensate the players for time taken off work or b) we find sufficient funds so that they do not have to work. Our other course of action is to educate employers, send messengers into their midst, bearing the message of sport, so that they will pay their employees whilst training. The last is preferable but first we would have to engineer the players into companies with capital to be able to support an absent member of staff.

We expect far too much of our top players, one generation of successful

judoka are about to end their contest careers. Can we expect, can we ask, other players to take their places unless we give them sufficient support? We must offer them remuneration in some form or another. It is not only when they are at their prime but after their retirement from contest judo, that we should be helping them. Take the Russians, they make their champions 'Masters of Sport', which assures them an adequate living after their retirement. Our players have had to, in the main, either give up careers to succeed at Judo, or never even started them. Then when they have reached their peak we forget them, and they have to find work the best they can to survive. Is this right? No of course it is not; I hope we can all agree on that point.

How can we induce more money into the British Judo Association? Maybe the following suggestions will place the seeds of thought in your brains and motivate you to do something about our monetary situation.

My first suggestion is that we try to make everybody who plays or teaches to come under the guidelines of the British Judo Association. It would take in all those bodies which purport to represent judo in this country. Take France, there they have one body for judo, legislated by Parliament. Every person practicing judo has to be in possession of a licence issued by the governing body. Think what the revenue would be in this country, we could adequately train and compensate our teams. However I dare not suggest Government legislation in this country for fear of somebody muttering 'It's a free country I can do as I wish'. Think of the Civil rights organisations, the Government would not dare pass such REPRESSIVE powers, for fear of antagonising the public. There is little chance of the charlatan organisations voluntarily joining us, because our standards are plainly too high. Wrong is it not, that these organisations that have no commitments to International



Judo can line their coffers with gold whilst we struggle along in the B.J.A., almost as the poor relations? With the product of all the monies the future would be far more cheerful. The time has come for the 'Sting' to come to an end, let the members of these organisations be told that they are being duped out of money. Because unless they join the B.J.A. they will never represent Great Britain at judo, however good they may be. Let them pay their money to the Association which is recognised and not those based on outdated myths and ideals, with not an ounce of International influence between them. However I suppose it is all a dream, with Government not willing to show its hand and the charlatans not willing to join us, what chance do we stand?

More Government aid seems on the face of it a very good idea, but with a little research one soon realises that it is not very practical. It may seem to you that the amount of money we receive from the Sports Council is a pittance. Well it is, but when you realise that the Sports Council only receives £8,000,000 a year to spread over all the sports participated in throughout the country, it does not leave much for each individual sport. Compare this with £20,000,000 spent on the Arts Council and you may be excused from deciding to take up ballet. The economic situation in the country at this present time does not allow more money to be spent on sport. Surely though we deserve a slightly larger slice of the cake, because we brought back more medals from the last Olympics per ratio of players than any other British sport. No, I am afraid the safe is firmly locked for at least another year.

Sponsors, yes that is the answer but where are they? The marvellous efforts of Joseph Sanders, which have kept our head above the water for well over a year, need to be amplified many times over to gain

the financial position we seek. Other sports seem to have little trouble in finding sponsors so why do we have a nil return on sponsorship? Why are the sponsors not willing to support judo? Show jumping, football, golf, etc., seem to have a bottomless source of sponsors, so we must look to the majority of sponsors' aims in sport. A ready answer would appear to be advertising. The large companies state that judo does not receive coverage on television and the news media. My only comment is this. Have you ever purchased a tyre or a radio because such and such a company has sponsored an event? No, of course you have not, nor probably ever will. The majority of companies sponsor sports to gain tax relief. The advertising they gain on television, etc. through their sponsorship gains only indirect results, a name that remains in your mind. Of course what they say about sponsorship and coverage is true. When did you last see judo on the television? Why do we not get coverage?

Unfortunately I have never understood why we do not receive more coverage in the media, but there I think everyone who does not practice judo is sadly missing out, on enjoyment. Has anyone ever tried to explain to the press and T.V. companies what judo is all about? Have we asked them to try and explain it on television? People have to understand something before they become interested. If they have no knowledge they are not interested, it is beyond their understanding. Then once in a blue moon we show them a gruelling five minute contest from the World Championships and expect them to understand and enjoy it. Really it is not on, is it? Other countries appear to have broken through the barrier, you only had to look at the number of T.V. crews in Vienna, the most we could muster were a couple of 8 mm. cine cameras to take a few souvenir shots. The only information that the public

heard of the World Championships in this country was through the newspapers, as a result of John Goodbody's marvellous efforts.

The T.V. and newspaper coverage we receive is appalling. An athlete runs around the track at Crystal Palace in x seconds and the news media flock to him. Judo players battle for untold contests and receive a few lines on the inside page of a Sunday paper, that is if they receive any coverage at all.

You might think much of what I said is, to use a common phrase, 'gilding the lily'. I am sure that many are saying 'It is not that bad'. Look again at Vienna, we could only take a team of six, we couldn't afford more. The Irish took nine. That sums it up very well. If you want more proof look at the Europeans. Most countries can take two at each weight and then also have other players for the team contest on the final day. We cannot, our Doctor has to stay up until two or three o'clock in the morning ensuring that our players who have battled through their weight category are now fit to fight in the team competition. They've got to be, we do not have anyone else, we cannot afford it. How different might the results be if we had enough cash to send a full complement of players. But alas it is not to be unless we gain this huge injection of money that is required.

The only way to solve the problem is for the British Judo Association to either employ a full time, fully qualified Public Relations Officer or engage the services of a firm of consultant Public Relations Officers. Not that I wish to minimise the achievements of Vic Terry our present honorary P.R.O., but it is a professional's task and somehow one of our top priorities must be to obtain such services. It will cost money, everything does, but it is the only way we will obtain sponsorship and coverage from the media. Sponsors

will not come to us, nor will the media, we have to go and find them. I have had the fortune to see professional public relations men in operation and the results are beyond belief. Should we find the money to employ one, we would never look back.

'There is no such thing as defeat, such a possibility does not exist.' Queen Victoria spoke those words many years ago, but I doubt if she would even have the nerve to relate them to the present state of British Judo. It looks to me that defeat is close at hand, all due to that root of all evil, money.

Tony Reay's Squad Fund has gone far to help the squads. It supplies kits, bags badges etc., but is really only a drop in the ocean. Without money, victory may soon be a thing of the past. Just as a point in passing I see that we spent only £38.05 per member of the three male squads in 1974, (See B.J.A. Balance Sheet) for training. That is just over £3.00 per session. Poor is it not? I would not like to imagine how much foreign countries spend on their national squad players a week. Probably three or four times as much as we spend on ours a year.

Somewhere, someone must want to support British Judo. I do not know him, you might. Let us push for a single Judo Association, let us press for more Government aid, let us find the sponsors because our players deserve it, nay, in fact have a right to it.

Should all the gloom I have spread in this article be seen in the coming years to be true, when our players stop bringing home, for good, the medals because of the facilities we have failed to provide them with. Remember what I wrote in this article and do not point the accusing finger at the players, their coaches, managers or officials. Turn it at yourself because the blame will rest with all of us.

*Continued on page 14*



# HISTORY OF MARTIAL ARTS OF JAPAN

By Syd Hoare, 5th Dan

Japan, like any other country, has an early history of fighting and hunting which made necessary the development of weapons and fighting techniques.

The earliest records of Japan, the Kojiki and the Nihon Shoki both written at the beginning of the eighth century, contain many references to hunting and fighting and the use of various sorts of weapons.

It is likely that the wholesale introduction of the Tang Chinese culture from about the seventh century also brought with it new weaponry and military theory. Over about two centuries Japan absorbed as much as it needed from China and then began to develop its own distinctive style.

The first typical Japanese development was the curved sword. Earliest imported Chinese swords still surviving in the Shosoin Imperial Repository in Kyoto are straight, single-edged weapons probably wielded with one arm. Within a century Japanese armourers and swordsmiths had developed this into a long curved weapon of incredible sharpness. The hilt was extended which enabled the user to wield it with both hands, adding to its cutting and penetrating power.

Archery both on foot and horseback has a long history, most certainly pre-dating the Chinese cultural invasion. The early records tell of Yabusame or target shooting from a galloping horse and Inuðmono or dog shooting. Apart from its obvious practical uses archery developed as part of the Court ceremonial, taking on an almost religious nature. Until the arrival of firearms in the sixteenth century Japanese military

strategy centred on the use of the bow.

Fighting on horseback or fighting against the horseman led to the development of the spear or lance which was used not so much for throwing but for stabbing or cutting. Thus, though there were other weapons, the early warriors trained themselves mainly in the use of the sword, spear, bow and horsemanship.

Early Japanese military experience was gained in the many expeditions to subjugate the Ainu of mid and Northern Japan, in attempts to maintain a Japanese foothold in Korea, and the various small wars which led to the rise of the military class and government of 1285. In addition much was learned from the successful repulsion of the Mongol invasions of the thirteenth century.

The introduction of firearms by Portuguese in 1543 transformed Japanese military thinking and weaponry.

Castle construction was swiftly changed and mounted archers and swordsmen lost their importance. Whereas the early priority was for strong, tough and large warriors the introduction of the firearm made long training, size and strength unnecessary. The smaller samurai and foot soldier came into his own.

Typical fighting formation of the time was a front line composed of gunmen and archers (who fired during the reloading intervals), a second line of long spear men and a third line of short spear men. When fighting in tight formations the spear was used mainly for thrusting; however, when space permitted it a type of spear known as a naginata, was used

for cutting and scything. The swordsmiths who had developed the incredibly sharp curved sword also turned their attention to forging sharp spear and naginata heads thus adding to their effectiveness.

By the beginning of the Edo period (ca. 1600-1868) standard training for the Japanese warrior consisted of the "Rokubugei" or six martial arts. They were: archery, gunnery, swordsmanship, horsemanship, spear-fighting and hand-to-hand combat.

The hand-to-hand combat was known as ju-jitsu which consisted of a variety of techniques for close-quarter work such as kicking, throwing, punching, strangling, joint locks, trussing and binding, plus the use of certain small weapons and defences against the standard weapons. Ju-jitsu probably developed from early battlefield experiences, and from the Sumo (native wrestling) techniques. Chinese influences crept in during the mid 17th century but there are a few ju-jitsu schools clearly predating this.

The development and stabilisation of Japanese society by 1600 led to the establishment of specialist Martial Art schools. After more than a century of civil war Japan achieved unification under the rule of the Tokugawa military government (or Bakufu). The Bakufu divided the society of the time into four strict divisions, namely warrior, farmer, artisan and merchant and by various means held tight control for more than 250 years. It was the Metsuke or secret police of the Bakufu who had the job of controlling the various martial art schools. Teachers of these martial arts were licensed by the Metsuke and allowed a certain number of pupils.

The widespread use of firearms, which led to a drastic reduction in the amount of armour worn by the Samurai, and the change from a military to a much more civilian way of life during the Edo peace period, profoundly affected the martial arts.

Technically the emphasis shifted to faster and more nimble methods of fighting with more stress placed on skill and style. Also affected was the purpose of the martial arts. During times of war the martial arts were used for staying alive; however, with the long period of peace they became more and more used as methods of character-building or as a way of finding some universal truth of Buddhism or kindred religion.

There was an enormous proliferation of martial art schools during the Edo period but most are traceable back to a few common ancestors.

The earliest recorded school is the Ogasawara school of mounted archery which was established during the 14th century. In swordsmanship for example the earliest school is the Tenshinshoden Shinto school of the mid-15th century and in ju-jitsu there is the Take(no)uchi school of the mid-16th century. However, the great majority of the schools were started between about 1600 and 1750.

A few schools concentrated on more than one martial art; however, it was generally held that one man needed more than a lifetime to master a single martial art.

Total number of schools is estimated as follows. (N.B. By school I mean a particular style of fighting and not a single training establishment):

Military tactics and strategy	71
Horsemanship	67
Sword fighting	745
Spear/Lance	148
Gun	192
Ju-jitsu	179
Archery	51

Despite this great number, a survey of the existing documents of these schools has shown very few common ancestors. For example, swordfighting schools mention barely 11 basic common schools. So one could perhaps say that there are only



11 basic swordfighting systems. This is not surprising since it is obvious that there are not 192 ways of firing a gun, for example.

One particular style of swordfighting, depending upon its masters and reputation, might be taught in many different parts of the country. Most common styles of ju-jitsu were the Kito and Yoshin styles.

As the schools developed technically so their technical and psychological principles became codified, usually in Confucian, Zen, Buddhist or Taoist terms. Thus three clear approaches to the martial arts emerged which were not strictly military.

The Confucianists stressed the martial arts for their character-building qualities and secondly for the good effect this would have on making Japan a strong country. The Zen or Buddhist approach was to make the martial arts into a means of discovering the "Way" or universal truth. This was done by exploring to the very limits the mind-body relationships in training and combat.

Toward the end of the period when Western concepts crept in, some, such as medics, began to realise their potential for recreation,

physical education and health purposes.

What is surprising is how much the military aspect of the martial arts came to be ignored. After 1600 the Samurai had next to no chance of testing their skills in battle. In the swordfighting world for example, government permission was required to duel and even for engaging in contests using mock wooden swords (which could be quite dangerous).

The latest and most modern development in the martial arts is their development into a sport. A few such as judo lend themselves to this and have attracted enormous numbers of adherents all over the world. Many in Japan criticise this trend since the character-building and "Way", searching aspects have largely been ignored. However it is strongly argued that this modern development is closer to the original purpose of the martial arts, i.e. as fighting techniques. In judo for example the severe training that the Olympics demands, gives the competitor great strength and stamina and requires courage and realistic technique. Ju-jitsu training was often not so realistic since its practitioners rarely fought each other as do the modern (combat) judo men. In the severity of training the truth of the "Way" is still to be found.

#### IN VINO VERITAS — *Continued from page 11*

Should we fail to find the cash, how true the words of Oliver Cromwell will be when, on dissolving the first Protectoral Parliament, he said "... Weeds and nettles, briars and thorns, have thriven under your shadow, dissettlement and division, discontentment and dissatisfaction together with real dangers to the whole." A fitting epitaph to us all.

That plane, remember the one I

'IN VINO VERITAS'

was flying in at the beginning of this article, landed with a bump, bringing me back to the horrible and stark realities. Now almost a month after the flight I have managed to put my thoughts to paper. Most will by now know the results of the Junior Europeans, project your mind forward and you will see



## THE BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION

### Newsletter Supplement

#### AS I WAS SAYING . . . . .

By TONY REAY

We never seem to find the time to pause and offer thanks to those people who do so much valuable work for the British Judo Association. So in this issue I would like to start out first with a very special thanks to all those valuable people who saw us through that most difficult year, 1975.

To that small army of referees, timekeepers and recorders numbering seventy people and including the sub-committees of both the groups involved — I wish to extend a particular message of thanks and congratulations. Thanks for seeing to it that the national events in the latter part of the year were not curtailed when the big financial curbs were brought in at the insistence of the Finance Sub-Committee. Congratulations to them for ensuring that not only did these events continue but an even higher standard of organisation and presentation was reached. At their own expense and giving so many weekends of their time, they saw to it that the true Judo followers, the competitors and the spectators were able to involve themselves fully in their chosen sport and gave them

something to always look back on and remember. Cheerfully and resolutely these wonderful people helped to steer us through that sad and otherwise depressing year. Thanks a million.

#### New Number One

Most of you will have read the special announcement in the November/December issue of the Newsletter Supplement from the Chairman informing members of my intention not to enter into another five-year contract in the post of General Secretary. I am sure that there is really no need for me to go into the reasons for my decision; most of you I know will understand. It has been a very busy and eventful five years as far as I am concerned. There have been some very frustrating times, it would be dishonest of me to tell you otherwise. But nevertheless, there have been some very exciting and dramatic moments and I shall always feel a certain pride in having been involved during that very eventful period.

When I first moved into Head Office on the 1st January, 1971, it



took me just two hours to fully assess the state of things. I said to myself, "What a terrible mess I have let myself in for". In just the three months that Head Office had not had any direct management, the files, records, systems, just about everything was pretty chaotic. Slowly and patiently, without any staff, I had to build up again the structure of a National governing body — and as is often the case, there was no money to do it. That is why I am now delighted that a new General Secretary has been found and that he can move in a few weeks before I leave on the 31st January. So by the time you will be reading this I will no longer be in the chair. I have however accepted an offer from the Executive Committee to take on the post of Development Officer. This will be very much in a part-time capacity but it will mean that, until they can find somebody better, you will have to continue to suffer my rambling and ravings in these pages. For my sins part of the duties of this new post will be to continue writing up the official notes.

I have always likened the job of General Secretary as being similar to that of running a ship of the line. The Chairman of the Association is the Captain of the ship and the General Secretary is the ship's Number One. Rather like the Officer Commanding a regiment and the Adjutant of that regiment. These two people, with a good understanding of their jobs and a proper working relationship with each other which includes respect for each other; means a happy and effective ship or regiment.

In order to move things along, the Executive Committee appointed a four-man Sub-Committee to deal with interviews and present a short list. A later development was that this Sub-Committee were to be given the powers to appoint — provided all members of the committee were in accord. The Sub-Committee duly

carried out their mandate and although it was very difficult indeed coming to a decision on the final three, they were all able to agree. The result was that Tony (Oh no! not another one.) Johnson was appointed for a three month trial period as General Secretary.

Tony is one of those quiet and efficient people I mentioned in the last two issues who has helped in the past to run our national events. Some of you who have been to Crystal Palace may recall him best for his announcing in the finals of an event. He took up Judo only because of his son's involvement and felt that starting late by comparison these days, he had more to offer on the administration side. This he has certainly been doing very effectively. He served his apprenticeship, so to speak, first organising his club's events and later helping with Southern Area events. The dramatic development in the last few years of the very successful Guildford Judo Club, run by Ellen Cobb, has been attributed in no small measure to the efforts of Tony Johnson.

With the expansion of Head Office now at last possible and miraculously happening, I am sure many people feel that what will be needed for the future is not so much a very experienced Judo person, but an experienced office manager. And this is where Tony's qualifications excel. He has vast experience from the world of business and as sport is slowly but surely becoming more and more of a business, I feel he will be the ideal man.

### Top Lightweight

In the last issue of this magazine I attempted to give readers a brief run-down on the most impressive fighters to emerge from the 1975 Senior Men's Trials. A number of people have reminded me that I was perhaps a little unfair in not drawing attention to the efforts of the winner of the lightweight category, Ray

Neenan. On examining my notes and upon reflection I realise that at about every time Ray stepped out to battle with someone I was otherwise involved — dealing with and attempting to answer the innumerable queries that people feel they do have to raise when they can at last track down the General Secretary. Perhaps now I shall be spared these diversions when at national events. I do apologise most sincerely to Ray. My colleagues tell me he did do very well indeed on the day and chalked up for himself some fine scores in an exceedingly tough category.

### The Examiner Situation

Most Areas are dealing very well with Examiners in their particular Area but we still get many people applying to Head Office for Examiner's cards of authority. Examiner's cards of authority are issued by the Director of Examiners in the Area that the applicant resides. There has been some difficulty also with Examiners coming in from neighbouring Areas to examine at a promotion examination. Some Areas resent this as it plays havoc with their programme. Clubs who arrange for Examiners from outside their Area should first obtain the permission of their own Area Director of Examiners and similarly, as a matter of courtesy, Examiners should inform the Director of Examiners of the Area in which they are going to conduct the examination. Copies of *Conditions for Examiners* are available from Head Office upon receipt of a stamped and addressed envelope.

It should be pointed out that Senior Examiners, of which there are now sixty-eight holding cards of authority issued by Head Office and which have been approved by the Executive Committee, may examine in any Area. However, any club organising an examination and wishing to use Senior Examiners should inform the Director of Examiners

of the Area in which the examination is to take place.

One Area which caters very well for its members by way of promotion examinations is the Midlands Area. In 1975 there were held in that Area 79 Area promotion examinations and 76 club gradings. For 1976 Midlands Area have planned 86 Area gradings and have produced a diary giving venues and dates. This does not include the Dan gradings that will be taking place in the Area nor will it include club gradings that will be arranged throughout the year. The list of planned Area gradings can be obtained from Les Moore who publishes the Midlands Area Newsletter. Ray Topple is the man who organises all Area Dan gradings. The Area has four Senior Examiners and 18 ordinary Examiners to deal with all this work, five Examiners qualified last year. For further details of promotion examinations in the Midland Area, write to: J. Ekins, 50 Haddingley Road, Rushden, Northants.

### Member Club Registration

Would club secretaries who have registered their club for 1976 please check to see whether or not they have received the Member Club Certificate for their club. A number of these have gone missing in one of the Sports Council offices, and although we have records of those who have registered we have no way of knowing who has or has not received their certificate.

On the 31st December, 1975, there were 993 clubs registered with the Association and at the time of writing we are well over the 1,000 mark. At this time of the year renewals and new applications come in daily.

### Welcome Back

Included with club applications in the last week I notice are three former clubs. It is good to see that they have reformed and are now back in circulation and we wish them



luck for the future. Welcome back Halifax Youth Service Judo Club of the Yorkshire and Humberside Area; Harpenden Open Youth Club of the Northern Home Counties and Lowestoft Y.M.C.A. of the Eastern Area.

### Odd Letters

I like the one from the 12-year-old girl who writes: "I am a 5th Dan and I would like to know a lot more than I already know...". And how about the one from the lonely housewife who wants to hire a black-belt to give her private tuition! A parent telephoned to ask us if we could find a club for his two year-old son and just recently Mothercare have applied for club application forms. Where will it all end?

### Top Sports Photographer

When I first saw a batch of judo photographs taken by Tony Duffy I threw away my box Brownie. You may have seen photographs taken by Tony in various magazines. The colour photographs lining the walls of the Crystal Palace restaurant and the V.I.P. lounge are mostly Tony's work. He has built himself a fine reputation in sports photography. So much so that recently he won both first and second place in the International Sports Photograph of the Year Competition.

### Northern Ireland

Just recently the Executive Committee approved in principle the setting up of the Northern Ireland Judo Federation on similar lines to that of the Scottish Judo Federation. The final draft of the new Constitution has to be approved but this does mean that they can now enjoy a certain autonomy whilst still remaining under the aegis of the umbrella organisation, the British Judo Association. In the meantime judo is progressing very much in that Area though with certain sacrifices being made by officials giving their time freely wherever and whenever possible.

### National Coaches

Mik Leigh of Mid-Sussex Judo Club was recently appointed an Honorary National Coach to the Association. Ex international, Mik Leigh has over the years helped many clubs in his district and organised many events, probably the most notable being the Southern Area League.

### Angelo Parisi

The Executive Committee could not agree to a request by the French Judo Federation to free Angelo Parisi to compete for France in the forthcoming European Championships. As one member put it, "We do not wish to stand in Angelo's way, but we have to think of our own competitors".

### B.J.A. Squads Fund

The Squads Fund Appeal which I launched early in 1975 has been a great help to our international competitors, both Men and Women's Senior squads and to the Association itself. The fund was started primarily to give our competitors representing us abroad a little of the status that competitors of other countries enjoy and also some of the extra equipment which they needed for training. With the Association in dire financial straits I could not ask for such things which other people might consider to be luxuries during hard economic times. Since the appeal was launched the Association has not had to provide any of these things. Items provided by the fund have included tracksuits, holdalls, training dummies for use at squad sessions, films, special British team bag stickers, etc. One aspect that has been good for the morale of the British internationals has been that on every trip abroad they have been given a supply of souvenirs such as B.J.A. badges, stickers, ties, etc. Such items they themselves are always presented with but hitherto have not been in the position to return.

The accounts of the B.J.A. Squads Fund for 1975 are as follows:

Receipts		Payments	
	£ p		£ p
A. J. Reay ... ..	5.00	Film—Squad Training ...	26.10
J. A. Palmer ... ..	5.00	B.J.A. (Gifts for E.J.U. Championships) ... ..	45.45
M. & G. Woodward ...	20.00	B.J.A. (Pre-Olympics) Holdalls and Gifts ... ..	88.00
L. G. Hunt ... ..	5.00	Miss Selfridge (Union Jack Socks for Women) ...	19.20
B. King ... ..	5.00	Aarvak (Gymnastics) Services —Training Dummies ...	212.00
Judo Ltd. ... ..	10.00	Sports & Things (Gifts) ...	18.96
R. W. Wright ... ..	3.00	Sports & Things (Holdalls and Gifts) ... ..	97.90
Kendal J.C. ... ..	10.00		
R. J. Bricknell ... ..	5.00		
H. Wakelin ... ..	25.00		
Anonymous ... ..	3.00		
A. Kirkham ... ..	1.00		
A. Smith ... ..	1.00		
Proceeds of Raffle ...	9.00		
Anonymous ... ..	2.00		
J. Goodbody ... ..	50.00		
Proceeds of Raffle ...	138.40		
Tokai Dance proceeds ...	4.00		
G. Wall ... ..	1.00		
B. King ... ..	1.25		
R. Marcroft ... ..	8.00		
Bedford J.C. ... ..	5.00		
Referees Course ... ..	14.00		
Y. Martin ... ..	5.00		
P. Sekine ... ..	10.00		
Pendleton ... ..	10.00		
Tokei Judo Kwai ... ..	40.00		
Referees Course ... ..	19.50		
B. West ... ..	5.00		
U. & E. J.C. ... ..	2.00		
Aiken J.C. ... ..	10.00		
P. Cottis — M. Thornton ...	108.00		
P. Cottis — M. Thornton ...	5.70		
J. Mosley ... ..	20.00		
N. M. Bensusan ... ..	15.00		
J. Ward ... ..	18.60		
Toc H East Lancs. & Pedle ...	25.00		
A. Copperwaite ... ..	3.00		
J. C. Hartley ... ..	10.50		
O-Do-Ryu J.C. ... ..	10.00		
Misc. Head Office ... ..	1.05		
	£649.00	Balance in Hand ... ..	583.43
			65.57
			£649.00

The accounts for the B.J.A. Squads Fund will be dealt with by the Association auditors in due course. I

would like readers to note that the fund is running pretty low now and that this is Olympic year. Donations



would be greatly appreciated.

Jim Thomson of Corby Judokwai tells me that as a result of tremendous efforts by the young people in his club, over £140 has been raised for the fund. This seems quite a remarkable club and certainly seems to have the true judo drive and spirit as you will be able to see in Club Forum in this issue. I think I would be really proud to belong to such a club.

### Squad Managers

Both Marie Fourt and Ellen Cobb were re-appointed to the posts of Senior Women's Squad Manager and Junior Women's Squad Manager respectively for a further term of one year each. Both these posts are honorary and very few people realise the enormous amount of their own time they devote to squad training and competitions apart from the numerous reports they have to write.

## B.J.A. NATIONAL DAN GRADE REGISTER

### Appendix Fourteen

Promotions confirmed 11/11/75 to 13/1/76

MEN TO 1ST DAN	CLUB	AREA	DATE
Anderson, S.	Ards	NI	7/12/75
Bellamy, N. S.	Buckingham	NHC	3/1/76
Bennett, R. J.	—	E	3/1/76
Best, T.	Glen	NI	7/12/75
Black, G. R. B.	Samurai	NW	1/12/75
Childe, S. W.	Southampton Univ.	BUJA	7/12/75
Daniel, C. L.	Croydon	L	29/11/75
Eden, B. R.	Crawley	S	31/10/75
Edwards, M. E.	Carmarthen	Wa	12/11/75
Follows, D.	Torquay	We	12/10/75
Harris, A. J.	Medkwai	S	29/11/75
Laplain, M. N.	Toyakwai	NHC	9/11/75
Lawther, C.	Canterbury Judokwai	S	11/5/75
Lenahan, D.	Henley's	We	6/12/75
Lindberg, K. G. R.	Reading	NHC	9/11/75
Nesbitt, R. G.	LJS	L	14/12/75
Newman, P. J.	Stevenage	NHC	29/11/75
Nixon, J.	Huddersfield	Y/H	21/12/75
Papaommanuel, E.	Manchester Univ.	BUJA	26/10/75
Pearson, A. G.	Belfast YMCA	NI	18/10/75
Pemberton, J. A.	Renshuden	L	14/12/75
Perry, A.	Belfast YMCA	NI	18/10/75
Scott, B.	Yoshin-Ryu	N	21/12/75
Seeds, R.	Leyburn	Y/H	25/12/75
Stark, J. W.	Commandokwai	RM	3/1/76
Sumner, T. C.	Walthamstow Y.C.	L	29/11/75
Thompson, D. J.	Coventry	M	2/11/75
Whyte, G. A.	Battersea County	L	29/11/75
MEN TO 2ND DAN			
Blackburn, A. W.	Fraserkwai	NW	29/6/75
Borthwick, D. J.	Portobello	SJF	2/9/75
Clark, D. W.	Bristol Judokwai	We	17/12/75

Evans, D. T.	Fords, Swansea	Wa	3/1/76
Farrer, A.	Bolton	NW	26/10/75
Ludlow, S.	Georgian	Y/H	3/12/75
O'Brien, T. T.	Fords, Swansea	Wa	3/1/76
O'Donnell, A. J.	Meadowbank	SJF	3/1/76
Scott, J. W.	Kodokwai	N	21/12/75
Spaul, P.	Renshuden	L	18/6/74
Stephenson, W. D.	Bury	NW	29/6/75
Taylor, J. R.	Newbiggins Sports Centre	N	21/12/75
Wakelin, H. R.	Sealand	NW	29/6/75
MEN TO 3RD DAN			
Lovelace, D.	Boston	M	14/12/75
MEN TO 4TH DAN			
Hopkinson, M.	Budokwai	L	27/5/75
WOMEN TO 1ST DAN			
Yeo, B. J.	St. Austell	We	6/12/75
WOMEN TO 2ND DAN			
Booth, K. M.	Wakefield	Y/H	6/12/75

## DIARY OF EVENTS

### INTERNATIONAL, NATIONAL & SOME MAJOR AREA EVENTS, 1976

FEBRUARY	7	NATIONAL YOUNG MEN'S TRIALS	CPNSC
	8	NATIONAL YOUNG WOMEN'S TRIALS	CPNSC
	8	SENIOR NATIONAL TRIALS FOR WOMEN	CPNSC
	14	Jack Pearson Trophy for Boys Under 16 years.	Huddersfield
	21	Welsh Open Championships	Cardiff
28/29	British Universities Judo Association Championships for Men and Women		CPNSC
	29	Olympic Appeal Trophy Championships	RAF Sealand
MARCH	6/7	Executive Committee Meeting	London
APRIL	10	BRITISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR MEN	CPNSC
	11	NATIONAL PROMOTION EXAMINATION FOR BOTH MEN AND WOMEN	CPNSC



MAY	1/2	Executive Committee Meeting	London
	5/9	SENIOR EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR MEN	Kiev, USSR
	15	NATIONAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR WOMEN	Cleveland
	15	NATIONAL KATA CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR MEN AND WOMEN	Cleveland
JUNE	?	NATIONAL PROMOTION EXAMINATION FOR MEN AND WOMEN	Cheadle Hulme
	20	ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	London
	26	NATIONAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR MEN	Huddersfield
	27	Executive Committee Meeting	Huddersfield
JULY	22/24	National Police Championships	?
	17 to	OLYMPIC GAMES (Judo from 26 to 31 July)	Montreal
AUGUST	1	Closing Ceremony of the OLYMPIC GAMES	
SEPTEMBER	4/5	Executive Committee Meeting	London
	25/26	NATIONAL REFEREES COURSE	CPNSC
OCTOBER	16/17	NATIONAL SCHOOLBOY'S CHAMPIONSHIPS	CPNSC
NOVEMBER	6/7	Executive Committee Meeting	CPNSC
	?	BRITISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR WOMEN	?
	?	Southern Young Women's Open Championships	CPNSC
	12/13	JUNIOR EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS (Young Men Under 20)	Gdansk, Poland
	?	SENIOR EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR WOMEN	?
DECEMBER	11/12	SENIOR NATIONAL TRIALS FOR MEN	CPNSC

*PLEASE NOTE: This list does not include international matches which might be arranged as a direct result of sponsorship.*

*This list does not include National Squad training sessions for Senior Men, Senior Women, Under 20's Young Men's Squad and Young Women's Squad which take place throughout the year.*

CPNSC — Crystal Palace National Sports Centre, Norwood, London SE19. For all events held at this Centre there is a season ticket available from Head Office. Adults £5 — Schoolchildren £3.

#### COPY FOR MAGAZINE

Will contributors kindly note that all material intended for publication in JUDO should be typed with double spacing.

## CLUB FORUM

**LONDON JUDO SOCIETY:** Due to the expiry of the lease of our present premises we have found it necessary to look for new premises. Now, after two years, we have obtained a much larger building with a mat area three times greater than our present Club. It will be a while yet before we can install the necessary amenities that we need, but the opening date will be announced. Meanwhile, its business as usual at St. Oswald's Place, where the next gradings are as follows:—

Tuesday, 24th February: 7.00 pm Ladies Kyu Grading.

Sunday, 7th March: 10.00 am Juniors. 2.30 pm 1st Kyu to 1st Dan.

Sunday, 11th April: 10.30 am Novices, 9th, 8th and 7th Kyus. 2.30 pm 6th, 5th, 4th, 3rd and 2nd Kyus.

Current B.J.A. Licenses must be produced.

We should like to thank those loyal Members who have stuck by us these last two years. Their loyalty will be amply repaid by the opening of a superb new L.J.S.

**CORBY JUDOKWAI** from Jim Thomson: The Junior Section started with a dozen kids in an old hut provided by the local Council. This grew over the years and it became necessary in time to move out of the hut into a nearby Youth Centre, but was still very much a conventional Judo club.

*Continued on page 38*



The 1975 Corby Judokwai team which defeated Velbert of West Germany during the Corby Sports Festival. Eight of the team came up through the junior section and two are fathers of current junior section members.





## DAVID WHITE LOOKS BACK AT 1975

The outstanding martial arts event of 1975 must be that most impressive victory by the British Karate team in the World Championships when they beat the Japanese who are always hot favourites.

In Judo, Aikido and Kendo there has been little to cheer about, but quite a lot happening that didn't always make the headlines and as indeed I felt when writing my review last year I am quietly hopeful about the gradual progress of all the martial arts.

I don't have too much faith in the future of the British Union of Martial Arts founded during the year under the aegis of the Sports Council. An 'umbrella' organisation may well be of value in the Kung Fu, Karate field but I cannot really see a lot of benefit for Judo — a recognised Olympic sport — and Aikido which has so few instructors that crooks would almost be welcome! Kendo is so small that there just isn't any necessity for an 'umbrella' because everybody knows everybody else anyway.

If the martial arts Union licenses instructors and possibly all students, then I see the point both financially and practically. But this seems a long way off and although I know I'm treading on dangerous ground I see all sorts of problems.

### Judo

Few competitive medals have come our way in Judo during the year and as I said a couple of months ago I see few coming our way at the Olympics or anywhere else in

1976 either. Any sort of medal at the Olympics will frankly be a rather unexpected bonus.

British Judo is in for a few lean years as Brian Jacks, Dave Starbrook and Chris Child reach the end of their competitive careers and Angelo Parisi has become a French citizen. Nevertheless Judo has gained increased 'respectability' during the year. This must be a good thing although some of the excitement of the early years has gone out of the sport.

The departure of Tony Reay from the General Secretaryship of the B.J.A. does not really come into my 1975 brief but Tony's influence on Judo during his five year tenure of the office has been unspectacular but very noteworthy. It is no coincidence that Judo's prestige has risen during that period.

May I just add that when Tony was critical of me for "trying to push individuals into the news" what I really think he meant was let's have individuals, heroes, characters, in the spotlight on the mat but let's keep the publicity off the officials. I understand what he's getting at but this seems to me to be a trifle naive. I won't labour the point but can you ignore Charles Palmer — who, you'll be pleased to hear, is losing weight — or even Tony himself?

The B.J.A. Executive Committee has come in for some pretty harsh comments during the year, not least from my colleague Richard Williams. I know it is not the E.C.'s policy to reply to criticism — I seem to

have heard that before — so I must say a word in their defence.

Doubtless this will surprise them but I am conscious that they are an unpaid body. To expect them to have the expertise of accountants, the legal skill of lawyers and the foresight of astrologers is asking a little much.

There simply isn't enough cash around to run the Association as it should be run in our inflationary times. Who the devil can produce a sensible five year plan these days? It might look good at the start but how will it look in three years time?

Who will pay for a computer-membership scheme? Can the B.J.A. afford an individual newsletter/magazine to be sent to all members as a part of their annual subscription?

I have my own views on the latter point and believe that a quarterly newsletter could be produced which would give our sport an enormous fillip. But the E.C. would have to decide if a magazine is more important than, say, a couple of annual events now organised.

It is tempting to dwell at great length on Richard's comments but I'll content myself by suggesting that he is right in that the whole E.C. only needs to meet two or three times a year and that smaller committees can perform the interim work both more cheaply and perhaps more rapidly.

Back in February the Young Men's Championship saw Ives and Travis among others fighting with style in the junior categories while the following day the 'regulars' like Ms. Child and Wildman did their stuff once again in the Senior Women's Trials.

A new policy of having honorary national coaches like Tony Sweeney, Ray Ross and Liz Viney and part-time national coaches like George Glass, Syd Hoare and Pete Brown

was, and is, a brave attempt to ensure that all areas of the country see a coach at regular intervals. It is too early to assess the success of this move.

At the Men's Open Individual Championships in April it was no surprise to see Starbrook — straight off the plane after two months in Japan — Jacks and Mullen take first places and Inman and Diebelius silvers. Parisi also took a gold and this was apparently his last competitive appearance as a U.K. athlete. Errol Carnegie, second in the heavies, promised well I'm told, although I didn't see him compete. The lightweight final was an all Canadian affair (two 1st Dans!) and a bit of a shock for our best.

The Vic Terry Trophy for the 1974 Personality of the Year went to B.J.A. doctor, Ken Kingsbury.

It is reliably reported to me that Scottish Judo is on the up and up and it was also good to hear that, that formidable 'old timer' Alan Petherbridge is training the Welsh squad.

There was only a bronze medal for Dave Starbrook at the European Championships in May when the Russians were dominant and defeated France in the team event. The Russians have clearly got the message — as we saw later in the year — that the hardness of Sambo training needs the fluency of Japanese style Judo if it is to bring gold not bronze medals. The Russians, East Germans and Poles dominated the individual contests and it's worth adding that Yugoslavia (how they've improved) took a team bronze.

The National Team Championship was held in June in the Northern Area. It was good to see them stepping in after problems with the staging had nearly resulted in a Crystal Palace venue once again. The E.C. must be commended for



supporting the spreading of the event around the country.

In the quarter finals London were beaten by the North-West (admittedly some of the best London men were not fighting), the Midlands beat the South, Scotland beat Combined Services and North-East beat Wales. I can never understand why the Services are so weak in the martial arts. Surely they have ideal conditions for 'encouraging' quality Budo. Perhaps someone from the Forces will let me know if conditions are far worse than I think they are. And where were the Universities? They didn't even manage a team. At least we managed that in my day.

The Midlands comfortably beat the North-East but Scotland had a real battle to narrowly get past the North-West. Midlands finally won the title after some splendidly tense fighting.

Maurice Allan, former British team member, won the World Under 90 kg. Sambo title in Minsk in September to the horror of the Russians and Bulgarians. Sambo, for the uninitiated, is a cross between wrestling and Judo. His win probably had as much impact in the somewhat restricted Sambo world as Geesink's first victory over the Japanese in Judo.

The Ladies and Girls National Individual Championships were held at Rugby in September. The Young Women's Championships were held in May. Many of the top contestants were not present and it was reported that three ladies were strangled out to the consternation of the audience.

The World Judo Championships in October have recently been reported at length but they produced the expected tussle between Japan and Russia. No medals for Britain alas. For the first time Japan lost the light-heavy and light-middle-weight titles (I've resolved not to use 'welterweight' again because it is confusing) and nearly lost the Open.

I can only repeat what our correspondents have said, that the Olympics look like being a similar test of strength.

In October the National Under 16 Boy's Championships produced 397 entries and there was tremendous enthusiasm that must bode well for the future, and the lads seem to get bigger and bigger! Complaint from Tony Reay that he didn't see enough Ippon attempts.

In November the British Open Championships for Women saw Chris Child and Ellen Cobb continuing their winning way and it was gratifying to hear that Chris got a gold as expected in the European Championships at Munich in mid-December. She certainly retired on a high note. Let's hope she'll be tempted to have a go when the first women's World Championship is organised.

The Men's National Olympic Trials in December gave us the Olympic Squad and there were no real surprises, except perhaps for Eddy Mullen who failed to make the grade. Peter Donnelly and Neil Adams should be worth watching.

Back in mid-year the National Kata Championships indicated renewed interest in Kata and standards are gradually improving even though we are still behind most of the other major countries except Russia.

Mixed Katas were popular but to limit competitors to five Katas seems strange.

There are very few people around competent to teach Kata but I was gratified to have several approving comments for my suggestion that alternate throws and techniques should be used to stimulate interest. There are logistical problems to be overcome in having first one man and then the other doing the same throw and you have to work out whether to alternate left and right throws or to have one man do a throw to left and the other to right

and so on. But at least one pair have found that they can speed up Nage-no-kata until it almost looks as though they are doing counters!

## Karate

Back in February 1975 a triangular match between West Germany, Iran and England was held in Berlin and was a useful warm-up for a team who narrowly lost to the Germans but beat Iran. The refereeing was reported to be a 'problem' as it is so often with Karate.

I know I shouldn't but I couldn't help enjoy hearing about that Valera rough-house seven months later at the World Karate Championships. It summed up all that is worst in Karate as Valera went berserk and everyone else piled in after a disputed decision. I haven't heard of one being organised but I feel almost 'white' imagining what a Kung Fu World Championship would produce. Sorry about that little lapse.

What is obvious is that team manager, Steve Arneil, has almost an embarrassment of talent, unlike his Judo counterpart, Ray Ross.

A useful 30,000 print booklet, with a foreword by Denis Howell, the Minister of Sport, was circulated to local authorities and other bodies who might be involved in giving support or supervision to Karate. Kung Fu and other martial arts clubs. Let's hope it has some effect, particularly because of the mushrooming of dubious Kung Fu clubs. (You know: "Wing Gung Kung Fu, as taught at the Shaolin Temple by Grand-master Kong Hong, now seen for the first time outside China with the Ven. Yu Too demonstrating this secret art. Only those with a true interest may be selected. Demo at the Rundown Working Men's Institute, Canal Lane. 7.30 prompt.")

Of the eight (or is it nine?) Karate styles recognised by the B.K.C.C., not all hold championships of their own. But even so, judging by the small amount of Karate I have seen

during the year, the standard at 'grass roots' is rising all the time. This is not endorsed just by that great win at the World Championships, there is terrific spirit at club level — and some very hard discipline as I have seen.

A quick word for T'AI CHI, which I hope to report on later in the year, because it doesn't fit into any of my categories. This 'soft' Chinese style I feel can offer a good deal to the really 'hard' Karateka by complimenting his power orientation with its Ki and balance training.

The World Championships at Los Angeles were the culmination of a fine sequence by the British team, third place in the first and second championships followed by this great victory reported in the December and January magazines.

It would be wrong to single out individuals from the ten team members but the five who finally defeated the Japanese should be mentioned: Billy Higgins, Brian Fitkin, Gene Dunnett, Eugene Codrington and Hamish Adam.

Britain beat Belgium and the Philippines on the way to the final and the Japanese only scraped through against a strong Dutch team.

We also heard in December that Tatsuo Suzuki had been awarded his 8th Dan. He has done so much for British Karate.

## Aikido

I am still trying to sort out what has been happening to the Northern Region of the B.A.A. but in June the Midland and Northern Area Championships were held at Prescott. This whole report is, of course, a personal one and I just don't feel qualified to single out individuals — perhaps Jim Elkin will give us his annual review and details of the National Championship.

The thing that has, however, impressed me most during the year has



been the growing interest in Aikido. People you never expected to have, incredibly, heard of Aikido but there is a critical shortage of coaches and Dan grades. I was asked by two new Sports Centres to find them Aiki coaches and failed dismally to find anyone. This shortage naturally means that the development of Aiki is being held up a great deal.

Hopefully John Cornish and Jim Elkin will be able to reach agreement on the balance in the U.K. of Tomiki and Ueshiba teaching. And both Jim and Mike Smith, the 2nd Dan Ueshiba coach for the B.A.A. (whom I promoted to 3rd Dan by accident during the year. Hint, hint.) have assured me that they want John and other Ueshiba 'dissidents' to come back into the fold as soon as possible.

## AREA NEWS

### ROYAL NAVY

*Peter Brown*

The Royal Navy continues to strengthen its Association, despite the world-wide dispersal of players, all of whom are furthering Judo in their various outposts. News comes from clubs as far-flung as the Falklands Islands, The Seychelles and Hong Kong.

The Navy Championships were successfully held at H.M.S. Sultan, Gosport, in November. Several new faces entered. This year's Middleweight and Open Champion was Sgt. Peter Brown (Navy and Hon. National Coach) — just to prove that the coaches are not always quite so inactive in contest.

The Royal Marines v Harlow District match (three teams) was the

### Kendo

The Kendo position in 1975 was even murkier. In last year's review I had only two categories — namely Judo and The Rest. This upset several people so belated apologies. But what can I write about Kendo? Apart from Roald Knutsen, who seems to have spent half the year in Japan doing advanced training of the type only a handful of non-Japanese have ever admitted to, the Kendo officials in the U.K. seem to have decided to avoid any publicity for their art.

The difficult question of whether Kendo is a sport and whether there should be professional teachers has reared its head again. I find Roald's resistance to pros and the sport aspect understandable but does it really matter if more people can be introduced to Kendo?

highlight of a 'Mini-Tattoo' held at Harlow Sports Centre on 28 November. This was a splendid chance to publicise Judo in front of several hundred spectators; the short 'How to Score' explanatory display proved a vital factor in gaining their enthusiasm throughout the evening's contests. Congratulations to Harlow for winning; and to Sgt. Gordon Russell for winning the 'most spirited player' award and to the organisers from Harlow Sports Centre for their excellent presentation.

Early events for 1976 include:

a. SOUTHERN AREA/NAVY KYU & DAN GRADING. This will be held at The Depot Royal Marines, Deal, Kent, on Sunday 14 March (male and female). Kyu Grades book in at 10.00, Dan Grades at 14.00. 2nd Dans can confirm numbers entering beforehand by contacting Sgt. P. Brown (030-45-62121 Ext. 275) weekdays only 09.00-10.00.

b. 10 MAN ESPOIR TEAM CONTESTS. Royal Marines v Kent Police Cadets v Royal Navy — 9 March at Maidstone.

c. SOUTHERN AREA/R.N.J.A. REFEREES COURSE. For certificated (not certified) Referees, to be held at: Alton Sports Centre, Chawton Park Road, Alton, Hants., on Sunday 28 March 10.00-16.00. This is under the instruction of Joe Rowe and Ernie Wilkin. A three-team match will also take place between the Navy and Alton Sports Centre. For further details of the Referees Course, contact Joe Rowe at: 32 Radcot Point, Inglemere Road, Forest Hill, London SE23 2AZ.

d. TELEVISION SPOT. Five Royal Marine players spent the day with Southern Television recently and provided one of the Interest Spots for the 'Runaround' children's series. This will be shown in early February where you should catch a glimpse of us during the programme. You probably will not see Mike Reid, the compere, being thrown afterwards!

### YORKSHIRE & HUMBERSIDE

*Peter D. Bower, Area P.R.O.*

Subscriptions for the Area Newsletter are now due. Those wishing to renew their subscriptions and new subscribers should remit £1.50 to: P. D. Bower, 21, Derwent Avenue, Woodlesford, Leeds LS26 8RP as soon as possible. This fee is to cover twelve monthly issues. If anyone has any news items or other contributions which they would like to be included in the letters, Mr. Bower would be pleased to receive them.

### SOUTHERN AREA

*Malcolm Sleet, P.R.O.*

The Southern Area is pleased to announce that it is holding the following Junior Championships on the 3rd and 4th April 1976, and will be known as the "Southern Area Schoolboys U16 Open Championships".

This event is open to all schoolboys under the age of 16 who hold a current B.J.A. junior licence. The event is open to any resident of

England, Scotland, Wales or Ireland, and will be held in the national weight categories. The entry fee is £1.00, and a trophy will be presented to the winners; runners-up will receive silver and two bronze; also there will be special awards during the two day event. Details will be available nearer the date for entries.

The Southern Area is holding its A.G.M. on 21st March, at the Queens Hotel, Penge, at 2.30 p.m.

Finally, news of the recent Southern Area Mens Senior Championships held at Crystal Palace on the 23rd November 1975. This year we had 160 entries, which were as follows: 76 dan grades and 84 kyu grades — a good turn out by all. Weigh-in finished at 10.00 and by 10.17 all three mats were under way. Perhaps our national organisers should take note, it must be a record; and I think this is a good opportunity to thank Mr. B. Sentinella, Joe Rowe, and all the other officials for the smooth running of this event.

The contests throughout the day were well fought and hard, with many Judo personalities taking part; to name a few, Ray Neenan, Chris Bowles, Brian Jacks, Bob Bradley, and so on. The Gold medal winners were as follows:

#### 1st KYU & DAN

UNDER 63 KILOS: R. Neenan, 3rd Dan *Itsutsu*; UNDER 70 KILOS: C. Bowles, 1st Dan *Tonbridge*; UNDER 80 KILOS: M. Chittenden, 2nd Dan *Olympic*; UNDER 93 KILOS: B. Jacks, 5th Dan *Sen Sen*; OVER 93 KILOS: R. Bradley, 3rd Dan *Mid Sussex*.

#### 2nd KYU & Below

UNDER 63 KILOS: S. Smith, 3rd Kyu *Bexley*; UNDER 70 KILOS: J. Tyler, 4th Kyu *Camberley*; UNDER 80 KILOS: C. Hughes, 3rd Kyu *Croydon*; UNDER 93 KILOS: B. Osborn, 4th Kyu *Torakai*; OVER 93 KILOS: F. Farrara, 4th Kyu *Woolwich*.



# FIRST WOMEN'S EUROPEAN JUDO CHAMPIONSHIPS,

MUNICH 12th/13th Dec. 1975

MARIE FOURS

*Senior Women's Team Manager*

We arrived at the Youth House just outside the city of Munich where we were to be accommodated for the duration of the First Women's European Championships, at 3.30 p.m. on Thursday 11th December, 1975. After a quick 'wash and brush-up' we were transported to the Holiday Inn which was to be used as an administrative centre for the event and where the majority of the other teams were staying. We were photographed and officially signed-in after some considerable delay, and the Team were then taken back to the Youth House whilst Gill Shelton and I stayed behind for the Draw for the order of competitions.

The next day, Friday, saw our first eight team members all successfully weighing-in. Kathleen Nicol and Chris Barwick (Under 61 kg.), Jackie Redmond and Sue Evans (Under 66 kg.), Geraldine Harmon and Ellen Cobb (Under 72 kg.), and Chris Child and Margaret McKenna (Over 72 kg.). The competitions were held in the Olympic Basketball Stadium and commenced at 4 p.m. Our first player on was Jackie Redmond, (and that was within 5 minutes of arriving due to transport difficulties), and her opponent was Bonte of Holland who soon scored Koka on Redmond by a knockdown. Redmond equalised, but the final decision went to Bonte. Sue Evans also had an abrupt start. Her opponent was the very experienced Di Toma of Italy and with neither player scoring, the decision went to the Italian player who eventually won the Bronze medal along with Weiss of West Germany; the Silver going

to Triadou of France and the Gold to Fouillet also of France.

Christine Barwick had a very exciting contest against Angelovic of Yugoslavia, which she won by Koka. Barwick then lost to Rottier of France by an Ippon for Kesa-gatame, and the French girl went on to win the Gold medal which brought Chris back in the repechage. She unfortunately dislocated her elbow so was unable to continue. Kathy Nicol convincingly beat Peinert of Sweden by Ippon and then went on to meet Hermann of Switzerland who she beat by a decision. Nicol lost her next contest against Mil of Belgium by Koka, but came back in the repechage to beat Tomasetig of Italy by Ippon which gave Nicol a Bronze medal. The other Bronze went to Vringer of Holland with Mil taking the Silver.

A surprise was in store for the Dutch Champion Aka when she lost to Geraldine Harmon by Koka. Harmon then beat Vleugels of Belgium by Ippon for a Kesa-gatame, then lost to Pierre of France by a decision. She came back through the repechage to beat Kopf of Austria by a decision, which gave us another Bronze medal. A very experienced Ellen Cobb conserved her energy against her first opponent, Goransson of Sweden, and won by Koka for Ko-uchi-gari. Cobb was awarded the decision over Bandini of Italy, and then she lost by Koka to Kuttner of West Germany after some very questionable refereeing!! Cobb came back in the repechage and beat Bartulovic of Yugoslavia for Ippon, and so won the other Bronze medal

in this category; the Gold going to Pierre and the Silver to Kuttner.

Margaret McKenna, in the heavy-weight category, was surely the most pitied competitor of the day as she met the Italian Champion De Cal (98.4 kg) in her first fight. De Cal, a very experienced and 'strong' player knocked McKenna over for Koka within the first minute of the contest, but a fantastically fast drop-knee-seoi-nage from McKenna equalised the score. The decision, unfortunately, went to De Cal. McKenna beat her Yugoslavian opponent, Tasic by Ippon in the repechage and so won a Bronze medal. Chris Child obtained a submission for Shime-waza from her Dutch opponent, Liotard, who took quite a while to find her feet again ..... and if you've ever been strangled by Chris you'll know what I mean!! Child showed no mercy to Kieburg of West Germany, but a little variation instead by getting another submission, but this time Ju-ji-gatame. This put Child in the

Final against De Cal, whom she beat by Ippon for a submission from Kansetsu-waza within 1 min. 33 sec. and so won the well deserved Gold medal and a European title. De Cal took the Silver, and McKenna and Kieburg the Bronze.

The three lower weight groups and the 'Open weight' were held on the Saturday. Our representatives were Chris Presswell and Carol Brooks (Under 48 kg.), Della Tysall and Gail Entwistle (Under 52 kg.), Winn Bolton and Julie Scattergood (Under 56 kg.), and Heather Ford and Chris Child (Open).

Brooks lost her first fight against the eventual Gold medallist Hrovat of Austria, but came back in the repechage to beat Fonatana of Italy by Koka. Brooks was then beaten by Lecocq of France, by Koka, who took the Bronze, along with Lof of Sweden; and Campo of Spain winning the Silver. Presswell lost her contest against Tripet of France by Yuko, then Tripet lost to Hillesheim



The British Team participating in the 1st European Judo Championships for Women.  
Photograph by Graham Woodard





Chris Child (left) in the Over 72 kg. Final with Margherita de Cal of Italy.  
Photograph by Graham Woodard

of West Germany which knocked Presswell out of the competition.

Gail Entwistle lost to the French competitor, Herzog, who ended up with the Gold medal, by Ippon. She came back in the repechage but lost to Matteman of Holland. Della Tysall put up a very strong fight against Moos of West Germany, but lost by Koka. Moos then lost to Vasic of Yugoslavia which knocked Tysall out of the competition. Vasic of Yugoslavia won the Silver and Matteman (Holland) and Winklbauer (Austria) took the Bronze.

Julie Scattergood won her first fight against Escude of France by Koka, and her second against Wilkins of Belgium by a Koka then lost to Luzzi of Italy on the decision. Scattergood came back in the repechage but lost to a well executed armlock by Reifgraber of Austria. Winn Bolton lost to the eventual Gold medalist, Happ of West Germany, in her first fight by Ippon, and though she came back in the repechage she was penalised for leaving the contest area and so lost to Callu

of Belgium. Callu and Reifgraber took the Bronze medals and Luzzi the Silver. The "Open" had the largest entry of competitors and we were keeping our fingers crossed for Chris Child whose state of health wasn't so good. Ford had a 'bye' against Kutner of West Germany who had sustained injury the previous day, and then lost to the Belgian girl Feyaerts who attempted an armlock to which Heather did not submit, but to which the referee did!! The Belgian girl was as upset as we were at this display of anticipation on the part of the referee, but his decision remained unchanged. Feyaerts lost her next contest and so Ford was eliminated from the event. Chris Child, sniffing and coughing... the very epitome of good health!! beat Peinert of Sweden by Kesa-gatame, and then Vleugels of Belgium by Ippon for another Osae-komi. Child's next victim, Salzmann of Switzerland, who submitted Shime-waza to give Chris Ippon, was to be her last win. She lost to Pierre of France by Yuko, and then in the repechage to Kieburg of West Ger-

many by Koka. Pierre won the Gold, Fouillet (also of France) won the Silver, and Di Toma of Italy and Kieburg of West Germany the Bronze.

The Championships ended with a Bavarian evening provided by our German hosts, and we emerged the winners for the singing and entertainment!!

The final results were:-				
	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1. France	5	2	1	8
2. West Germany	1	1	3	5
3. Great Britain	1	—	4	5
4. Austria	1	—	2	3
5. Italy	—	2	2	4
6. Belgium	—	1	1	2
7. Spain	—	1	—	1
8. Yugoslavia	—	1	—	1
9. Holland	—	—	2	2
10. Sweden	—	—	1	1
11. Switzerland	—	—	—	—

Our Chairman, Charles Palmer, was present throughout the event and he was a tremendous help to us all. I would like to take this opportunity to thank him on behalf of all the team and officials, and the gallant band of supporters, for providing us all with a very enjoyable coach tour of Munich on the Sunday morning. My thanks also go to the following for all their much appreciated help and support:-

Beecham Products for their donation of the Team's Dynamo.

Mr. Stan Challis, of Rucanor, for the Team's Judo suits and hold-alls.

Kodak Ltd., for allowing us to purchase cine film at cost price.

Margaret Burgess, for the loan (yet again) of her cine camera and accessories.

Elizabeth Viney, Hon. National Coach, for all the filming.

Gillian Shelton, Chairman Women's S/c, for Interpreting.

Our band of loyal supporters.

The British Judo Association, for making it all possible.

*Conclusion.* Our future in Judo is at the moment in Europe. As we are a member country of the EEC and have already adopted quite a few European ideas... like going metric... The BIG question is, 'when will we in this country adopt their much more professional attitude to sport by larger financial assistance?'. It's a standing joke that Britain is known as the 'last of the amateurs' in the sporting fraternity, and after seeing the very professional attitude of most of the other countries present in the European Championship — especially France, I wonder when we are going to wake up to this fact. It is unfair of us to expect our Judo players who train in their spare time, to compete against competitors from other countries whose training programme is more of a full time occupation. Considering all these things, our Team did exceptionally well.

#### SEASON TICKETS

for all B.J.A. events held at the Crystal Palace National Sports Centre are now available from Head Office.

Price: Adults £5.00 — Schoolchildren £3.00





## OFFICIAL NOTES

Jim Elkin

### Annual General Meeting.

The British Aikido Association's A.G.M. will take place on Sunday, 4th April at Stratford-upon-Avon commencing at 2.00 p.m., calling notices to members have been distributed. There are a number of very important changes to take place during 1976 so full support is requested by all Full members.

### Coaching Seminar

The first of this year's Coaching Seminars will take place at Northampton, all the Association's Coaches have been asked to attend. The morning session will deal with the practical side of introducing Aiki-Jo and Aiki-Ken, the afternoon session will deal with discussions on the Association's coaching scheme, it's promotional structure, and what should be an extremely interesting lecture on specialised Aikido exercises. It is intended to hold these seminars at bi-monthly intervals, giving all coaches the opportunity of keeping up to date with the technical side of Aikido development.

### Spring Aikido School

An Aikido spring school will be held from Monday, 3rd May until Friday, 7th May. The venue for this will be the Green Park Youth Service Training Centre, Aston Clinton, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. The cost of this five day course will be £30.00 inclusive. Green Park is five miles from Aylesbury and situated

in Stable Bridge Road, Aston Clinton, surrounded by pleasant countryside. Details of this course have been sent to all Club Secretaries, but any member who has not been notified should contact me, and I will send details direct. A S.A.E. would be appreciated though. Members who attended the Summer School at Bournemouth, will be pleased to know that Mike Smith, the Senior Ueshiba Coach, will be one of the Instructors at the school. So if you want more of the style of Aikido he teaches, now's your chance. Places are limited on this particular school, so get your applications in as early as possible.

The 1st January was RENEWAL TIME and there are still a few members who have not renewed. Everyone should be aware of the licence scheme that has been introduced, with the Association's membership of the B.U.M.A. (new name Martial Arts Control Commission). If you haven't received this information, get onto your club secretary, or drop me a line and I will send it to you.

Whilst on the subject of the Martial Arts Control Commission I am still awaiting full details of the Insurance scheme, sorry about the delay, will send them out on receipt.

Usually I do not like using this column for anything that could be construed as a slanging match, but there are times when it is necessary to reply to *Letters to the Editor*. John Cornish in his letter (see January issue) states: "I was finally driven out by the information, given out at an A.G.M., that the Tomiki National Coach was getting all his expenses paid, while the Ueshiba Coach got nothing". Having checked the minutes of the last few A.G.M.'s, I cannot find any such minute. Also, as the Tomiki National Coach, I possess first hand knowledge of the expenses that I have received. The amount is nil, in fact I cannot remember ever putting in to the General Treasurer a request for ex-

## FINAL DATE FOR COPY

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penses, even for travelling. So come off it John, whoever related such a story was pulling your leg.

Monies, as far as I am aware, were spent on administration, and no individual school. Clubs using the services of the Tomiki Japanese Technical Adviser paid any fees out of their own club funds. The so called pressure put on the Ueshiba members by the Tomiki H.Q. in Japan, was one of choice. Some Ueshiba members wanted their Dan grade certificates signed by Tomiki, he was willing to do this providing such Dan grades had some idea of the Basic Tomiki Kata. It was left entirely up to the individual as to whether the offer was accepted or not. There was certainly no intention, nor is there at the present time, of attempting to get anyone to change their particular style of Aikido; it's their choice and it is up to the individual.

If this was the B.A.A.'s attitude, I do not think that when we receive an enquiry as to the whereabouts of the nearest club to someone living in, say, Fulham or Chelsea, that the enquirer would be directed to the Budokwai in Gilston Road.

Another quote made "... I have been told that Ueshiba players, that have taken their grades under the B.A.A. were made to re-grade from the bottom under the Tomiki syllabus." Unless a member, for reasons of his own, changes his school of Aikido I cannot see this happening. Our Ueshiba members have their own syllabus, their own coaching format, their own system of coaching

examinations. Ueshiba examiners examine Ueshiba players. We have mixed courses, where both Ueshiba and Tomiki Aikido is taught and practised. It is entirely optional for members to attend these courses. From what I glean, each school is very interested in the others' style, and are constantly seeking the benefits each style can give. In fact we all seem to get along together fine. In conclusion, I can assure John Cornish, that no pressure whatsoever is put on anyone to change to Tomiki Aikido, nor is there any pressure on any Tomiki player to change to Ueshiba. As regards the money, what is left after administration costs, goes towards the promotion of AIKIDO, not to one particular school.

### Police Aikido Self-Defence.

Brian Eustace spent the two weeks preceding Christmas instructing the Police P.T.I.s in Aikido. He tells me that the whole course was extremely successful, and will be writing a complete report on the course, which should be interesting to readers of this magazine.

### Let's Give a Plug.

Did you know that Roy Inman runs a really first class club at New Road, Bedford — just off the Staines Road? The facilities are excellent, the mat area large, the yearly membership very reasonable. The instruction, unquestionably the best, with Roy at the helm. Why the plug? Well there's an Aikido session every Wednesday evening from 7.30 p.m. Come along and join in.



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CLUB FORUM — continued from page 23.

By its growing popularity, by dint of hard work and by active persuasion — the local Council finally decided on an action which, I believe, makes Corby Judokwai unique. It decided to encourage us to expand out to the local housing estates, into schools and other halls, and moved the mats around for us, as well as sponsoring instructors.

The result is, at the time of writing, that the Junior Section operates in Corby and in one of the villages which came under the district Council as a result of local government changes, every week. This makes up six separate sections which between them, cater for between four and five hundred youngsters.

When there were Junior Judo Leagues operating in the County the Corby Judokwai were regular winners for both boys and girls events. We have helped to represent the County at Midland Area, and on one occasion half of the County team which came third in the com-

petition, came from Corby. Several of our girls also have been medalists at Midland Area competitions.

The Senior Section of the club was formed much later and comprised of people most of whom had come up through the Junior Section. Although we have yet to produce our first Dan grade we have high hopes of making a breakthrough soon.

We participate in sports competitions with Corby's German twin town of Velbert. Our record after three meetings with their team which included Dan grades is two wins and one defeat for Corby. Not bad for a club which, as a senior section, only started up three years ago!

We are active in our local Sports Council, Corby's Leisure Activities committee, and we regularly put on displays — mainly with the Junior Section — for schools and clubs and we have travelled with a display team as far as Guilsborough which is near Rugby.

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