

Jodo Event Officers Report 4/5/2020 – Mark Thurman – 13798

The jodo and iai bu continue to work closely together, utilising WhatsApp group messaging to ensure all members of the bu are kept up to date with the progress of event booking and planning. The latter part of the 2019/2020 calendar has, unfortunately, been another casualty of the Covid pandemic.

The events we have managed to complete prior to the lockdown went smoothly and I'm pleased to say that the previous efforts of this officer and others in researching and implementing cashless payments for the seminars has been a great success in drastically reducing the cash handled by the organisation, increasing transparency and of course making the lives of its officers a little easier to boot.

Summer seminar 2019:

A fantastic Jodo seminar in Cambridge led by Shoji Keiichi sensei, Jock Hopson Sensei and Louis Vitalis Sensei that covered Tandoko dosa, Sotai dosa and Seitei kata in great depth. The training was spirited and in excellent humour. 35 took part across the 3 days.

Northern Seminar 2019: This year the seminar was held at Kenton School in Newcastle and was led by Stojanka sensei, with support from Martin Chambers sensei. A better attendance this year of 24 than last years 15. This is almost certainly because of the move to avoid the weekend closest to Remembrance Sunday. There were 7 people under the grade of nidan, so hopefully we are seeing signs of new growth.

Kangeiko 2020:

The event was very well attended with 31 members, just one less than in 2019. Held at Kenmukan dojo in Wolverton, all trained hard and enjoyed some home baked cakes and some more of Alain Bangard sensei's fine cooking

High grade seminar 2020

A very interesting event, and my first attendance. Along with 7 others we worked through Tandoku dosa and seitei kata with the emphasis on commitment of attack and establishing to our own yardstick if we had really done enough to decisively win. This was very challenging and self-deception was very easy to find!

Spring seminar 2020:

Cancelled due to Covid-19

Summer Seminar 2020:

Cancelled due to Covid-19

All event planning is on hold until we get clear guidance from the government on how the lockdown will be safely eased and the various bu officials decide that seminars etc can continue.

I for one have been heartened by the online communities and virtual training that has sprung up in since our dojos have had to close. Some proof of course, that our arts, and the enjoyment we take from them, comes largely from those that share that love, and not the building we sweat in.

Mark Thurman - Event Officer