

Brighton Ki Society AGM

December 8, 2018

Attendees

- Bob MacFarland
- Petr Mengler
- Peter Morris
- Andrea Fallas
- Annette Haug
- Adrian Thorne
- Bene Demour
- Jim Wheelan
- Elaine Mercer
- Barry Patton
- Tom Hancox
- Claire

Apologies

- Kaori
- Yiannis Vasileiou
- Cameron Bradley
- Dominic Kenddrick
- Zuzana Krskova

Officers reports from 2018

Chair

The group has been involved in a variety of activities, including the British Aikido Board meetings, and performances at Brighton Festival in May.

We hosted Tabata sensei in September who taught some aikido, but mainly Ki principles and kiatsu.

We hosted Tam sensei in November who taught mainly Ki principles and kiatsu.

In terms of classes:

- Wed intermediate class is popular
- Monday beginners class not so popular - need more students.
- Saturday morning tai gi class needs more students

Treasurer

The treasurer reported a balance of £6223 at 30/11/18 (note we have one month's income to come in but have rental and other outgoings to pay so expecting final year-end balance approximately £4,000 to £5,000.)

In 2018 we had an income of £21,239 and outgoings of £19,062 as of 30 November 2018. The treasurer also reported a reserve of approx. £XXX.

The treasurer reported a 50/50 income split between and Brighton Ki Society subscriptions and dojo rentals - the same as last year.

The treasurer made a request for dues to be paid by standing order, where possible, to facilitate financial planning. An alternative suggestion was also made for dues to be paid in advance, where possible.

Bob- thanks to everyone who has taken on activities and instructed. Very much appreciated.

Secretary

Elaine is the current secretary; she is happy to take notes for the AGM and apologized for not being available the past two AGM sessions.

Admin

Apologies from the admin officer. No report given.

Tom reports on member insurance. Amount of people in club fully paid members of aikido board:

- 39 adults
- 32 children

- 7 instructors

Brighton Ki Society is insured through the BAB national aikido body (also covering Ki society dojos in London, Loughborough, Margate and Newark).

To be in full association with BAB we need 100 members so at 79 we are a bit low. We are in danger of losing our full association member - we would get lower status and we cannot vote.

It is important to get new people to get insurance ASAP. Even is if people leave.

Action: All new students need insurance as soon as they start - even if they only do Ki classes.

Child protection

Kaori is Child Protection officer but not around to report back.

Welfare

Andrea is welfare officer - nothing to report on

Maintenance

Yianna has been talking to agents about the walls.

Survey from new building has been in contact too.

Nothing really needs doing maintenance wise at the mo.

Toilets to be redone soon

Promotion / advertising

Google Adwords is not working at the moment. Adam is going sort out our Adwords campaign going forward.

Action: Find someone change servers for the website ASAP. We are currently paying for two host sites. Possible people to help: Dan (but he hasn't been very responsive) or Annette's Bob (Anette to find out)

Action: Elaine to send Bob some blurb to add to the newsletter to include about data protection.

Action: Elaine and Andrea to chat about data protection requirements.

Action: Andrea to suggest survey software

Bob would like to ask people on the newsletter list if they have any ideas for the club - creating a questionnaire

Instructors reports

Bob

More gradings than ever before

Peter got his Sho Dan

'Swim lanes' concept works well on Wednesdays is working well but not so well with beginners.

Need to get leaflets out - maybe Cameron can do this.

Drop in classes that Petr runs not helping to funnel people to join the full aikido programme. Feels like a subversion.

Children's parents need to be encouraged to do intro programme.

There won't be a trip to Czech in 2019

[Group discussion about member recruitment:]

Maya - but are the drop in people the same type of people.

Peter - people's availability is the real issue.

Bene: I joined as a result of my son but if it was my personal interest that made me come rather than anything else. It was about being invited.

Bob: At start of year we had a lot of new people and the good weather meant that lots of people dropped out.

Dave: Maybe we could send people a text or email to check in with them if they haven't been to class in a while.

Peter: I used to do this with the kids.

Andrea: we could get digital payment system and sign in through tablet of something. That way easier to see when people haven't been around.

Petr

About 30 kids signed up and it is going well. They come and go though. Likes to inspire them and show them what they can do. A lot of them are home educated - they really like it.

Through Tom's personal connections, Petr and Tom have set up after school clubs which are going really well.

They did the Take Part festival this year too - teaching in local schools. Lots of interest but hard to get in touch with teachers. He wants to set up more after school clubs.

Mental health issues tie in which people find useful - for teenagers for example.

Drop-in classes - people come and go. They do not have to commit time and money. Gives them a taster of Ki so see if they want more.

Dave: Don't under-estimate the power of people coming just to a few classes. My sons have only been a few times and they know Ki breathing.

Action: If anyone can help Petr teach kids classes that would be great.

Peter

Classes still running in London at SOAS. Between 10-12 students (6-7 regular on Tuesday. 3-4 regular on Sunday)

Tuesdays 7-9pm - fifty percent of time, Dom is there (mainly Ki class)

Sundays 11am - 1pm mainly just Peter.

Quite small rooms

Dom is busy with family. He is looking to start a children's class in school his partner is linked to in North London.

Thanks to Andrea for helping out with promotion.

Action: Peter invited others to come join the class in London and help teach

Update on International Ki Society and HQ

Tabata Sensei trying to get Shinichi Sensei to go to Oregon 2021

Chris Curtis is now in charge of Ki Society European confederation - but he wants Tabata sensei's approval.

[Note from Curtis Sensei sent to Bob]

... everyone in G.B. is not very welcome to train at our seminars in Netherlands, German, Spain, and now soon in Italy, at any time. Many members of the Western Russian/Eastern Europe Ki Federation often attend one or more of our seminars, and I do go there to St. Petersburg to teach every so often as well, so our relationships there remain open and fruitful. Igor Ostroumov Sensei, the C.I. of Russian Ki Federation/Eastern Europe Ki Federation often trains on Maui, and will be spending a month training with us next summer. In addition, many others from Germany, Netherlands, Spain, etc. come to Maui and spend several weeks at a time training. Of course, everyone from Hawaii and Europe also join together at our annual Camps every fall at Ki Society HQ in Tochigi. Any and all of this is open to you and your students, with the permission of your teacher.

The dates of our seminars for next year in Europe are as follows:

- Helmond, Netherlands - May 11 & 12 (contact is Toby Voogels at fam.voogels@kpnmail.nl)
- Stuttgart, Germany - May 18 & 19 (contact is Udo Schill at us@ki-aikido.org)
- Valencia, Spain - May 25 & 26 (contact is Rafael Gandia at office@kisociety.es)
- June 6-9, 20th Anniversary Seminar, St. Petersburg, Russia - Shaner Sensei

- June 27-30, National Seminar, Las Vegas, Nevada, Shinichi Tohei Sensei; Kaichou, Shinshin Toitsu Aikidokai and Chief Instructor, Japan, Hq.

Open to all Ki Society Members, All participants must be members of Ki Society and have permission from their Chief Instructor to attend.

OKS Chief Instructor workshop are July 19-21 2019. For Chief Instructors If you would like we can arrange an extra day of training for Kiatsu after.

The dates for our HKF/EUKF Camp at Japan HQ next year are: Tuesday, October 21 (arrive) to Saturday, October 26 (depart).

For the Japan Camp, you can contact Taka Iwade san at Headquarters directly, and for the others, please connect with the contacts I suggest above.

So if you want to go to any of the events mentioned above you need to ask Bob and he will get approval from Tabata.

It is good to go to Japan when other English speaking groups are going.

Tabata Sensei would really really like Bob to go to Oregon in July 2019!

[Need to add in Oregon schedule to these notes]

Election of 2019 officers

- Chair - Bob
- Treasurer - Bob / Yiannis
- Secretary - Elaine
- Admin - Tom / Annette
- Child protection - Elaine
- Welfare - Andrea
- Maintenance - Petr
- Promotion/advertising - Adam and Bob (Anette's partner). With Dan working on server. Quarterly meeting within the dojo to think about what we want from promotion/advertising - internal coordination.

Planning for 2019

Events/demos

This Jan is of Brighton Ki Society! We will do a one-day event to celebrate.

Action: Do 25 year anniversary on an 'aikido for all' Saturday April 27th.

Take part festival - Petr will lead on this.

Summer school - Annette happy to have at her place but wants to be more involved and included in all communications. Also no children staying overnight.

Bob reminded the group that a £100-200 bursary is available for aikido training and practice black belts.

Kiatsu bursary £2000 available - just need to decide who goes.

Classes:

The new weekly advanced Sunday class was well received (black belt/brown belt) - but Bob couldn't keep this going as not enough people coming weekly. Bob would like to do once a month (1st sat of month) to do this class. Starting in January. 4 hours. Learning how to tech as well. Come to this class if you want to do an advanced grading.

Monday classes - Bob would like to step down from running this class and would like Barry to take over beginners classes.

Bob would like Dan grades to take on more responsibility in dojo.

Bob would like to hire dojo out to Sitar festival once every two months. The first Saturday in March and May - we are encouraged to go. Link to the May fringe event.

Actions arising

Action: All new students need insurance as soon as they start - even if they only do Ki classes.

Action: Brighton Ki Society 25 year anniversary on Saturday April 27th.

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