



## Seminar Success



Photo Copyright Ben Fairbanks

Hosts **Renshinkan Dojo**, supportive Sensei's from home and abroad, and all the participants ensured the first UKAE international seminar at Old Hill, West Midlands was a big success. Aikidoka from nine countries and eighteen associations enjoyed "tag aikido", new "swap aikido", regular training, extensions workshops, socialising and an atmosphere of fun, camaraderie and learning.

### Seminar Instructors

|                     |               |               |                    |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Charles Harris      | 5th Dan AKA   | Donald Levine | 4th Dan USA        |
| Gordon Jones Shihan | 6th Dan UKA   | Jose Bueno    | 4th Dan Brazil     |
| Kurt Bartholet      | 6th Dan Swiss | Michael Wolff | 1st Dan Ki Society |
| Pat Narey           | 5th Dan UKA   | Paul Linden   | 6th Dan USA        |
| Philip Smith        | 6th Dan UKA   | Quentin Cooke | 6th Dan ADL        |
| Terry Ezra Shihan   | 6th Dan KAA   |               |                    |

### UKAE Staff

|                       |     |            |     |
|-----------------------|-----|------------|-----|
| Andrew John Humphreys | UKA | Mark Walsh | UKA |
| Sharon Bannister      | AKA |            |     |



# UK Aiki Extensions



Newsletter Issue No 1. March 2007

## Participants

|                   |             |                  |              |
|-------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|
| Alan Smith        | UKA         | Andy McLean      | Kai Shin Kai |
| Annie Wellings    | UKA         | Cath Davies      | UKA          |
| Christiaan Zandt  | Netherlands | Daniel North     | UKA          |
| Fiona Kelty       | Ireland     | Deborah Hyams    | UKA          |
| Eric Wier         | UKA         | Eva Koudela      | AKA          |
| Henrique Barcelos | Brazil      | Henrique Sa Erp  | UKA          |
| Ian Hurst         | AKA         | Jackie Stevens   | AKA          |
| James Bradley     |             | James Spencer    | ADL          |
| Jason Noon        |             | Javier Frias     | Spain        |
| Jim Pearson       |             | Jonaide Autor    |              |
| Julie Partridge   | UKA         | Trevor Steele    | Ki Society   |
| Kate Lilly        |             | Kieran Doyle     | KA           |
| Laura Cunningham  | KSK         | Louisa Ryan      | KSK          |
| Louise Hunt       | UKA         | Marc Mc Dermott  | KA           |
| Mark Fisher       |             | Nigel Vaughan    | Kai Shin Kai |
| Noela Bingham     | IOA         | Petra Gerritsman | Netherlands  |
| Piers Cooke       | ADL         | Richard Prosser  | UKA          |
| Rob Fachiri       | KA          | Sharon Petford   | UK           |
| Torsten Ziesche   | Switzerland |                  |              |

Plus many other members of Renshinkan Dojo who attended Thursday and Friday nights when festivities started.

## Thanks - A World of Difference

We would like to say a big THANK YOU to all involved. Locals Gordon Jones Shihan, Philip Smith Sensei, Sharon Petford, Polish Pete and others supported the whole weekend. Annie Wellings provided delicious food and Duncan Petford gave lifts and good humour. Renshinkan dojo donated their space free of charge, Andy McLean provided t-shirts at cost price and photographer, film crew and Senseis waved their normal fees and expenses (including international flights). We were personally very moved to receive donations from aikidoka that we know are not well off, to see how people opened their minds across styles and how the British aikido community welcomed international visitors

**Together we raised £800** for the Ethiopia Peace Dojo and Salaam Shalom Aikido project which was hand delivered shortly after the event.

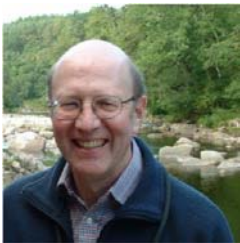


## What people had to say about the course



“Thank you all for all your efforts in putting together a fantastic weekend the other day. I thought the balance between Aikido on the mat and Aiki principles off it was just right. Honestly one of the best Aikido events I have been on. I learnt a lot of stuff on the mat, which is always great, but I also felt humbled by what people are doing and achieving within the movement of it.”

**Quentin Cooke Sensei 5th Dan, ADL**



“The best course that I have been on.”

**Michael Wolff Sensei**



“I cannot recall ever attending more gratifying Aiki-extensions event. It is wonderful to have this UK explosion onto the AE scene!”

**Donald Levine, 4th Dan ASU and President of Aiki-Extensions International**

## Some Course Highlights





## London follows the spirit of the seminar

Sue Smith Sensei 3<sup>rd</sup> Dan hosted another workshop at SOAS University where Senseis Paul Linden, David Rubens and Jose Bueno shared some of the aspects from their workshops. We would also like to thank Rubens Sensei (5<sup>th</sup> Dan Yoshinkan, London) for his contribution of an amazing 200 dogis to the Salaam Shalom Aikido Project.



Following the spirit of seminar and with the support of Charles Harris Sensei and the Kilburn Dojo in London we also managed to spontaneously raise a further £90 for “Acao Harmonia Brasil” (Harmonious Action Brazil) children’s project, at a second London event before Bueno Sensei departed for Europe to continue spreading the word.





## International Project News

### **“Acao Harmonia Brasil” - Update from Jose Bueno Sensei**



**02-03-2007 Netherlands:** *“Everything here is fine. Thursday I was going to teach a class for children and then a workshop for black belts separately, but I decided to teach them both together with divine results which were very inspiring. I was also able to show them a lovely session full of joy and Ki energy.*

*We also spoke about how the Dojo is a good place to make changes, comment and improve on small errors without taking ourselves too seriously, also that it is a compassionate, creative and liberating place. We talked about “**Acao Harmonia Brasil**” and how it involves our body, hearts and minds. Whether in the Dojo, doing outreach work in the community, or in business we are all interconnected.*

*In the end a jar was left to make voluntary donations and approximately 450 Euros were raised. Isn't that great? And to end it all with joy, my host Lawrence, (A professor here and future volunteer for our project very soon) loves “Bossa Nova”, has two guitars, and today we will celebrate his birthday.”*

**07-03-2007 Sao Paulo Brazil:** *“I arrived Monday evening in Sao Paulo and passed by the dojo which I had been missing. My Journey had been fantastic building new bridges of friendship with fellow Aikidoka in England and the Netherlands. It was also incredible to encounter a group from a dojo I know again in Demark. I visited Big Ben when it was pouring with rain and with a cold wind., but with the company of friends like Paul Linden, Mark and Sharon it was wonderful. Conclusion: Emotion transforms the perception.”*



## **Salaam Shalom - latest from Mark Walsh**

I've just returned from visits to AE sites and friends abroad. Funds were delivered from UKAE events and I saw how we are benefiting conflicted areas. A highpoint was sharing a magical kids Aikido class with an Israeli lady and a Palestinian Jordanian Sensei. There are many possible futures and I am proud to be helping to shape a positive one using Aikido.

In Israel Eytan Ben-Meir, the country's senior Sensei, hosted a well attended event, bringing together dojos from both sides of The Wall. He taught alongside Hanna Jeryis, a Christian Arab, and AE President Donald Levine. I also attended an AE backed dojo in Jerusalem where Orthodox Jews and Israeli soldiers practice alongside Muslim Arabs, and helped Don teach a goodwill class in Ramallah. Miles Kessler Sensei, Salaam Shalom Aikido's director, made me most welcome in Tel Aviv, where we trained in the park and in a papaya greenhouse.





## News from Ethiopia

Returning to the **AE Peace Dojo** in Awassa, Ethiopia was a real pleasure. Last year I spent three months helping set up East Africa's first dojo there. Since then it has blossomed, hosted by the Awassa Youth Campus where gymnasts promoting AIDS awareness flip, unicycle and rap in Amharic between classes. The oasis-like campus' many members come from varied ethnic groups and religions, and include street kids and orphans. 8 children and 18 young adults took kyu grades, showing high standards and commitment. I saw a hyena eat a dog, got scared by a baboon, hunted hippos (with a camera) and the cook showed me her new knives which aikido teachers Tesfaye and Meshu had relieved from thieves late one night.



 **AWASSA CHILDREN'S PROJECT** AIDING CHILDREN | *FIGHTING AIDS*

In the capital Addis, Don and I connected with the country's top university, government ministers, NGO leaders and I even Irimi naged a princess. I always come back from AE visits with adventure tales, but the real story is AE making a difference, and people in adverse circumstances helping themselves through aikido.

**Mark Walsh**



## **How To Get Involved**

### **Get UKAE Dojo Membership**

UKAE is open to all styles and affiliations. We encourage committed dojos to register free of charge and be listed on the UKAE web site: [www.ukae.org.uk](http://www.ukae.org.uk)

### **Join Aiki Extensions International**

We recommend all interested individuals to support Aiki-Extensions international by joining at [www.aik-extensions.org](http://www.aik-extensions.org) Membership costs \$50 (Approximately £27), or by donation if finances are strained, and gives a variety of benefits.

### **Host an Event**

“Be the change you want to see in the world.” - Gandhi. The UKAE team will support any dojos that wish to host a fundraiser or cross styles training.

### **Enter the UKAE Education Project**

We are looking for Senseis to begin the first UKAE project, based around children and education. Please contact us for details.



# UK Aiki Extensions



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## Events 2007

- **May 17-20<sup>th</sup>, – Schweinfert, Germany. Living Aikido Conference.**  
Many senior European AE members will be present as will Paul Linden Sensei. English translation available. [http://www.aiki-institut.de/projekte\\_beide.html](http://www.aiki-institut.de/projekte_beide.html)
- **July 14<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> July Zurich - Training Across Borders Summer Camp:**  
**Senseis Kurt Bartholet 6<sup>th</sup> Dan and Miles Kessler 4<sup>th</sup> Dan (Salaam Shalom Aikido)**  
For further information go to [www.aikido-zuerich.ch](http://www.aikido-zuerich.ch) (Seminar taught in English)
- **8<sup>th</sup> September UKAE Fundraiser Slough:**  
**Senseis Frank Burlingham, Quentin Cooke and William Timms (Institute of Aikido).**  
Contact Quentin Cooke Sensei [q.cooke@ntlworld.com](mailto:q.cooke@ntlworld.com)
- **October/November – Cambridge, 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary/ UKAE Salaam Shalom Course**  
**Senseis Simon Whittaker, Miles Kessler (long-time Iwama deshi) and guests**

Other members have shown interest in holding their own seminars around the UK. We will be keeping you all updated once we have confirmed dates and venues so that you will have plenty of opportunity to support and participate in UKAE activities.

## Photos, Video Clips & T-Shirts

- Professional quality photographs and a few fun video clips of the Renshinkan event are online at [www.ukae.org.uk](http://www.ukae.org.uk)
- More photos can be found at [www.flickr.com](http://www.flickr.com) (search "UKAE") and videos on [www.Youtube.com](http://www.Youtube.com) will be added shortly. Please add your own and tag "UKAE".
- A video of the UKAE Renshinkan is being produced and will be available at future events
- For Acao Harmonia Brasil or Training Across Borders DVDs contact Sharon
- For t-shirts from the UKAE event e-mail: [andy@andy68.freemove.co.uk](mailto:andy@andy68.freemove.co.uk)

## UKAE Committee Contact Details

We are: Andy Humphreys Sensei (UKA, Bristol), Mark Walsh (UKA, itinerant/Cambs) and Sharon Bannister (AKA, London).

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