

Newsletter  
Issue 4

**October 2005**



United Kingdom Taekwon-Do Association

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## UK Open

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This years UK Open will take place on the 19th November at the Ponds Forge Leisure Centre, Sheffield S1 2BP. All competitors will be allowed in just after 9am to ensure a prompt start at 10am.

Closing date for entries is the 12<sup>th</sup> of November. **NO entries will be accepted on the day.**

Unfortunately due to there being a big football game on the Saturday in Sheffield there is limited accommodation available. The only available accommodation is as follows:

The Beauchief Hotel, 161 Abbeydale Road South, Sheffield S7 2QW  
£79 per night per room £10 Breakfast

Thornsett House, Bed and Breakfast, 2 Thornsett Road, Sheffield S7 1NA - 0114255 0157  
Single £20 per night Double £40 per night

Travelodge Sheffield Richmond, 340 Prince of Wales Road, Sheffield, S2 1FF - 0870 191 1674  
£45 per room per night

Days Inn Sheffield South, 130/31 M1, Woodall, Sheffield, S26 7XR - 01142487992  
£45 per room per night as possible.

## Board Holder Required

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If someone is able to bring an extra board holder to the UK Open could they contact Mr Andrew Rhee on 07958916931

## AGM

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The AGM is to be held at Sheffield Park Hotel, Chesterfield Road South, Sheffield, S8 8BW on **SUNDAY 20<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**, as discussed at length and agreed at the 2004 AGM. We plan to start at 10am and finish by 12pm (noon). The agenda and pack will follow after our committee meeting on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October.

## Supporting Cancer Research

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On the 3rd September, Paul and Jackie Harris organised a fund raising day for Cancer Research. It involved an all day training session, which was supported by students from Newmarket, Derby, Market Harborough, Grantham, Great Glen, and students from their own schools. Over the day approximately 50 students attended raising a total of **£612.00**.

Thank you to every one that attended especially  
Mr.Blackburn VI ,  
Mr.Proctor V,  
Mr.Knighton V,  
Mr.Britton V,  
Mr.Palmer IV and  
Ms.Capenhurst.

If any one would like to support us next year please contact us on [paulharris5391@btinternet.com](mailto:paulharris5391@btinternet.com)



## RTA Didcot 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

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RTA Didcot celebrated 20 years with a weekend of events over 10th/11th September 2005. The 10th began with a very wet game of golf at Magnolia Park Golf Club. Congratulations to the winning pair of GM Rhee & Neil Grant.

The evening of the 10th was concluded with a meal for all area black belts & partners at the Plough Inn, a lovely picturesque 17th century inn close to the River Thames.

On Sunday 11th GM Rhee conducted seminars for nearly 160 members from age 5 to 57. Four members were promoted to 1st kup & invited to prepare for the next black belt grading.

Members of Oxford Area performed a black belt demonstration for the appreciative audience.

After cutting the cake the weekend concluded with a champagne toast at Master Miller's home.

Master Miller would like to thank all those who worked hard to organise bookings, venues, flowers & gifts. It made for a very special weekend. Master Miller would like to thank his Instructor Master Paul Cutler for his help & guidance over the past 25 years.



Master Miller & Family with GM Rhee



Master Miller cutting the cake

## Forthcoming ITF Wales Events

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**November 26<sup>th</sup> Saturday** – ITF Wales 2005 Awards Ceremony – Electricity Club, Cardiff

The annual awards ceremony for the ITF Wales. With the Grand Prix 2005 overall 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in all three divisions being presented. For further details please contact Mrs Clare Matthews IV at [events@itfwales.com](mailto:events@itfwales.com)

**December 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday** – ITF Wales Colour Belt Team (Open) – Eastern Leisure Centre, Cardiff

The first ITF Wales colour belt team competition, teams of three will compete in patterns and sparring events to win overall team in each of three divisions Under 13, 13-17 and +18. Full details will appear online at [www.itfwales.com](http://www.itfwales.com) or you can contact Mr Christopher Black II at [secretary@itfwales.com](mailto:secretary@itfwales.com)

If anyone is interested in any of these events please do feel free to contact the relevant person for further details or checkout the ITF Wales website which will have more current details.

## Congratulations Darren and Sian

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Congratulations to Cardiff North instructor Mr Darren Johns 2nd Dan and his wife Sian on the birth of their daughter. We all wish them all the best for the future and look forward to seeing the three of them soon.

Mr Peter Billing 1st Dan and all the students from Aberystwyth and Tywyn Taekwon-Do club

## **Golden Anniversary Celebrations By Katherine and Ian Britton**

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The event took place at the Stratford Manor hotel in Stratford-upon-Avon, on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October. Over 60 people attended the seminar in the afternoon, all grades and ages, taught primarily by Grandmaster Rhee, with help from Master Ray O'Neill. The seminar was fun and interesting, if a little constricted by the size of the room. All participants to receive a special golden anniversary certificate.

Later on, almost 100 people joined the evening celebrations, which kicked off with a great Taekwon-Do demonstration organised by Master Gary Miller. The team included Master Ray O'Neill, Paul Knighton, Carl Davies and Richard DeWinton. A plethora of flying kicks and powerful hand techniques produced piles of broken wood, smashed breezeblocks and flying apples, which were complimented by a super display of Tong Il by the two Masters.

During the candlelit 4-course meal the rich bass voice of opera singer Adam Christie entertained us with a selection of European folk songs in various languages, with some audience participation to provide the sounds of the sea! The drums and Korean flute (taegum) played by 5 musicians in Korean dress were spellbinding with great percussive sounds getting toes a-tapping and well deserved applause.

Behind the diners were displays of photos and pictures depicting General Choi, Grandmaster Rhee and many other figures in Taekwon-Do performing the art, cooking, relaxing, posing, drinking etc.... Some very original and interesting pictures, including a beautifully crafted image of General Choi made entirely from tiny shells, lent for the day by Grandmaster Rhee. At one end of the room a large screen showed fascinating old Taekwon-do footage and photos throughout the evening.

After the meal Grandmaster Rhee gave a lovely speech, and presented treasured copies of *Taekwon-Do 50<sup>th</sup> History*. Some of the other Masters also gave entertaining speeches to make us laugh or think.

Once the speeches were over, Master Augustus Mitchell pumped up the volume so we could dance the rest of the night away to his fantastic choice of music, which got almost everyone dancing. It was great to see Grandmaster Rhee and Master Prewett on the dance floor.

The drinks flowed and there was much laughter and enjoyment the entire evening. Most people made it to the end of the party around 1am while a few hardened party goers were still enjoying themselves after 4am!

Thankyou to everyone who attended for helping make it a really special event. Particular thanks to Master Augustus Mitchell for the DJ-ing, to Master Gary Miller and Master Ray O'Neill for the demonstration, to Mr Tim Helstrip and Mr Steve Proctor for helping with the multi-media displays, also to those who lent photos for the display.

Very special thanks go to Grandmaster Rhee for all his time and effort he has devoted to Taekwon-Do over the many many years, and of course to General Choi - we all know why.

## **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Dinner Demonstration**

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On October 15<sup>th</sup> the UKTA celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of Taekwon-Do.

We are all quite familiar with the history of the founding of Taekwon-Do, on 11<sup>th</sup> April 1955. On that day General Choi was part of the naming committee formed to give a name to the martial art that had been developed during the previous decade. An interesting fact is that the name of Taekwon-Do was only chosen by one vote.

In the UK we are very privileged indeed. The most loyal of the original band of pioneer instructors and the first to leave Korea in 1964 with the profession of Taekwon-Do instructor, settled here in the UK. Initially in the Midlands and more latterly in Glasgow the most senior Grand Master in the International Taekwon-Do Federation, Grand Master Rhee Ki Ha, heads the United Kingdom Taekwon-Do Association.

Grand Master Rhee was introduced to the seated audience, awaiting the scheduled Taekwon-Do demonstration, and took his seat in the centre of the long row of seats, which had been formed in a 3 sided square. On the 4<sup>th</sup> side was a black partition and behind the partition was a room, furnished for dinner and entertainment.

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## 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Dinner Demonstration cont..

The demonstration team was introduced to the awaiting audience. They were Master Ray O'Neill, Master Gary Miller, Mr Paul Knighton, Mr Richard deWinton and Mr Carl Davis. Altogether over 100 years of combined training and experience in this the most powerful of martial arts.

The demonstration covered a wide range of the core elements of Taekwon-Do. This was a very different martial arts display from anything that could have been anticipated back in April 1955. The 1959 manual of Taekwon-Do, one of the first books written by General Choi, showed half of the patterns were Japanese Karate and half were new Taekwon-Do patterns. The 15 volume Encyclopaedia of Taekwon-Do in the 1980s not only had 24 pure Taekwon-Do patterns, but also over 3000 techniques for defence and counter attack, including sweeps, throws, joint locks, sparring and power techniques.

Of course it was the power techniques that we were eagerly anticipating from the demonstration team gathered in Stratford, and we were not disappointed. Mr Knighton destroyed a brick with a fore-fist punch. Master Miller decimated 6 inches of pine boards, as shown in the picture,

although this picture was taken some time ago. Davis and deWinton showed their youth and athleticism with a series of highly impressive multi-target techniques, including an improbably high flying front kick from Carl and an impressive 4 target simultaneous attack, which was smartly landed on his feet by Richard. Master O'Neill did not disappoint with a series of incredible cement block breaks including a 3 block deep downward knife hand strike. The picture shows Master O'Neill performing a similar technique.



Master O'Neill: downward strike



Master Miller: Mid-air Kick

The purists amongst us in the audience appreciated the solo performance of Se Jong (5<sup>th</sup> Dan pattern) performed by Mr Knighton. However, the dual performance of Ge Baek (1<sup>st</sup> Dan Pattern) by Davis and deWinton was so well timed that they could have been tied together.

Self defence was demonstrated by Paul getting away from Carl with a series of releases and joint locks and then Carl was the poor unfortunate assailant against Master Miller in a superb demonstration of model sparring (fast and slow) techniques. However, Master Miller's highlight to my mind was the absolutely superb demonstration of a number of precision techniques removing a matchbox from Carl's nose with a series of techniques, including a high twisting kick. The speed of the hooking kick, turning kick combination that removed a matchbox from Carl's nose (again) and a cup from the top of his head was truly unbelievable.

The demonstration was concluded with a joint performance of Tong Il. Tong Il is the last of the 24 patterns and looks to the unification of Korea. This was a special request from Grand Master Rhee.

Congratulations to the performers, you clearly showed the culmination of 50 years of Taekwon-Do development, I am sure General Choi would have been pleased. Thank you for kicking off the celebration in such an impressive style.

Mr Helstrip UKTA Chairman