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Martial News Regional News

BRITISH MILITARY MARTIAL ARTS REACHES 50 CENTRES AROUND UK



(Caption): BMMA provides positive role models from the armed services for today's children

By Luke Robbins

British Military Martial Arts (BMMA) - an organisation teaching martial arts around the UK using ex-military servicemen and women - continues to expand with over 50 schools now offering its expert sessions.

BMMA was founded in 2008 by ex-paratrooper and World Association of Kickboxing wearing extra electronic sensor Organisation (WAKO) Pro-European champion Lee Matthews.

The organisation enlists some of the most highly-trained individuals who have served with the British military forces in order to combine the martial arts syllabus cheating, video replays of the - including boxing, karate, Kung-fu, Tae Kwon Do, Ju-jitsu and MMA - with fun and structured sessions.

Matthews - one of the best-known martial artists in the UK for his success as a competitor and his business acumen - is a six-time WAKO British champion and one-time WAKO Pro-European champion.

International Briefs

ASSOCIATION FINED FOR MAT-SIDE **PROTEST**

THE Chinese Taipei Taekwondo Association has been fined for holding a mat-side protest in support of a disqualified fighter.

The World Taekwondo Federation imposed the fine over the Taiwanese actions during the Asian Games after Yang Shuchun was disqualified amid claims of cheating.

The Taiwanese association said it would not contest the £31,000 fine so its fighters can continue to compete in international

However, the association said it was not withdrawing plans to appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sports against the disqualification of Yang Shuchun, 25, at the 2010 Asiad in Guangzhou, China.

The Taiwanese Taekwondo fighter had been leading her fight when it was found she was in her socks.

Amid accusations of match later showed that the extra sensors had been removed by her before the fight under instruction of game officials.

Despite being exonerated by video evidence, the world body banned her for three months because she had refused to leave r the fight area in protest.

It also imposed a 20-month suspension on Yang's coach Liu Tsung-ta because he had lodged a complaint after the disqualification.

Adverts



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Thur: Clara Vale Comm Centre (15-adult) - 7.30-9pm

Fri: Spartan Performance (Consett) - 7.15-8.45pm

Sat: Rowlands Gill Comm Centre - 9-10.30am

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JET LI BECOMES A SINGAPORE CITIZEN

JET Li has confirmed he has



(Caption): Lee Matthews who is helping fellow former soldiers by giving them a career in martial arts...

Having received training from the likes of former boxing world champion Richie Woodhall, Brazilian Ju-jitsu world champion Bralio Estima and world kickboxing champions Drew Neal and the Winsper Family, Matthews has gone on to become 4th Dan in Sport Karate, 4th Dan in Kickboxing and 1st Dan in Karate,

The 34-year old spent seven years in the 3rd Battalion of the Parachute regiment, citizen 2008. undertaking operations in Northern Ireland and Kosovo and training and working as a physical training instructor, and in the West Midlands alone Lees organisation Gong Li, who teaches over 1000 students, as well as tutoring nine world champions.

Gong Li, who Li, became a statement of the Parachute regiment, citizen 2008.

Each centre offers sessions for Little Soldiers (4-7 years), Cadets (8-11 years), Ladies Only and Adult sessions, and are now operating in cities such as Leeds, Crewe, Derby and Portsmouth and Sutton Coldfield. BMMA has also begun to venture into Scotland with bases in Glasgow, Arbroath and Dumfries.

Many of the BMMA instructors are tutored through the L2 Martial Arts Company, a Career Transitional Partnership NVQ level three training course where exserviceman receive tuition in marketing and managing their own profitable Martial

On BMMA's ongoing expansion, Lee said: "BMMA helps ex-service men and women go into their local communities and open up martial arts schools, giving the local children something positive to focus on and keep them off the street. The instructors act as great role models and teach them the important vales that they gained in the forces.

"They are also fantastic motivators for the adults students as they are all super fit. 2010 was a fantastic year with new BMMA centres set up, and at a time when there's more government cuts for ex-servicemen BMMA allows people to manage their own business using the expertise they have acquired from their time in the forces."

For further information please visit:

WWW.BRITISHMILITARYMARTIALARTS.CO.UK

or follow BMMA on Twitter @BritMilMA

JANUARY EDITION - SEND US YOUR STORIES

YOUNGSTER WINS JUDOKA OF THE YEAR AWARD



become a citizen of Singapore.

The martial arts film star has been living in the USA for 20-years and also holds a Chinese passport.

He said he decided to move to the city-state because he wants his childfen to have a bi-lingual education and for his family to escape the constant media attention.l

He said: "My children can have good bilingual education with social stability, and my children will not be harassed by journalists and reporters."

Singapore places equal emphasis on the teaching of the English and Mandarin to its Chinese students.

It is one of the safest cities in the world and has a low tax threshold.

Chinese actress Gong Li, who starred in "Farewell My Concubine" and later "Memoirs of a Geisha" became a Singapore citizen 2008.

Gong Li, who is not related to Jet Li, became a Singapore citizen in 2008.



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(Caption): Callum McInnes, 9, with Senior Bushido instructor Chris Dawson By Phil Doherty

BUSHIDO Judo Kwai has chosen Callum McInnes as its Judoka of the Year.

Callum, 9, joined the Bushido Wallsend club in March of last year and since then has $\,$

won more inter-club trophies than any other club member.

Sensei Dawson, Senior Bushido instructor, 6th Dan, said: "Callum recently won a silver award at the Westgate Judo Club Graded Tournament in Newcastle and a gold award at the Northumberland Clubs for Young People Open Judo Championship

in North Shields, and is now currently at the top of our medal table.

"At our recent grading he was promoted to 5th Kyu yellow belt. Callum is a student

at Holystone Primary School and also plays football for Whitley Coast Soccer, under nine's "

The Bushido Judo Kwai train at the Wallsend Boys Club, Station Road, on Tuesday and $\,$

Fridays from 6.30pm.

Lesson at the Battlehill Judo Club are held at the Churchill Community College, Churchill Street, Wallsend on Wednesday from 5.30pm

The Seghill Judo Club met at the Seghill Institute, Seghill, North Tyneside, on Monday from $6.15 \, \mathrm{pm}$.

For further information on Bushido Judo phone Chris Dawson on: 07763 338658

Or visit:

WWW.BUSHIDOJUDOKWAI.COM

DECEMBER EDITION - SEND US YOUR STORIES

BLACK KNIGHTS CHAMPIONSHIP MEDAL HAUL

By Martial News Reporter

MEMBERS of the Black Knights Martial Arts Club have returned from a Grappling and Pankration Championships with a haul of medals.

Three members of the club, based in Burnley, Lancashire, attended the European championship in Poland as part of the Great Britain squad.

Two of the North team are under 18-years old, but that didn't stop them seeking and gaining permission to take part in the two person Pankration demo section.

Andy Geoghegan, 15, and Cameron Mitchell not only put on a great display of the fighting system, they gained an impressive silver medal for their efforts.

Ben Whitehead shone in his events - the under 110kg Pankration and the combat grappling sections - against experienced top grapplers including Olympic wrestlers.

His haul was a bronze in the Pankration and a silver in the combat grappling in these $\,$

full contact events.

The club celebrated more success when Black Knights chief instructor Allan Clarkin was selected to be the Team GB director-coach for Pankration.

Allan said: "I am very proud to be selected. But a big thanks must go to my lads for being great role models to young people. The two young lads in the demo section competed well and it was a big learning curve for them."

To find out more about the Black Knights phone Allan on: 07944789345

Or visit:

WWW.BLACK-KNIGHTS-KICKBOXING.ORG.UK





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