



# KISSAKI-KAI KARATE-DO

WHEN YOU'RE READY FOR THE REAL THING

# NEWSLETTER

December 2014

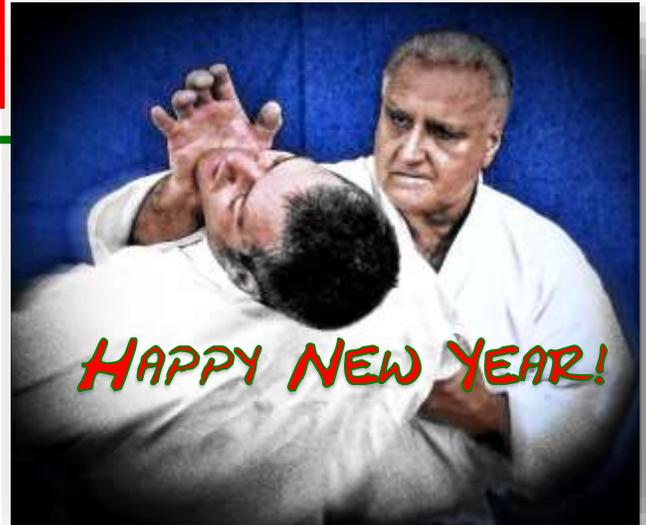
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## Another year!



## Why Kissaki-kai?

- \* Kissaki-Kai teaches effective defensive karate
- \* Kissaki-Kai promotes reality in training
- \* Sport & Fun are not forgotten!
- \* Family atmosphere
- \* No Politics
- \* Not Style dependent.
- \* Recognized world-wide
- \* International Dojo

Well, here we are again - another year older and my hair going greyer by the minute! (But I still have it)

I'm sure you'll all know by now that Eva and I have recently relocated to Europe - the South of France - and are busy fixing up an old house in a tiny village. It is big enough to host small seminars and visitors for short family breaks, with a chance of daily training for the karate addict before visiting the local beaches or mountains.

If you are interested in seeing the house and where we are go to: [www.soleilenfrance.com](http://www.soleilenfrance.com) and take a look.

It was a wrench to leave



all our good friends in the USA, but we will be seeing them again for regular seminars.

*beginning to grow with a new Dojo in Florida, another in Cleveland and a third Dojo*



**Sensei Matt Knorr and Steve Montgomery**

*In fact Kissaki-Kai in America is actually*

*re-opening in a larger venue in Clarksville!*



This is in addition to other Dojo recently opened in Colorado and in Texas. Still room for more, though!

With sensei Steve Montgomery (US Chief Instructor) and Matt Knorr still running the newly-named Full Circle Dojo in New Jersey, and sensei Jerry Bomay and Phil Oakes now in charge of coordinating and developing Kissaki-Kai I'm looking forward to making new connections there in the New Year.

In Europe we were recently invited to present seminars in both Northern and Southern Ireland and were given an official reception by the Mayor of Londonderry.

In March we will be in two new European venues, first for a seminar in Holland and then for the first seminar to be held in Sweden.

We are also scheduled to present seminars in Germany, so do go to the international website

[www.kissakikarate.com](http://www.kissakikarate.com) for details.

If you are interested in hosting a seminar in **your own Dojo, don't hesitate** to contact us as it is very simple and you will not be expected to shoulder any burden of

expenses.

No host has ever had such a problem yet!

For information on Kissaki-Kai Dojo go to:

[www.kissakikarate.com/dojos.htm](http://www.kissakikarate.com/dojos.htm)



**Why seemingly intelligent people believe in magic?**

In a small insignificant village in Fukien long, long ago, in a ramshackled and dirty Inn, a certain travelling Monk was wearily sitting, easing away the aches and discomfort of many miles of footsore travel.

His moments of tranquility were suddenly shattered as a drunken brawl broke out at a nearby table as the seated drinkers were covering under the blows and insults delivered by what seemed to a drunken ruffian, who,

never-the-less wore the two swords of a samurai.

At first the monk tried to ignore the disturbance in the hope that the Ronin - for the ragged samurai could only be such a master-less, perhaps disgraced, example of the haughty and powerful upper class who would never be seen in such an establishment.

The uproar increased, however, as in his drunken savagery the oaf began to kick and belabor his victims as they cowered unresponsively under his fury. They knew that to strike a samurai - even such a lowly example as this - was a reason to lose their heads. Indeed the samurai could legally take the head of a peasant for such a simple slight as an inadvertent bump or jostle. The adjoining table toppled to the floor and the Ronin savagely jerked his small wakizashi from its scabbard - snarling, he grabbed the nearest of the fallen peasants by his unruly hair, dragged back his chin and set the blade to his exposed throat. He took a breath and in that lifetime, lifelong moment the monk spun on his bench and delivered a wicked punch traveling upwards, deep **into the samurai's** stomach.

There was a sudden **'whoosh' of expelled air** and for a moment the Ronin stood frozen in his attempt to draw breath.

Gasping and blue in the face, he collapsed to the floor, dropping the blade as he fell.

In the silence, broken only by the futile gasping as the fallen bully slowly began to breathe again, the peasants grabbed the Monk by his sleeve and pulled him away, out of the building and scattered.

A few days later, after a short but intense fever and cramps in the abdomen, the villagers learned that the disgraced samurai had died!

In solemn discussion they later spoke in awe of the travelling stranger who possessed the *Dim Mak* skill of the Delayed Death Touch!

Of course, in view of the fact that in ancient China there was little or no detailed knowledge of the inner workings of the human body, and a vast belief in invisible spirits and that the human body was energized by a motivating but invisible energy force (*Qi, Chi*) such a belief was actually not an unreasonable supposition.

This view of an invisible motivating force - with slight differences - was



shared for hundreds of years in Medieval Europe in the form of the four humours ; Black Bile, Phlegm, Yellow Bile and Blood, according to the Hippocratic system.

(It is interesting to note that these four **'humours' were also associated** with the four universal elements of Earth, Air, Fire and Water.)

However - come with me now, forward through the centuries to Friday 22nd October 1926.

In a small room lies - even in this age before TV and the internet - possibly one of the **world's most recognizable men**, Harry Houdini.

In conversation with a young student J G Whitehead, Houdini remarked that his stomach could resist much in the way of blows, following which the student bent over the relining figure and delivered a **number of "Hammer-like Blows" to Houdini's body**, to the right of the navel.

Immediately in pain, Houdini protested that he had not had time to prepare his muscles for such an onslaught! It is clear that the escapist was suffering pain over the next couple of days, and he had

begun to develop a fever of 104 degrees F.



Harry Houdini

Eventually of course, despite the best of medical attention and an operation Houdini died from a ruptured appendix and peritonitis.

Actually, his stubbornness in insisting he should still present his shows even though in pain may well have contributed to his demise, as the pain he attributed to the blows to his stomach could possibly have disguised a ruptured appendix and given time for the poison of peritonitis to invade his system.

Here - in the light of present knowledge, we do understand the causal reality of trauma to rupture an internal organ and the consequent deadly effect of the peritonitis, we no

longer ascribe the ensuing mortality to any disruption of invisible and mysterious forces.

Only a complete moron would have accredited the student Whitehead with the power of **delivering the 'Delayed Death Touch' even if, in effect**, that is what happened.

Greater scientific knowledge would have made such a claim ridiculous!

So, we speak from an enlightened age it would seem. But! Is this true?

How many millions of people throughout the world subscribe to the system of acupuncture?

Based upon the concepts of the thousands of years old Chinese belief system?

How many, even today, deny the overwhelming evidence of Evolution in favour of belief in a wholly unproven idea of creationism?

How many students still **ardently 'believe' in the validity of the Sifu or Sensei's 'magical' power** to toss opponents around like rag dolls without even touching them?

The fact is that it seems education in critical thinking is the answer, as research shows that the higher one's level of

education the less likely one is to hold more - for want of a word - bizarre - beliefs, such as in ghosts and the paranormal, as opposed to the somewhat less dubious concepts such as homeopathy and acupuncture.

In a series of procedures to test the changes in belief systems following a course in critical thinking, researches found that: ***"The student's purported belief in the paranormal declined significantly and substantially from the time they started the course to the time it ended."***

(*Skeptic Mag. Vol. 19 No. 4 2014*).

However it was recognized that other factors - social environment, group identification, peer pressure and so on could well also contribute to these findings.

So - even when a **purported 'Ki Expert' is laid flat on his back** when challenged by someone other than one of his students, there is in his students first a lack of critical analysis and judgment, reinforced by group peer pressure.

When we look at the millions of dollars invested in the pseudo-science of fringe medicine, we can see how huge numbers of people have fortunes,



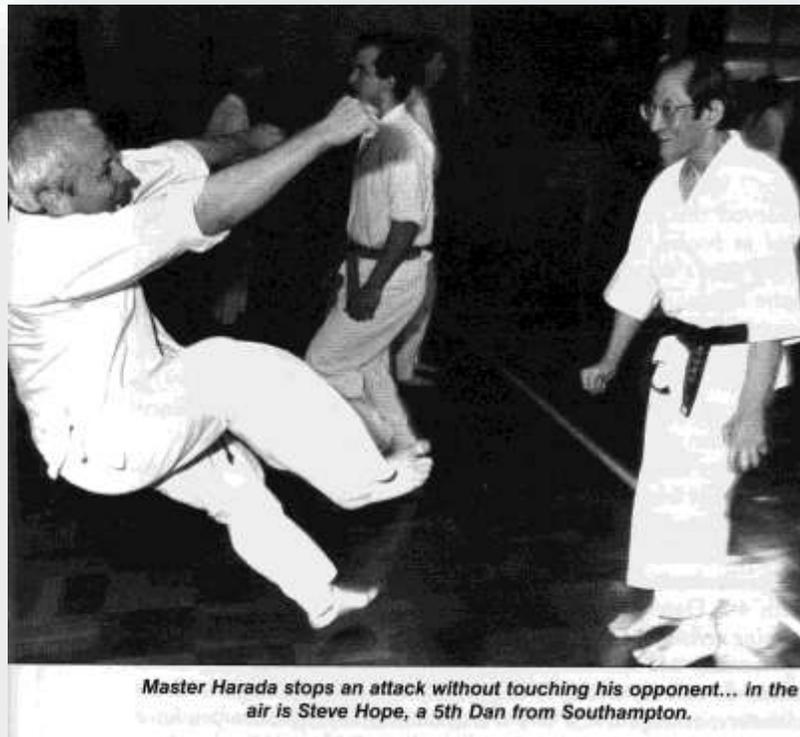
indeed frequently their very livelihoods, based upon continuing the perpetuation of treatments, non of which - and I challenge anyone to prove otherwise - have shown to be positively effective under strict scientific tests. (Given, of course, the powerful effects of Placebo therapy).

In martial arts terms, such externally induced pressure beliefs have to be countered by critical thinking and self-reliance.

Throughout my many years of training, I developed from an early age the demand that the **'expert:' "Do it to me!"**

**That's fine when we are** trying to determine the efficacy of a defensive waza, but even then, because something may have affected me, that **doesn't 'prove' that it is** going to be effective in every case, and multiple tests have to be analyzed before - what otherwise would be no more than subjective opinion - can be verified as accurate. Subjective opinion - **'Well it worked for me'** which cannot produce similar results on repetition - is no basis for judgment.

I have found that a healthy skepticism has



Master Harada stops an attack without touching his opponent... in the air is Steve Hope, a 5th Dan from Southampton.

Magic

Reality

never let me down. Plus many years of teaching tactical training to Law Enforcement Officers in Police Academy, and going out with them on the streets, certainly teaches one to stay well away from the mumbo-jumbo aficionados and concentrate on what is definitely going to work best; techniques correctly taught and repeatedly practiced!

Remember the Rule of Combat:

*How you train is how you will act under stress!*

Have a great 2015! I look forward to seeing as many of you as I can!

Vince Morris 2014.



1956 rare photo of Master Funakoshi demonstrating knife defense against US Judoka Mel Bruno during his visit to Japan.

This could well be an application from Kanku-Dai or Tekki. In the Kata: Shuto following a block (Here a grab) into Mae-Geri to be followed up with a final right hand strike - probably inverted fist (ura-zuki) to the exposed left temple).



## Forthcoming Seminars

### **7th March 2015 Venlo, Holland**

Health and Racketclub Venlo, Heymanstraat 101, 5927 NP Venlo Boekend  
Training times; 10-12hrs and 13-15hrs  
contact Guy Janssens on 0032-483-065-516 or e-mail [guy.janssens2@gmail.com](mailto:guy.janssens2@gmail.com)

### **28/29 March 2015 Sweden**

Contact: Johannes Regell: [xjojjex@hotmail.com](mailto:xjojjex@hotmail.com)

### **25/26 April 2015 Wächtersbach, Germany**

Contact: Matthias Fischer: [karate.aufenu@gmx.de](mailto:karate.aufenu@gmx.de)

### **2nd, 3rd May 2015 in Fürth, Germany**

Contact: Stephan Kohler: [kohler.stephan@googlemail.com](mailto:kohler.stephan@googlemail.com)

### **Belgium Kissaki-Kai Seminar Series with Sensei Guy Janssens 6th Dan**

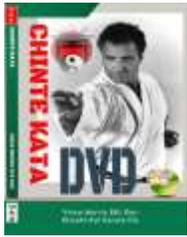
31st January & 28th February: The Nintai Dojo, Sporthal Latem-Deurle,  
Hoge Heirweg 64, Sint-Martens-Latem from 14h to 16h  
E-mail: [guy.janssens2@gmail.com](mailto:guy.janssens2@gmail.com)

Contact us if you would like to host a seminar in your own Dojo, in Europe or in the USA. It will not impose any financial stress, and we will work with you to ensure it is a success. Email us for details at ~ [info@kissaki-kai.com](mailto:info@kissaki-kai.com)



2014 seminar in Fürth, Germany

# Books, DVDs, & Pads - order from [www.kissakikarate.com](http://www.kissakikarate.com)



### Chinte Kata

The essential bunkai of the kata 'Chinte' - 'Strange' or 'Unusual' hands. Chinese in origin, this kata is a toolbox of rapid and effective defensive methods of countering a variety of commonly occurring attacks. Long-time denoted as a female defensive kata, it contains many examples of vital point centered techniques, demonstrated by one of karate's most acclaimed and respected sensei. The principles of self-defence should be studied by all karate-ka. Over an hour of instructional video. \$45 NTSC (USA) €29 PAL (Europe)



### Genesis of Kissaki-Kai - Set of 4 DVDs

The Genesis set is a re-mastering of seminar samplers 1,2,4 and 5, charting the development of Kissaki-Kai Karate-Do: These 4 DVDs, recompiled from the earliest seminar videos, analyze and demonstrate the use of Kyusho points, the Flinch Reflexes, the 'Frisbee-uke' - the 'Rules of Combat' and much more. See how the application of research and logic altered the perception and practice of Kata Bunkai! The quality is not as good as current DVDs but the content is important! \$50 NTSC (USA) £33 PAL (Europe)



### The Secret Art of Pressure Point Fighting: Book & DVD-combo

Martial arts lore tells of masters who possessed a mysterious ability to defeat an opponent with a single perfectly placed blow. This book transforms the ancient legend into a modern reality - an anatomically based fighting and self-defence system that allows a small defender to defeat a larger attacker. - Over 300 step-by-step photos show each point and strike. \$28 NTSC (USA) £22PAL (Europe) DVD shows detailed action and more than the book.

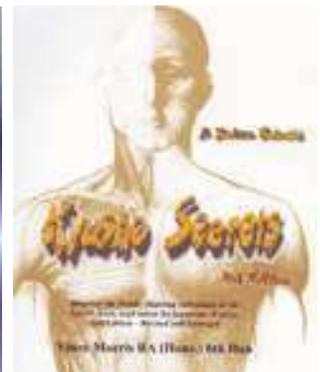
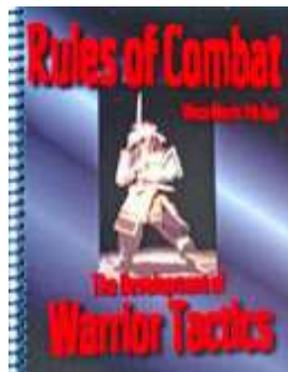
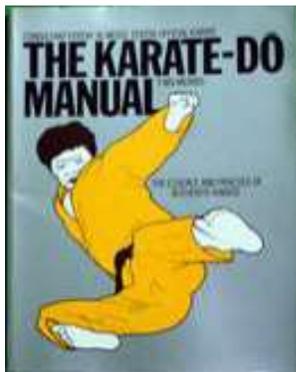


### Essential Kissaki-Kai Karate-Do - Double DVD

This set is giving detailed instruction in the 5 levels of Kissaki-Kai Karate-Do: Atemi-waza, shime-waza, nage-waza and kansetsu-waza. A masterful compilation of real, effective, defensive combat techniques which should be studied by all karate-ka wishing to gain a full understanding of this defensive art. Based upon the 3-year distance learning program, but including much new material, this DVD set is an invaluable insight into how to make karate truly effective. Shin-ippun Kumite, the 'Rules of Combat', the use of Kyusho points, the flinch reflexes, the 'Frisbee-uke' - and much more is covered here! \$45 NTSC (USA) £29PAL (Europe)



Go to the website shop to see all the books, DVDs and other items available (T-shirts, Protective pads etc.)



Available from: [www.kissakikarate.com/shop.htm](http://www.kissakikarate.com/shop.htm) or [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)