



# **B.B.T.A. NEWSLETTER**

## **XMAS AND END OF YEAR EDITION 2018**

Hi All, sorry to have been away so long, but its been a busy few months for me and I've been away on holibobs too, so that took up a bit of my time. Hope you all had a good Summer, Autumn and first bit of Winter and have lots of pictures to send in to me at [bbta.newsdesk@gmail.com](mailto:bbta.newsdesk@gmail.com), but first, lets see what's been happening in BBTA Land...

First of all, we have had a load of gradings since our last Newsletter, all the way from white belt promotions through to Dan grades. This makes it really interesting to report on, because those starting out with us can see clearly what their goal is and how much everyone at the Dan grade still commits as much effort, if not more to achieving success at their grading and therefore it is an on-going goal and one which we not only want to achieve ourselves but one that we want to ensure you reach.

Please bear all of the above in mind when you read the next few pages from Master Thomas as I think he reflects all of the club members thoughts no matter what stage of your journey you are at.

*Editor*

Congratulations to all the newly promoted Black Belts and Dan grades.

The Black belt grading is very complex and a high level of technical skill, realism and a full theoretical understanding of Taekwondo is required.

It is good to see those students that were unsuccessful return to classes and are working even harder towards their re-takes next year. Thank you to you for persevering, you are a credit to the Club.

### **Congratulations:**

#### Promoted to 1st Degree:

Daisy Adamson  
Hannah Berkeley

#### Promoted to 2nd Degree:

Maria Calatayud-Pastor  
Agnes Buda  
Colin McIntyre  
Richard Suchy

#### Milton Keynes Grading

Many Students attended the grading and congratulations to all the successful candidates.

For those that were unsuccessful on this occasion, please use the experience as a stepping stone to move onto improving your skills and working towards success at your next assessment.

Remember the Tenets of Taekwondo!

#### Banbury Grading

It was so good to meet up with Mr Bignell and all the officials and Students, Banbury was originally my 'Home' Club and I do always feel 'at home' every time I return.

Congratulations to Mr Bignell and his Students.

We are currently working on refreshing the BBTA website. If you have any good quality images that you are happy to share, we would very much appreciate your contribution.

After a few hiccups, we are finally getting down to promoting all the BBTA clubs, and would love to hear you or your child's personal stories on their journey along the way.

This together with photographs of your journey would be amazing to see. If you are happy to contribute, please e mail Phil direct on [bbtaacademy@gmail.com](mailto:bbtaacademy@gmail.com).

### New GoCardless Direct Debit System:

As you're all aware the BBTA has now implemented a totally integrated management system, designed to leave your Instructor free to teach you or your child and not waste valuable class time on administration etc.

Part of this involved a change from Standing Order payments to the Industry standard Direct Debit System.

Thank you to everyone for helping us through this transition which is now complete.

The new System has the following benefits with more to come!

- 1) Direct Debit Payment for class fees
- 2) On line bookings for events and gradings
- 3) Electronic forms and integrated payment for Licence renewals
- 4) Direct to student notifications of events, timetables and gradings.

To come:

- 1) New improved online shop
- 2) Online Handbook updates
- 3) More Videos, including 1 step sparring, basic techniques explained.
- 4) And much, much more!

## Sparring Sessions Milton Keynes

We are considering looking into reintroducing a weekly sparring session, but as we have had little success in the past with pay as you go, we may trial and ‘add to your monthly package’ option.

This would give the student the option of changing their Bronze or Gold package to include the sparring sessions which will be held at Milton Keynes.

If you would be interested in considering this option, could you please make your Instructor aware, so we can evaluate the support in advance?

## Private Classes with Master Thomas

If you are preparing for an important grading or just wish to improve your skills, Remember that Mr Thomas can arrange private lessons as a one off, or as a course.

Contact Mr Thomas direct for further details on [bbtaacademy@gmail.com](mailto:bbtaacademy@gmail.com)

## New Adult Beginners class Milton Keynes

In the New Year, we would like to restart a beginner’s Adult class in Milton Keynes.

If you, as a parent or friend of a student, would like details please see your Instructor. If you can assist in any way in promoting this class, we would be very grateful of your support.

Again contact Mr Thomas direct on [bbtaacademy@gmail.com](mailto:bbtaacademy@gmail.com)

## Merry Christmas!

It's that time of year again! What an amazing year!

The BBTA has amazing students, many of them Children and I do realise how much time and energy parents put into their child's attendance.

Parents – you are remarkable! The support you give to not only your own Child, but to the club is incredible.

Adults, yes I also know how difficult it can be to keep up with the classes, especially when you have work, life and Family to consider, before you even put on your Dobok.

With the exceptionally busy lives we all lead today, I really do value your membership, whether you train religiously or sporadically, I fully understand your other life commitments and I commend you all.

The BLACK BELTS have not only supported me personally in an unbelievable way, but the practical help and support you have given to your clubs and fellow students has really touched me.

Thank you is just not a strong enough word to use, but the only ones I have. So 'THANK YOU' to each and every one of you.

I'd like to give a special mention to ALL the BBTA Instructors, for their constant and unrelenting work throughout another year, and to Charlotte in BBTA administration who is burdened with all the issues and behind the scenes problems – Thank you Charlotte!

Mr Colin McIntyre has produced and edited this Newsletter throughout the year, just for you all! Thank you Mr McIntyre!

The BBTA Grading Panel, Mr Moya, Miss Tsang, Mr Walters, Mr Townsend and Mr Crighton need another special mention. Not only do they do a professional thankless job, but do an enormous amount behind the scenes, especially keeping me (Mr Thomas) on track! – Thank you ALL!

Last but not least, Can I thank all those Instructors and Black belts who assist at all the junior classes, the time and effort you put into these sessions is truly extraordinary! – THANK YOU!

**A very happy Christmas to you all!**

Master Thomas

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And I think, on behalf of us all and The Club, I send best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to Master Thomas and his family for providing us all with the facility of the various BBTA Clubs around our region, and sharing his passion for TKD with us.

Thank You Sir.

*(Editor)*

Please find pictures of very proud Sophia and Chloe, our Students of the Year, on the next page.

Many congratulations once again.

A very pleased Sophia receiving her well earned Student of the Year award recently. 

Student of the Year is awarded annually and is not based solely upon skill, but also takes into account the five tenets of taekwondo.

Courtesy, Integrity, Perseverance, Self Control and Indomitable Spirit are as important to us now as they have always been historically in taekwondo.

They play a great part in your journey through life, and this is why we try to introduce them to you now, along with the greater skills of being a martial artist.

Please find also a picture of a very happy Chloe Jolly in receipt of her Student of the Year award in the Junior class section. 

Having worked with Chloe, I can see why her Instructor made the decision to make this award.

Well done Chloe and Sophia.



## PETES SPITFIRE STORY

On May 24th this year I was being strapped into the 2nd seat of a restored Spitfire Mark 9. It was something I had promised myself for a long time. My pilot was Flight Lieutenant Parkinson, soon to be known as "Parky". I was in good hands as "Parky" had flown with the Red Arrows, the Battle of Britain Memorial flight and had over 1000 hours in the Euro fighter Typhoon", a pretty experienced pilot.

The day started pretty awful, with rain, as we travelled to Sywell aerodrome, the other side of Northampton. I was scheduled, with 2 other people to fly in the morning, and a further 3 flights, in the afternoon. I had to be at Sywell for 9.15am for safety procedures, flight suit fitting, boots and to know what to do and when. I met Ben, a member of Aero legends, who was checking people in, and my pilot, "Parky". There were 3 others who were my ground crew. As the other 2 had now arrived we had our briefings while families did their own thing, mainly a huge cooked full English breakfast. We now waited for the weather to improve, "Parky" said we should be airborne by midday. He asked if I had any preferences and I said I would like a gentle barrel roll over the airfield and he was quite agreeable to do this for me. Come 10.30am, the rain had stopped, the cloud was breaking and blue sky could be seen so we started out towards the Spitfire. I was gently eased into my seat by Wayne, one of the ground crew, and strapped into my parachute. I was then strapped into my seat. I was shown how to close the canopy and lift my seat. also to close the canopy.

The seat had to be in its lowest position in order to get into the aeroplane and also to close the canopy. The canopy couldn't be closed in the "up" position with my helmet on. The canopy was closed by a small hand wheel and the seat lifted by a lever. My helmet had a microphone and ear-phones, so I could talk to and listen to the pilot. So, strapped in, seat up and the canopy closed we were ready. "Parky" started the Merlin engine and I was quite surprised that I didn't get too much noise, but then again, I was further away from it than the pilot, and I had my helmet on. We taxied across the grass to the end of the runway, stopped and waited for clearance to take off. I was a lot lower than "Parky" as the Spitfire has a tail wheel but he said when we reach around 150mph you'll come up level with me. I hear "Parky" talk and then another voice and then we started move. My dream had become reality. I had no idea of speed at take off, nor in the air. "Parky" took me over Eye Brook reservoir which in 1943 was a practice run for the Dam busters, standing in for the Mohne reservoir. We went high and through the clouds, I was looking out of the cockpit all the time and had no idea where we were, or at what height and speed, I rarely looked at the instrument panel. We flew over fields, trees and industrial areas and villages. "Parky" had arranged for me to have a little banter with Ben. I have many WW11 films and we had put together a dialogue from these films. I had no floor in my cockpit, just some pedals, on which to rest my **feet**.

Wayne, told me and according to him, I was flying the Spitfire for some 10 to 15 seconds. We then flew over Pittsford reservoir. "Parky" then started to dip the wings gently, both sides, further each time until I was horizontal to the ground. I think this may have been preparation for my barrel roll. When the wings were vertical to the ground, I felt a little something in my stomach and thought I've got to drive home after this and decided the barrel roll was not a good idea. Had I not been driving home I may have gone through with the roll. I spoke to "Parky" and he was ok to forgo the roll. "It's your flight Peter, we'll do what you want". We then started to prepare for landing, "Parky" called to say we couldn't land straight away as another Spitfire was landing in front of us. As we were higher than the other aeroplane I had a job to see it in it's camouflage colours, I did eventually see it, as it landed and taxied along the runway, We then landed and followed the other Spitfire, along the runway, it turned off as we turned off towards our respective parking places. I could see the other Spitfire on my left. "Parky" come over on the radio, "what do you think Peter, what a sight, two Spitfires taxiing at the same time" We came to a halt, engine off, and the ground crew came around to help me out of the aeroplane. My family had come with me to share my special day. When everything was safe we were allowed to have photos taken with "Parky" and the Spitfire. I was airborne for 26 minutes- 26 minutes I shall never forget. As I said before, my Spitfire, "Elizabeth" was a restored aircraft.

It saw operational service with 9 pilots and between them they shot down 2 ME 109's, 2 FW 190's, damaged 3 ME 109's and an FW190. It was part of No 411 "Grizzly Bear" squadron, 126 wing Royal Canadian Air Force. The last pilot, JS Jeffrey was shot down, baled out and landed near Orbec, in the Normandy region in north-western France. He was hidden from the Germans and eventually made his way back to his unit. All 9 pilots survived the war. I have been in touch with Aero legends to ask how high I went and how fast, my maximum height may have been 3500 feet, I know for certain I saw the altimeter at 2500 feet, my speed was 280 mph. What a day!! I was given a memory stick, I had a camera in the cockpit pointing At me, another camera on the tail plane, pointing forward. I am in a small inset on the screen while the main picture is of the Spitfire.

Peter Preston 2nd degree black belt

Peter also provided pictures of his experience, some of which are on the next couple of pages.

Thanks Pete. Fantastic day out by the sounds of it and really glad you were able to record it for yourself and share it with us.

Be great if we could have more real life stories like this please peeps. I try to put as much in as I can, but I do need your help.



Introducing:  
*'Elizabeth'*

Tight  
Squeeze



Clunk—Click

Just about ready...





At last,  
bedded in

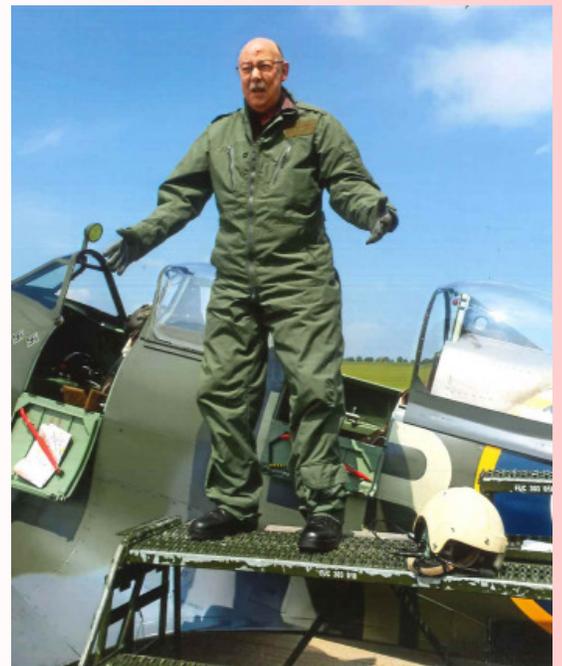
Er...Where's  
the pilot?



Thunderbirds are go!



Terra Firma



Fantastic mail from Mr Chris Jolly recently:

Hello, I thought I would send a picture of Thomas and Chloe Jolly with their medals after completing the Junior Nuts Challenge last weekend. About 1-2km's with obstacles. Their Dad and older sister did the bigger version (14km with 200 obstacles and a lot of mud).

And here they are...



You got to laugh...  
Well done everyone.

Thomas and Chloe win the prize for best picture this month.



# **Christmas and New Year Holiday times**

## **BBTA Christmas Timetable**

**Please note the dates below indicate your last session of 2018 and the first session of 2019.**

### **Cranfield**

**18<sup>th</sup> December – 8<sup>th</sup> Jan**

### **Aylesbury**

**13<sup>th</sup> December – 10<sup>th</sup> Jan**

### **Banbury**

**19<sup>th</sup> December – 9<sup>th</sup> Jan**

### **Milton Keynes (all clubs)**

**19<sup>th</sup> December – 7<sup>th</sup> Jan**

### **Buckingham**

**4<sup>th</sup> December – 15<sup>th</sup> January**

**After School clubs will be notified by their School**

**A FOUNDER MEMBER OF THE BRITISH BLACK BELT TAEKWONDO ACADEMY**

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