



The Kano Society Bulletin



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In This Edition

Significant articles in this issue of “*The Bulletin*” include reports on the *judo* events from the delayed 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games; an essay on late Kano Society founding member, Syd Hoare, by his daughter Sasha; and a short biographical article on late Kano Society patron, T.P. Leggett, by Brian Watson.

Publisher's Comments

As this fiftieth issue of “*The Bulletin*”, produced by Llyr Jones, is published, the physical practice of *judo* has now resumed in most countries. Readers are wished a safe and enjoyable practice as the COVID-19 pandemic remains a significant concern.

Since our first issue in September 2000, the Kano Society has been able to bring you a wide range of high-quality articles on “traditional *judo*”. In this way we hope we are continuing to realise an important element of the Society's founding vision.

My thanks to all who have contributed to the publication over the last 21 years.

Contributions

The backbone of the Kano Society's activities is this on-line publication. We welcome contributions in the form of articles or photographs etc. to “*The Bulletin*”.

Diana Birch

2020 Tokyo Olympic *Judo* Results

Brian Watson



The Nippon *Budokan* Stadium in Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

Some 393 *judo* competitors from 128 countries competed from 24 July to 31 July 2021 at the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games that were postponed for one year owing to the Covid-19 pandemic. The *judo* event was held at the *Nippon Budokan* in Chiyoda, Tokyo – the stadium originally built for the inaugural Olympic *judo* competition at the 1964 Tokyo Olympics.

24 July

Naohisa Takato (28 years old) (JPN) won gold in the **Men's -60kg** class. Yang Yungwei (China, Taipei) took silver and Yeldos Smetov (KAZ) and Luka Mkheidze (FRA) gained bronze.

Distria Krasniqi (KOS) captured gold in the **Women's -48kg** class. Funa Tonaki (25) (JPN) gained the silver medal. Daria Bilodid (UKR) and Urantsetseg Munkhbat (MON) took bronze.

25 July

A Japanese brother and sister duo from Kobe city became Olympic champions. Hifumi Abe (23) captured the **Men's -66kg.** category gold medal. Vazha Margvelashvili (GEO) silver, An Baul (KOR) and Daniel Cargnin (BRA) taking bronze.

Uta Abe (21) took the **Women's -52kg** class gold, Amandine Buchard (FRA) silver, Odette Giuffrida (ITA) and Chelsie Giles (24) (GBR) bronze.

26 July

Shohei Ono (29) (JPN) the 2016 Rio Olympic champion, retained his title by winning gold in the **Men's -73kg** category. Lasha Shavdatuashvili (GEO) silver, An Changrim (KOR), and Tsend-Ochiryn Tsogtbaatar (MON) bronze.

Nora Gjakova (KOS) took gold in the **Women's -57kg** category, Sarah-Leonie Cysique (FRA) silver, Tsukasa Yoshida (25) (JPN) and Jessica Klimkait (CAN) bronze.



Hifumi and Uta Abe with their Olympic gold medals that they won on the same day

27 July

Takanori Nagase (27) (JPN) won the **Men's -81kg** category gold. Saeid Mollaei (29) (MON) silver, Shamil Borchashvili (AUT) and Matthias Casse (BEL) bronze.

In the **Women's -63kg** class, five-time world champion Clarisse Agbegnenou (28) (FRA) captured gold. Tina Trstenjak (SLO) silver, Maria Centracchio (ITA) and Catherine Beauchemin-Pinard (CAN) bronze.

28 July

Lasha Bekauri (21) (GEO) won the **Men's -90kg** category gold. Eduard Trippel (GER) silver, Davlat Bobonov (UZB) and Krisztian Toth (HUN) bronze.

Chizuru Arai (27) (JPN) captured gold in the **Women's -70kg** class. Michaela Polleres (AUSTRIA) silver, Madina Taimazova (ROC) and Sanne van Dijke (NED) bronze.

29 July

Aaron Wolf (25) (JPN) won gold in the **Men's -100kg** category. Cho Gu-ham (29) (KOR) silver, Jorge Fonseca (POR) and Niyaz Ilyasov (ROC) bronze.

Shori Hamada (30) (JPN) took the gold medal in the **Women's -78kg** class. Madeleine Malonga (FRA) silver, Anna-Maria Wagner (GER) and Mayra Aguiar (BRA) bronze.

30 July

Lukas Krpalek (30) (CZE) captured gold in the **Men's +100kg** category. Guram Tushishvili (GEO) silver, Teddy Riner (32) (FRA) and Tamerlan Bashaev (25) (ROC) bronze.

Akira Sone (21) (JPN) took gold in the **Women's +78kg** class. Idalys Ortiz (CUB) silver, Iryna Kindzerska (AZE) and Romane Dicko (FRA) bronze.

31 July

The concluding *judo* event of this Olympics resulted in France securing the Mixed Team gold medal. Japan gained silver with Israel and Germany taking bronze.

Japan's tally for this Olympics was 12 *judo* medals: nine gold, two silver, and one bronze.

Finally, much credit for the Japanese *judo* team's stellar performance at these Olympics should go to Kosei Inoue for his competent leadership.

2020 Tokyo Paralympic Judo Results Llyr Jones

The *judo* event at the 2020 Paralympics took place from 27 to 29 August 2021 at the *Nippon Budokan*. A total of 136 *judoka* from 41 countries entered, and there were 13 categories – 7 for men and 6 for women.

27 August

Vugar Shirinli (AZE) took gold in the **Men's -60kg** category, Anuar Sariev (KAZ) silver, Recep Ciftci (TUR) and Alex Bologa (ROU) bronze.

Uchkun Kuranbaev (UZB) won gold in the **Men's -66kg** category, Sergio Ibanez Banon (SPN) silver, Yujiro Seto (JPN) and Jessica Namiq Abasli (AZE) bronze.

Shahana Hajiyeva (AZE) captured gold in the **Women's -48kg** class and Sandrine Martinet (FRA) gained the silver medal. Viktoriia Potapova (RPC) and Yuliia Ivanytska (UKR) took bronze.

Cherinen Abdellaoui (ALG) won gold in the **Women's -52kg** category, Priscilla Gagne (CAN) silver and Alesia Stepaniuk (RPC) and Nataliya Nikolaychuk (UKR) bronze.

28 August

Feruz Sayidov (UZB) won gold in the **Men's -73kg** category, Temirzhan Daulet (KAZ) silver and Rufat Mahomedov (UKR) and Osvaldas Bareikis (LTU) bronze.

Huseyn Rahimli (AZE) took gold in the **Men's -81kg** category, Davurkhon Karomatov (UZB) silver, Eduardo Adrian Avila Sanchez (MEX) and Jung Min Lee (KOR) took bronze.

Sevda Valiyeva (AZE) captured gold in the **Women's -57kg** category, Parvina Samandorava (UZB) silver and Lucia Araujo (BRA) and Zeynep Celik (TUR) bronze.

Khanim Huseynova (AZE) secured gold in the **Women's -63kg** category, Iryna Husieva (UKR) silver, and Yue Wang (CHN) and Nafisa Sheripboeva (UZB) bronze.

29 August

Vahid Nouri (IRI) secured gold in the **Men's -90kg** class and Elliot Stewart (GBR) – the son of fellow *judoka* Dennis Stewart, who won a bronze medal in *judo* in the -95kg category at the 1988 Seoul Olympics – took silver. Helios Latchoumanaya (FRA) and Oleksandr Nazarenko (UKR) won bronze.

Chris Skelley (GBR) won gold in the **Men's -100kg** class, Ben Goodrich (USA) took silver and Sharif Khalilov (UZB) and Anatoli Shevchenko (RPC) gained bronze.



Elliot Stewart, GBR Paralympic Judo Coach Ian Johns and Chris Skelley*

* Source: <https://www.britishjudo.org.uk/double-medal-delight-for-gb-judo-at-paralympics/>

Mohammad Kheirollahzadeh (IRI) secured gold in the **Men's +100kg** class, Revaz Chikoidze (GEO) silver, and Ilham Zakiyev (AZE) and Gwan Geun Choi (KOR) bronze.

Alana Maldonado (BRA) won gold in the **Women's -70kg** category, Ina Kaldani (GEO) silver and Kazusa Ogawa (JPN) and Lenia Fabiola Ruvalcaba Alvarez (MEX) bronze.

Dursadaf Karimova (AZE) took gold in the **Women's +70kg** category, Zarina Baibatina (KAZ) silver, and Meg Emmerich (BRA) and Carolina Costa (ITA) bronze.

My Father, Syd Hoare (1939 – 2017) Sasha Hoare

Despite never doing *judo*, it has been a part of my life for as long as I can remember. As children my siblings and I were taken to The *Budokwai*, and later the London *Judo* Society (LJS), where we ran around and leapt on and off the crash mats which our dad, Syd, piled up for us in the *dojo*. One of my earliest memories is watching Syd lug *judo* mats into his white van and going off to teach classes in village halls when we moved to Sussex. *Judo* belts lay around the house and were put to a variety of uses, such as strapping luggage onto the car roof rack when we went on holiday or hanging from trees in our garden for kids to swing on at birthday parties. If we asked him to, Syd would do very gentle throws on us and our friends and was always ready to be the “human climbing frame”. He taught us to use the two taps of surrender when he was tickling us, which he honoured every time. Later, when we were closer to his height, he would stand beside us and put us in a loose armlock as a sign of affection. We were very proud of our dad and enjoyed telling people that he had been in the Olympics. I remember telling a boy in my infant school playground that my dad would do a *hane-goshi* on him if he didn't leave me alone. I was though a little hazy on what a *hane-goshi* was, but the boy backed off.

Syd talked about *judo* and *judo* politics every day. As long as he had a listening ear he would talk, no matter what age we were, while we were washing up together, or out for a

walk, or in the car, or sitting at the breakfast table. He referred to colleagues in the *judo* world by their surnames – Davies, Goodbody, Jacks (although for some reason a few of them were always referred to by their full names, including Charlie Palmer and Dickie Bowen) – and seemed to expect us to keep up with who was who and what their politics were. He would talk about *judo* history, British *Judo* Association (BJA) or British Olympic Association (BOA) policy, something he had just discovered about the origins of a throw in a book he was translating, *Budokwai* committee meetings, the list goes on.



Syd with his daughters Jocelyn and Sasha

Although our mum and dad encouraged all of us to do lots of physical activities and to be fit and healthy, and my brother did *judo* for a while, Syd never encouraged his three daughters to do *judo*. As an adult I asked him why this was and he replied, “it's a rough game for women”. This surprised me, especially because the British women's team was doing particularly well at the time, but I guess Syd's protective instincts won out over the idea of sharing participation in the sport he loved.

It wasn't just *judo* of course; Japan was very much a presence in our lives as well. Syd's speech was sprinkled with Japanese words such as “*waza*” and “*nesshin*” [enthusiasm]. His pet-name for me was “*Chojo*” 長女 [“Eldest daughter”]. He taught us sayings such as “the secret of *judo* is like your eyebrows – invisible but very close”. He loved the Japanese language, Japanese culture and customs and Japanese people, and told us a lot about his experiences in the country. He talked about his Japanese friends often as well, Kisaburo Watanabe, Yasuhiro Yamashita and others, and of course his mentor, Trevor (T.P.) Leggett, always with great respect.

We must have met quite a few of Syd's Japanese colleagues over the years, but I particularly remember Yamashita-sensei and his wife Midori's trip to London in the 1980s. My mum and dad welcomed them, found them accommodation, drove them around, took them to tourist attractions, invited them for dinner. It was so interesting to meet people from such a different culture to our own. I remember being impressed by their smiling good manners and how much I liked both of them.



Syd with his eldest daughter Sasha (the author)

Syd shared his appreciation for *haiku* (a type of short form poetry) and *doka* (way poems) with me and helped me when I was doing a module on Japanese poetry as part of my degree. He was always writing something and usually had multiple projects on the go. He had an urge, a mission, to share his knowledge, to explain, to shed light on what he learned or discovered. He was even writing a heist novel about the theft of antique Japanese swords when he became ill. I proofread drafts of his books although he was never very receptive to suggestions for alternative wordings!

As we grew older my siblings and I would help out at gradings at the LJS, taking money, selling cups of tea and coffee and making the inevitable call for an ambulance. One summer Syd employed me to paint all the woodwork in the building, a somewhat daunting task. At parties Syd would talk to our friends about *judo* or *sumo*, and after 45 minutes or so, when they started to look a little dazed, we would go and rescue them. In 2012, when the Olympics came to London, I made a series of videos of Syd talking about his life in *judo*. It is good to be able to watch them now and feel as though I am spending time with him again.

I was born after Syd's competitive career ended, so I knew him as a teacher, a writer, a commentator, an administrator and a politician (sometimes a controversial one). But, deeper than that, I knew him as someone with an absolute, lifelong passion for the practice and philosophy of *judo* and for the land and culture it came from. He was a fascinating, unusual, knowledgeable person with a huge range of experiences, and he passed on many of his life lessons and principles to his children. He was also a brilliant, loving, funny and supportive dad.

Apart from reading posts on a few Facebook groups and enjoying the old photos that come up, *judo* isn't really a big part of my life now. It's strange that I can miss something I have never done. Here's to Syd, on what would have been his 82nd birthday.

Note

This short essay was written by Syd Hoare's eldest daughter, Sasha, for what would have been Syd's 82nd birthday on 18 July 2021.

Trevor Pryce Leggett (1914 – 2000) Brian Watson

Trevor (T.P.) Leggett, a *Kodokan* 6th *dan*, became a noted oriental scholar, Japanese-language translator, and author of over thirty full-length books – some, incidentally, written in Japanese. Following an initial curiosity in *judo*, Leggett came to have great interest in and admiration for other facets of Eastern culture; his many writings included works on Buddhism, yoga, and Zen. He was, in his younger days, a single handicap golfer, an accomplished chess player and later gained from the Japan Shogi Federation a 5th *dan* at *shogi* [Japanese chess]. Born in London on 22 August 1914, he graduated from the University of London (LLB) in 1934. His father was leading violinist for the famed British conductor of the day Sir Thomas Beecham (1879-1961). In early life Leggett trained with a view to becoming a concert pianist and as such did little, if any, physical exercise. Being on occasions sickly, his doctor advised him to take up some sport. At the age of 16, therefore, the sport he chose was *judo* when he started taking lessons at the London *Budo-kwai*. After training under famous *judo* masters Yukio Tani (1881 – 1950) and Gunji Koizumi (1885 – 1965), he made swift progress and had reached 3rd *dan* grade prior to his gaining a post at the British embassy in Tokyo in 1939.



Trevor Leggett at the BBC

While in Japan he trained at both the Chuo University *judo* club and the *Kodokan*. With the flare-up of the Pacific War in 1941, Leggett, along with other diplomats and foreign nationals, was interned before being repatriated in 1942. He then saw military service in India, where he was required to interrogate Japanese prisoners of war. Following this episode, he joined the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) in London and from 1946 to 1970 served as head of the BBC's Japanese Service where he was responsible for the content of Japanese language short-wave radio broadcasts beamed from the UK to Japan.

Leggett was a man of strong character, which no doubt contributed to his achievements throughout life. Were these efforts influenced by or linked in any way to his long years of training in *judo*? He himself seemed to think so, for like Kano; Leggett was totally dedicated to the furtherance of *judo* and to education, and as such encouraged many youths, mainly British, to engage in the sport. In the U.K. he

often wrote, broadcast, and lectured on Japanese culture and also in the Japanese language when being interviewed by media personnel during his occasional visits to Japan. His influence among the *judo* fraternity in Britain was extensive, from administrative responsibilities that included membership of the British *Judo* Association's Technical Board, to the day-to-day instruction at the grass roots level. I recall, for instance, that for the British national *judo* team members and those of black belt grade who were allowed to attend his popular weekly Sunday Class at The *Budokwai* in the 1950s and 1960s, he made but one rule: all had to arrive at the *dojo* wearing a suit, white shirt with a stiffly starched detachable white collar and especially a necktie. Also, at the end of *judo* classes at his London *dojo*, the *Renshuden Judo* Academy on Albany Street, which he established in 1960, he would always give us a short pep talk, sometimes on *judo* but more often advice on other things in life. After his strenuous *judo* training sessions, he would regularly accompany his trainees to a local coffee shop or restaurant, never to a bar, and teach them how to play chess. He encouraged the young black belt holders, especially those who planned to train in Japan, to write essays for him and would edit their efforts following the meal; he also gave us advice on Japanese language study and taught us the rudiments of the written language. He once remarked that the challenge in life that he had found the hardest to master was that of *judo*. In 1984, Leggett was awarded the Order of the Sacred Treasure by the government of Japan for his contributions in helping to introduce Japanese culture to Britain.

Leggett passed away following a stroke in London on 2 August 2000. He was aged 85. Like Jigoro Kano, he was mentor to scholars of Oriental studies and to his many *judo* students. He had major impetus on the development of *judo* not only in the UK but also in Europe when he and a group of enthusiasts representing Great Britain, France, Italy, The Netherlands, and Austria, led by Gunji Koizumi, established the European *Judo* Union at the Imperial College Union in London on 26 July 1948. Thereafter the International *Judo* Federation (IJF) was founded on 11 July 1951.



Trevor Leggett (1914 – 2000)

References

For further references on T.P. Leggett please see the following books by B.N. Watson:

- *The Father of Judo*, Kodansha International, 2000
- *Judo Memoirs of Jigoro Kano*, Trafford Publishing, 2008, 2014
- *JUDO & LIFE*, Trafford Publishing, 2019

Anecdote

Trevor Leggett could be amusing at times. I heard a few anecdotes from people who knew him. One especially made me laugh. During his internment at the British embassy, Tokyo, during World War II, he along with other diplomats and their families, had a stressful wait before they were repatriated. The men would sit around drinking most of the time as the weeks stretched into months. Several would become drunk later in the day, but strangely never Leggett, even though he drank from his gin bottle just as much as the others did. He thus gained a reputation that he could remain sober no matter how much gin he had drunk. The secret, however, was that Leggett's gin bottle was full of water!

Last Shiai A Poem by Richard Riehle

Tatami firm
My feet are bare
Black *obi* tight
A knot that's square
Judogi white
Opponent's blue
And lose or win
My final fight
Then I am through

We've fought before
Our friendship long
We'll fight no more
Our bond still strong
Perhaps I'll win
That would be rare
A sweet surprise
For us to share

For matches lost
The few I've won
When I was tossed
Or my *ippon*
It's gratitude
For lessons learned
And gratitude
For what I've earned

Service is my duty now
For Kano's legacy to me
Responsibility my vow
For future *judoka* to be

Points to Ponder Compiled by Brian N. Watson

"When man challenges nature, nature fights back with its arsenal of wildfires, droughts and floods."

"The hardships of youth are often of value in age."

"Olympic athletes strive against opponents. Paralympic athletes strive against afflictions and opponents."

"You have to be adventurous when you are young, or what have you to look back on?"

Trevor Pryce Leggett
(1914 - 2000)



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Judo Collections



The "Bowen Collection" at the University of Bath Library, contains the extensive *judo* archive amassed by *judoka* and scholar Richard Bowen during the course of individual research for his many books and publications.

Alongside the "Bowen Collection" is the personal book collection of Syd Hoare which includes many rare texts, some in the Japanese language, given to Syd by Trevor Leggett. As well as the books, there is a bound compendium of the educational articles and lectures written and delivered by Syd.

Also residing at Bath is the "Woodard (*Judo*) Collection" – a compilation of archival material relating to the history of women's *judo* assembled by Marion and Graham Woodard.

All of these collections represent a wonderful resource for present and future *judo* researchers. They are for reference use only (not available for loan) and can be viewed between 0900 and 1700 hrs.