



Sensei **Charles Naylor** **7th Dan**

Charles Naylor first started Karate after reading a copy of the Nishiyama and Brown book, "Karate the Art of Empty hand Fighting".

Being a keen sportsman, he decided to give it a go, and began to make enquiries via the CCPR (the body which pre-dated the Sports Council) About this time, a group of youngsters from a Liverpool Jiu Jitsu club (amongst them a brown belt called Andy Sherry), were making similar enquiries, and they and the group from English Electric met at a pub in the centre of Liverpool to discuss the formation of a Karate club. They then attended a weekend course taught by Vernon Bell.

Charles then moved to Rainford and started the Rainford Karate Club, later the St. Helens Karate club. When Sensei Enoeda arrived in England and remained in Liverpool, he instructed at the St Helens club every weekend where Charles trained with him.

Later Charles moved to Chelmsford in Essex and started Chelmsford SKC, where Sensei Enoeda, who had moved to London, was a regular visitor.

Charles and his family became very close friends with Sensei Enoeda. He was the best man at his wedding and he and his wife Dot are Godparents to his first born who was named Charles Daisuke.

When he first started Karate, little did he realise the level of involvement at which he and his family would finally find themselves. Dot Naylor, his wife took up karate shortly after him, and is still a practicing 3rd Dan. His daughter Jane gained 4th Dan and represented Great Britain for many years as a competitor and she was also one of the first women in the KUGB to become a qualified Referee. His son Mark is a 1st Dan.

All of the Naylor's are long-standing members, and between them have approximately 150 years KUGB membership and practice, surely an unbeatable record!

His son-in-law, Richard is a 4th Dan and was a member of the Welsh Squad and Sensei Naylor is very proud that the next generation of the Naylor family have joined the KUGB family. His grandchildren, Bronte, Dominic and Megan are continuing the family tradition whilst grandson Nathan is a championship winning footballer.

As well as teaching Karate as a profession, Sensei Naylor is a trustee of the KUGB and its Vice-Chairman. He is also President of both the European Shotokan Karate Association and the World Shotokan Karate Association and is highly regarded in International circles for his negotiating skills and his understanding of the complexities of Karate politics. Sensei Naylor is also a Senior International Referee.

In spite of all these achievements, his greatest pride has been in seeing his wife and his children gain their black belts, and Jane gaining selection to the International squad. Moments he will always savour are watching Frank Brennan beat World Champion Mori in Bremen, and in the re-emergence of ESKA in Sunderland, especially as the England team won, and last, but not least, watching the 'boys' beat Japan at the World Championships in 1990.

Sensei Naylor was awarded 7th Dan by the KUGB at the National Championships in April 2004.