

The UCL Alumni Aikido Group and Friends

Find the **UCL Alumni Aikido Group** on the **UCL Alumni Online Community (AOC)**

<https://aoc.ucl.ac.uk/alumni/alumni-community>

The **UCL Alumni Aikido Group (UCLAAG)** is a social and training network for UCL alumni anywhere in the world with an interest in Aikido: whether actively involved in training or whether this interest is social, philosophical, cultural etc. As a global alumni group, it is of its essence not confined to any one club or organisation; it welcomes Alumni practitioners from all Aikido associations. In fact, over the years several different Aikido clubs and organisations have trained at the Dojo at UCL (see page 4). The present UCLU Aikido Club (revived 2014/15) is a merger of the traditional and Shodokan student clubs, working together for the benefit of both. Each of these past and present clubs has had UCL student and staff participants, all of whom are invited to join this Group.

One Good Aikido Reason for Joining

Just by joining the UCLAAG you are helping to promote and support the continuing practice of Aikido at UCL. For those who train(ed) at UCL, to join the Group is a statement that the opportunity you had to train in Aikido while a UCL student or member of staff was valuable to your experience at university or a positive influence on your later life etc.

How Does the Aikido Alumni Group Work? – Following UCL AOC Network's Example

It is envisaged that the Group should operate in a similar way to its parent body, the UCL Alumni network. **We would like you to send your suggestions on how the Group should go forward.** We would like the members themselves, e.g.: to arrange events for their own alumni circles hosted by their local clubs and organisations; to act as local contacts and send material such as news, future plans, reminiscences, photographs and discussion, etc. to the UCL Alumni Online Community website. Once you have registered on the AOC and with the UCLAAG, you can post messages to the network individually or via the Group's page. The AOC site is new to us and we are still working out how to use it to best effect.



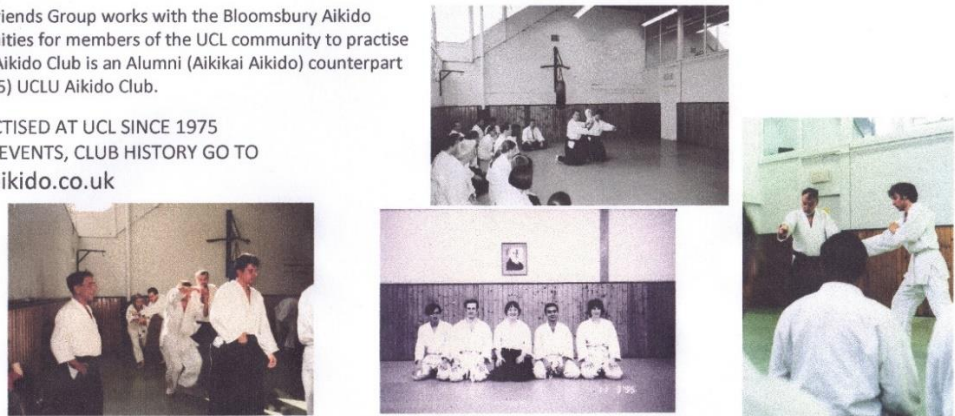
UCLAAG & Friends Photoshoots: (1) With Kobayashi Shihan at the UKA 30 Years Anniversary Course, 2015, Lilleshall National Sports Centre, Shropshire. (2) With Sugawara Shihan, 2015. Hosted by North London Aikido on behalf of Azami-Kai (3) Members of UCLU and Bloomsbury Aikido Clubs and UCLAAG & Friends at a post-graduating meal, 2014.

UCLAAG Associated Clubs - Globally

Where a member of the Group is also involved in running a Club, that Club can be registered with the Group as an Associated Club if it would like to be involved in, or organise, any UCL Alumni Aikido Group activities and events. Group members are welcome to register their Clubs: just send us a message to the UCLAAG AOC page, or to the UCLAAG & Friends Facebook page (see below).

UCL Alumni Aikido and Friends Group works with the Bloomsbury Aikido Club to provide opportunities for members of the UCL community to practise Aikido. The Bloomsbury Aikido Club is an Alumni (Aikikai Aikido) counterpart of the revived (in 2014/15) UCLU Aikido Club.

AIKIDO HAS BEEN PRACTISED AT UCL SINCE 1975
FOR NEWS, TRAINING, EVENTS, CLUB HISTORY GO TO
www.bloomsburyaikido.co.uk



Bloomsbury Aikido Club is a UCLAAG Associated Club

The Bloomsbury Aikido Club is the direct descendent of the first student UCL club founded in 1976 and thus has the longest history of any of the Aikido Clubs at UCL. Since the earliest days of the first student UCL Union Aikido Club through the Club’s evolution (in 2004) as a UCLU Bloomsbury Fitness martial arts activity to the revival (2014/15) of the student UCLU Aikido Club, UCL alumni and staff Aikido practitioners have played a significant role in providing continuity, experience and teaching. The **UCL Alumni Aikido Group** was established (in 2013) by one of the Bloomsbury Aikido Club UCL Alumni in recognition of this role.

The Bloomsbury Aikido Club is the first UCL Alumni Aikido Group Club and we hope that there will be more. As any standard Aikido club, it is a member of an Aikido association: the Goshinkai Aikido Association. As a UCLAAG Club it acts as a hub for the UCL Alumni Aikido & Friends Group supports UCLU Aikido (which has Goshinkai/Bloomsbury Aikido coaches and Goshinkai student and alumni members), organises reunions and carries a page for the UCL Alumni Aikido Group on its website <http://www.bloomsburyaikido.co.uk/ucl-alumni-aikido-group/> . We would like to hear from you if you have any material on the Club’s history that we could add to our Alumni and “Who We Are” pages.



BLOOMSBURY AIKIDO CLUB NEWSLETTER

May 2017 Issue 2017-2

How to Join UCLAAG on the Alumni Online Community Website

<https://aoc.ucl.ac.uk/alumni/alumni-relations/aoc>

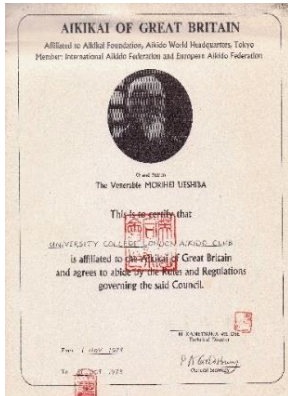
UCL Alumni Relations recently re-designed its website and has a new online system – the Alumni Online Community (AOC), <https://aoc.ucl.ac.uk/alumni/alumni-community> . AOC completely replaces the former UCL Alumni web community so if you were registered with the UCL Alumni and with UCLAAG on the old system you will need to re-register. The old Alumni numbers have also been replaced so the first step is to **apply for a new Alumni number**. This is now a 10 character number starting 8-1 and it is included on any recent communication you may have from the UCL Alumni Relations team.

1. To register / re-register with UCL Alumni go to <https://aoc.ucl.ac.uk/alumni/login> and click on 'New user registration'. You will need your new format Alumni ID Number
2. Once registered, log in to the UCL Online Alumni Community. The best way to do this seems to be to go to the <https://aoc.ucl.ac.uk/alumni/alumni-community> page and click on 'networking area' then log in via clicking on "Linked In" or "Facebook" using your usual Linked In or Facebook username and password.
3. Once logged in, go to 'Pages' to find the Alumni Aikido Group page icon and click on this to open the Group's page. Click on 'Follow' to join the Group.

UCL has been expanding over the years and now the following University of London institutions are a part of UCL and their alumni are now a part of the UCL alumni:
School of Pharmacy; School of Eastern European Studies; Institute of Education

Find the UCL Alumni Aikido & Friends Group on [Facebook](#)

The AOC is not a public network, being only accessible to UCL Alumni and staff but the Group has a public UCL Alumni Aikido & Friends Group page on Facebook which all are invited to join and post material on. There are many non-ucl-alumni who have associations with Aikido at UCL, whether as instructors, practitioners or friends and family and all are welcome to join in the Group's events and activities. For those who do not use Facebook but would like to stay in touch, send an email to barbara.sotowicz@uclmail.net .



Aikido Clubs that have trained in the Dojo at UCL

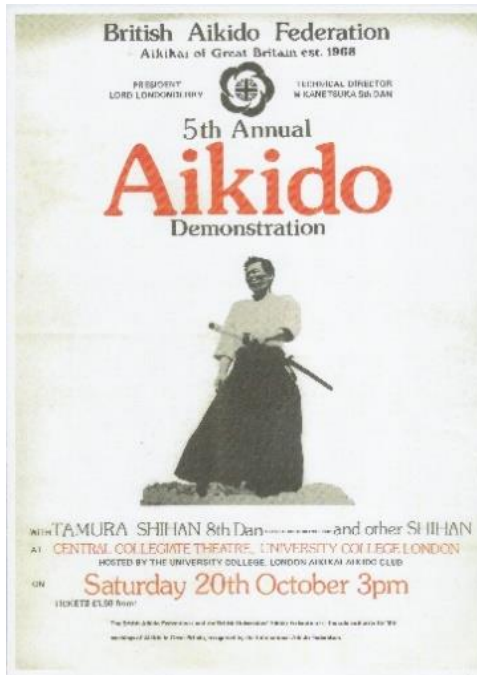
(Dojo was demolished in December 2013 and replaced by a "multi-purpose room")



(1)1990s, original Dojo, 3rd floor CCB. (2) Dojo 2003-2013, 4th floor.

Club Years at UCL	UCLU or External Activity	Associations
UCLU Aikido Club (founded 1976) becoming Bloomsbury Aikido Club 1976-2014	UCLU student club Changing status to UCLU Bloomsbury Fitness Centre martial arts club	Aikikai of GB then British Aikido Federation to 1994 United Kingdom Aikikai 1994-2016 Goshinkai Aikido Association 2016 - current
Ryushinkan Aikido Club 1985-2008(?)	External hire	Aikikai of GB then BAF: Ryushinkan is the club of Mr Kanetsuka, BAF Technical Director
Kyudokai Club 1990s	External hire	Kyudokai Martial Arts Association Practising Aikido and Karate
UCLU Shodokan (founded 2014) 2014-2015	UCLU student club	Shodokan (competitive, Tomik) Aikido
UCLU Aikido (revived 2014/15) 2014-current	UCLU student club. An Aikido "co- operative": merged with UCLU Shodokan in 2015/16	Holds Aikido classes of different styles UKA 2014 - 2016 Eigoku Bansen Kai 2015-16 Shodokan 2015-current Goshinkai 2016 - current

Aikido is bigger than any one organisation. In 2015-16 the revived UCLU Aikido Club merged with the UCLU Shodokan (Tomiki Aikido) Club. That year the student President was the Chief Instructor of Eigoku Bansen Kai Aikido Exeter. By coming together, the three Aikido groups were able to raise the minimum 30 UCL student member requirement for a club to be affiliated to UCLU. By coming together, each group was able to carry on with its Aikido classes. If they had not worked together in this way, Aikido training at UCL would have come to an end.



In 1978 or 9(?) the UCLU Aikido Club hosted the BAF 5th Annual Demonstration

UCL Alumni Aikido Group and Friends Reunion 2017

The date for Reunion 2017 could be in July or September, depending on the feedback I get from those who would like to attend.



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Goshinkai Aikido Association www.goshinkai.org.uk

UK Governing Body: British Aikido Board www.bab.org.uk

Goshinkai is compliant with the regulations of the Hombu, Aikikai Foundation, Japan, www.aikikai.or.jp/eng.

BAC www.bloomsburyaikido.co.uk is a UCL Alumni Aikido Group Club: <https://aoc.ucl.ac.uk/alumni/alumni-community>