



Kingsland Martial Arts Academy **KUKJAE HAPKIDO**

History of Kingsland Martial Arts Academy

Kingsland Martial Arts was founded by two kukjae hapkido federation black belts, Paul Quickenden and Aaron Hochwimmer, in late 2003.

At the time we felt there was an opportunity for a new Auckland club situated within the inner city suburbs.

2004 – Club Opening, Instructors Grade to II Dan

The inaugural class was on 21st January 2004. There was an initial intake of five students on the first day. One of which was James McGoram, who continues as an instructor. Club membership grew from that largely by word-of-mouth.

Classes were initially held on Mondays and Wednesday (6 - 8pm) and Sunday (3 - 5pm) at the *Kowhai Intermediate School Hall* in Onlsow Road, Kingsland. Training at a school hall had challenges such as working around school productions and other activities, and constructing/dismantling the training mat surface every class.

In the first year we started building up an equipment stock including interlocking training mats, along with kicking and punching focus pads.

In May we were featured in "DASH" magazine in an article focusing on the application of kukjae hapkido for women's self defence.

For the instructors, the initial year was a balance between teaching and working on grading material.

Both Paul and Aaron graded to II Dan in the *old Upper Hutt Dojang*, 11 September 2004. This grading was run under a panel of senior Kukjae Hapkido Federation instructors: Master Callum Forbes (VI Dan), Murray Booth (V Dan), and Dean Tobin (III Dan).





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Kingsland Martial Arts Instructors Paul (front Centre) and Aaron (front right) after their II Dan Gradings

2005 – Move to Mt Albert Primary School Hall

The dojang (training hall) had moved its location to the *Mt Albert Primary School hall* located in Sainsbury Road at the end of December 2004. We moved to locate a larger space with wooden floors. Coinciding with the shift the training times changed to Tuesday and Thursday 6:30 – 8pm.

In hindsight training in school halls was not ideal for a martial art club. Running a non-profit club in Auckland is difficult because of the cost of renting facilities. We have always endeavoured to keep the training fees at an affordable level and set to a level to cover running costs.





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In May we were featured in Metro Magazine in a documentary style article entitled "The Korean Fighters".



Metro Magazine Photo Shoot

2006 - Interclub Trainings, Seminars

In March we hosted the Parnell club for four classes while their training hall was being renovated. The interclub training was good although it did highlight some minor differences in the way the syllabus was being taught between clubs. Interactions with others martial artists and groups is something we have always encouraged.

In August a number of our instructors and students travelled to Wellington City for the national Kukjae Hapkido Federation seminar.





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2006 National Kukjae Hapkido Federation Seminar

2007 – Foundation Students Grade to I Dan

2007 was a milestone year for the club. In 3 November 2007 foundation students James McGoram, Jamie McFadgen, and Michael Mailman graded to I Dan at the *Upper Hutt Martial Arts Academy*. This grading was run by Master Callum Forbes (VI Dan). Much of the year leading up to the grading was focused on preparation for the grading exam.



Self Defence Techniques showcased in the clubs first I Dan black belt grading

A seminar was run the following day including continuous self defence drill training.





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During the year we hosted Kukjae Federation instructors and members from Upper Hutt (Master Callum Forbes), Dunedin (Andy Montgomery), and Wellington City (David Ollivier).

2008 – Move to Auckland Martial Arts Academy, Introduction of Sunday Class

The dojang moved to its current location to the *Auckland Martial Arts Academy* located in New North Road, Kingsland on 14 January 2008. The Academy, as a dedicated martial arts facility, offered a significant improvement over the school halls that we had previously trained in.

Coinciding with the shift training times changed to Monday and Thursdays 8:00pm – 9:30pm. While the new times were a challenge for some existing members, the quality of the facilities more than outweighed the drawbacks. Initial fears around the later times proved to be unfounded and in general these times proved to be quite suitable for the majority of the club membership.

A third class was introduced in March. This session was for Sunday 6:30-8:00pm and intended for grading practice for graded students as well as allowing instructors and senior grades to work on their own personal development. The Sunday sessions are run more informally and often include contact sparring and ground fighting training with protective equipment.

The club participated in an entry for the 48 Hours Film Competition. Needless to say we performed all of our own stunts.



Kingsland Martial Arts on Film - 48 Hours 2008





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2009 – Seminars, End of an Era

It seemed that a number of students had left at the end of 2008 to travel overseas, so club numbers were down by the start of 2009. A number of new students gradually joined to learn Kukjae Hapkido and the club went through a growth phase.

In November instructor Paul Quickenden attended an interclub seminar at the *Upper Hutt Dojang* and presented a number of training drills that the club had developed over the last couple of years. These were well received by other Kukjae Hapkido Federation clubs.

At the end of 2009 founding instructor Paul retired from Kukjae Hapkido due to an underlying medical condition. As head instructor, Paul was instrumental in setting up the club and did a lot of behind the scenes work to make sure that classes were well organised. His influence at the club will be missed.

2010 – Introduction of Fitness Training, Inter club Interactions, Future Directions

The club continues offering practical tuition in self defence in 2010. Numbers currently average around ten a class.

James has taken over instruction of the Monday class and brings a unique and friendly approach to teaching the syllabus.

We have introduced a fitness training session on the weekend. This is normally on Saturday morning and currently takes the form of a 8-10km group run. We will introduce other group activities in the future. This fitness session is intended to supplement martial arts training by increasing the base level of cardiovascular fitness.

This year we are looking at better interaction with the other clubs that use the Auckland Martial Arts Academy Facility, and participating in demonstrations and other activities. For example members of the Kingsland Martial Arts Academy will be participating at the Auckland Lantern Festival on 28 February 2010.

Our instructors and black belts continue to be mentored by Master Callum Forbes from the *Upper Hutt Dojang*. They are currently studying towards their Dan gradings with a view to sit these tests in 2010.





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Our Training Lineage

Names in bold reflect actively training Kingsland Martial Arts Academy Black Belts.

Founder of Kukjae Hapkido New Zealand : Grand Master Lee Jung Name (IX)

- 1st Generation Black Belts: Master Callum Forbes (VI). Other influencing instructors: Master Murray Booth (V), Bryce Burrows (III), Dean Tobin (III), Andy Montgomery (III), Mark Metcalfe (II)
 - 2nd Generation Black Belts: Paul Quickenden (II) – club founder and former head instructor, **Aaron Hochwimmer (II)** – head instructor
 - 3rd Generation Black Belts: **James McGoram (I)** – club instructor, **Jamie McFadgen (I)**, Michael Mailman (I)

