

April 26 is always a day etched into the history of Kyokushin as it was the day Sosai left us. Since then this Branch has always held a memorial training session to celebrate the karate that he gave us and the World.

Before we began training I had the pleasure to present Sempai Joanne Collier with her Shodan certificate and belt. I also presented our International fighters (past and present) with an Australian gi badge that I had especially made.

This year we were fortunate enough to have Sensei Frank Cirillo and his members attend as well as Jason Homa from Adelaide, Sensei Alexander Kondakov and Shihan Tony Bowden from Queensland. So it had a very special feeling and this was obvious as the training progressed. To have a 7<sup>th</sup> Dan, a 6<sup>th</sup> Dan, a 5<sup>th</sup> Dan and 2 4<sup>th</sup> Dans taking the training is always special.

We concluded with some of us talking about Sosai, our memories of him and the fantastic karate that he developed.

