

10 Years in the Making

10 years ago , a journey began from a chance encounter , destination unknown .
Roads not yet travelled upon, with training partners not yet met.
Some would become friends other would be brief contacts , but all would contribute .

With a struggling body , and resisting mind , so began my journey in Aikido .
Many lessons to be learned, many techniques to practise ,many rolls to do .
Learning is not always a simple task , and sometimes the simple thing are the hardest to learn .

Aikido has many things to teach.
Sometimes those lessons are frustrating ,tiring ,frustrating, painful ,frustrating .
Other times those lessons are enjoyable ,fun ,enjoyable ,exciting ,enjoyable.
And sometimes leading to apparent dead ends , but all of them part of learning process .
All of them helping me grow , not only in Aikido , but in many other ways as well .

Come forward 10 years

It seems just like yesterday, my first time at the Dojo .
watching, wondering and wanting the Hakama and Black Belt of the senior students.
Many hours of training , of practising at home , of watching DVD's and videos (yep videos)
Of discussions with training friends , what if this ? what if that ?
Of Teachers committing their Patience ,Time and Skill .
Of slowly moving from one end of the class to the other .

The journey continues, and there are many lessons yet to learn .
As significant point ,the grading to Shodan
and the wearing of the Hakama and Black belt are just a way point in the journey
perhaps recognition of patience, of dedication , and maybe a little skill as well ...

Most importantly , the journey is to continue
The questions to be asked
The lessons to be learnt

Regards
Trev Mason