

### ***82 GB fencers to take part in Veterans European Individual Championships!***



**TERNI2013**

EUROPEAN VETERANS  
CHAMPIONSHIPS

DAL 9 AL 12 MAGGIO 2013

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**World Championships Selection**  
**West Midlands Open**  
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## Chairman's letter

Dear Members,

It is with concern that we have just heard that our Life President, Henry de Silva, has suffered a stroke some two weeks ago. He is in hospital in the Isle of Man but Pressie tells us that he is determined to be at the European Individual Championships as a spectator in May.

I know that you will all join me in wishing him well and a speedy return to health and we will keep members informed when we hear more.

The European Individual Championships in Terni are nearly upon us, so every best wish for a successful and enjoyable competition goes to all our fencers and Team Manager Gillian Aghajan.

Our Domestic Fencing Officer Peter Baron, ably assisted by Janet, ran an excellent Veterans West Midlands Open competition in Dudley on 13th and 14th April, and a report can be seen in this Newsletter.

Peter is also seeking fencers for the Crystal Open Team competition in the Midlands on 19th May, so please do get in touch if you would like to take part.

The Veterans Winton Cup is taking place on 7th and 8th September at Lilleshall and Team Captains are in the process of getting their teams together. If you would like to take part in the event, please let me know and I will pass your names on to the Team Captains.

Sincerely

**Frank Mills**  
**Chairman BVF**

**See BVF website home page for  
European competitions  
and events -  
[www.veterans-fencing.co.uk](http://www.veterans-fencing.co.uk)**

### **BVF Calendar 2013**

| <b>BVF CALENDAR 2013</b> |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>May 4-5</b>           | <b>5 Nations, Dublin</b>  |
| <b>May 9-12</b>          | <b>European Individual Championships, Terni, Umbria, Italy</b>                            |
| <b>Sep 7-8</b>           | <b>Veterans Winton Cup, Lilleshall</b>  |
| <b>Oct 1-6</b>           | <b>World Championships, Bulgaria</b><br>There will be a test Team event at all 6 weapons. |
| <b>Oct 12-13</b>         | <b>Welsh Veterans Championships, Swansea</b>  |
| <b>Dec 1</b>             | <b>BVF v Royal Navy, HMS President 72 St Katharines Way.<br/>London. E1W 1UQ</b>          |

## 2013 World Veterans Fencing Championships

The selection for the British Veterans Fencing squad for the 2013 World Veterans Individual Fencing Championships has taken place and, now that the host city of Varna, Bulgaria has been confirmed those selected have been informed by email or post. The selection list is shown below and continues on the next page.

If you think that a mistake has been made in the application of the selection rules, which possibly deprives you of a selection place, you may appeal, in writing, to the BVF Chairman Frank Mills. Any appeal must contain the basis of your belief that the selection rules have not been properly applied and must reach Frank Mills before the appeals deadline of 20<sup>th</sup> May 2013.

This year there will be a pilot Team Championships which it is hoped will be a success and the FIE will approve the inauguration of a World Veterans Team Fencing Championships. Although the details of the Team Championships are not finalised it is understood that it will be based on teams of three fencers, one from each category, with the possibility of a reserve for each age category, fencing in the relay system. There will be championships at all six weapons. BVF intends to enter teams at all six weapons.

On behalf of the BVF Committee and, I am sure the membership of BVF in general, I wish the squad the best of luck for the championships.

**David Sweeney**  
**GB Team Manager**

### British Veterans Fencing 2013 World Championships Selection List

#### Men's Squad

##### **MF 50-59 Cat A**

John Troiano  
Paul Abrahams  
Anthony Bartlett  
Mark Baker

##### **ME 50-59 Cat A**

Neal Mallett  
Anton Pollard  
Jon Nottingham  
Hugo Veryzer

##### **MS 50-59 Cat A**

Barry Coulter  
Chris Prevett  
Julian Ghosh  
Paul Abrahams

##### **MF 60-69 Cat B**

Graham Paul  
Brian Causton  
Paul Lowen  
Steve Fox

##### **ME 60-69 Cat B**

Jonathan Stanbury  
Graham Paul  
Robin Davenport  
Max Telfer

##### **MS 60-69 Cat B**

Carl Morris  
Richard Cohen  
Geoffrey Silverman  
Richard Bonehill

##### **MF 70+ Cat C**

Malcolm Fare  
Malcolm Cawton  
Brian Millo  
Peter Baron

##### **ME 70+ Cat C**

Christopher Green  
Robert Phelps  
William Osbaldeston  
Malcolm Fare

##### **MS 70+ Cat C**

William Osbaldeston  
Peter Baron  
Malcolm Cawton  
Dennis Hunt

## Women's Squad

### WF 50-59 Cat A

Gillian Worman  
Caron Hale  
Jenny Morris  
Kati Archer

### WF 60-69 Cat B

Margaret Myers  
Clare Halsted  
Moya McNamara  
Susan Uff

### WF 70+ Cat C

Janet Cooksey  
Carole Dixon  
Sylvia Brown  
Diane Austin

### WE 50-59 Cat A

Kate Smith  
Jenny Morris  
Jane Hutchison  
Mariette Mason

### WE 60-69 Cat B

Kate Elvin  
Caryl Oliver  
Silvia Earl  
Fiona Haldane

### WE 70+ Cat C

Sylvia Brown  
Janet Cooksey  
Carole Seheult  
Connie Adam

### WS 50-59 Cat A

Jane Hutchison  
Grace Coulter  
Caron Hale  
Vanessa Hendra

### WS 60-69 Cat B

Sue Benney  
Yvonne Walls  
Vivian Frith  
Silvia Earl

### WS 70+ Cat C

Sylvia Brown  
Connie Adam

**WESTERN  
UNION**

business solutions

## West Midlands Open Medal Winners

### Men's Foil (13)

1 Jonathan Stanbury  
2 Malcolm Fare  
3 Mike Bradbury  
3 Jacques Portal

### Men's Epée (26)

1 John Chalmers  
2 Rob Brooks  
3 Stephan Munn  
3 Gerry Simpson

### Men's Sabre (10)

1 Stefan Leponis  
2 Duncan Rowlands  
3 Matthew Jennings  
3 Phil Palmer

### Women's Foil (5)

1 Caron Hale  
2 Catherine Heyes  
3 Jane Clayton  
3 Susan Uff

### Women's Epée (13)

1 Caron Hale  
2 Jane Clayton  
3 Susan Brooks  
3 Angela Findlay

### **Men's Sabre**

**Matthew Jennings**  
**Phil Palmer**  
**Stefan Leponis**  
**Duncan Rowlands**



## West Midlands Open

A last minute (or relatively so) rush of entries meant that the event went ahead after being threatened with cancellation and, indeed, numbers were slightly up on last year. However, the Women's Sabre had to be cancelled with only 3 entries; women's foil had only 5 entries. Because of the scheduling the latter were able to join in for a round with the men before each continued in their own event.

It appears to have been generally enjoyed.

I saw little of the actual fencing so I will leave it to others to comment on the thrills and spills. The organisation was moderately efficient with one slight delay during the foil events, which was not significant enough to upset the competitors. As usual I left after hearing "Thanks" a number of times and a certain amount of praise for organising, which does offer some consolation for the efforts.

Being able to have access to the venue on Friday meant that Janet & I were able to lay out the pistes and place the boxes on tables ready for putting out on Saturday morning. They were not laid out because there were various workmen and cleaners and we didn't want water near them or being blamed for trip hazards. But it did mean there was little to do on Saturday morning. Here I would like to mention the help of my wife who does a great deal that goes on unnoticed. She is actually responsible for much for which I sometimes get credit. I would also like to mention, in particular among several of those who helped, Simon Holburn our First Aider who spent much of his time helping with DT and with a small amount of equipment repairs, followed by helping with the breakdown at the end (and not even, as far as I am aware, applying the smallest plaster over the two days); also, Phil Palmer, who helped in all three of those ways, including the unenviable task of rolling pistes.



**Men's Epee**  
**Stephan Munn**  
**John Chalmers**  
**Rob Brooks**  
**Gerry Simpson**



**Men's Foil**  
**Malcolm Fare**  
**Jonathan Stanbury**  
**Mike Bradbury**  
**Jacques Portal**

**Women's Epée**  
**Jane Clayton**  
**Caron Hale**  
**Sue Brooks**  
**Angela Findlay**



Some BVF members cited other clashing events as reasons for not taking part. I understand that the Allstar/Uhlmann Open in Leeds and the Welsh Closed event were events taking place over the weekend. Neither of these events showed on the calendar when the date for the WMO was chosen. In an increasingly crowded calendar it is almost impossible to avoid clashes with something. One can only choose a weekend when the other events are least likely to attract the same people one wishes to attract. However, based on the number of people mentioned, who might otherwise have entered the WMO, it only really accounts for a handful of the membership.

I am increasingly disappointed and frustrated by the lack of response to the various events that are offered. We have arranged for organisers to attach Vets events to open competitions and the response has been abysmal. We have set up the WMO; the response has been marginally better. This year 62 people entered out a membership of over 500. We organise matches and team entries to appropriate low key events. In most cases I waste time offering them and end up cajoling people to take up places.

I cite as another example the forthcoming Crystal Open Teams event. So far there are a whole 2 volunteers for team places!

I was appointed to the committee because there appeared to be a demand for Vets competition beyond the big championships and I was keen to see that demand satisfied. This impression was apparently confirmed by the competition survey we did. Yet a very small percentage of the membership turns out for these events.

Perhaps the time has come for the membership to make clear what it does or does not want to do in the way of competition and, perhaps, have a new face try to provide it for them. I am at a loss as to how my role meets an apparently non-existing demand. Certainly, although those who came might have appreciated it, I am very reluctant to spend the time and effort running the event again next year.

**Peter Baron**

## **Crystal Open - 19<sup>th</sup> May Castle High School, Dudley**

A 3 weapon mixed teams competition, with one person at each weapon, mixed gender, preferably with member a different gender to the other two but single sex teams are allowed.

Full details on:

[www.veterans-fencing.co.uk](http://www.veterans-fencing.co.uk) and  
[www.stourbridgefencingclub.co.uk](http://www.stourbridgefencingclub.co.uk)

If you would like to take part, please contact Peter Baron:

Tel: 01384 400242

[bvf@baronfencing.plus.com](mailto:bvf@baronfencing.plus.com)



**Women's  
Foil**

**Jane Clayton  
Cathy Heyes  
Caron Hale  
Susan Uff**

*Photos  
courtesy of  
Peter Baron*



## Competition results (top half)

### Belfast Open - 09/03/2013

ME (26) 10 Duncan Salter  
WE (36) 1 Fiona Haldane

### Invicta Open - 16/03/2013

MF (88) 11 Paul Lowen  
24 Nick Hills  
25 Anthony Bartlett  
29 Nicholas Mort  
34 David Exeter  
37 Brian Causton

ME (90) 2 Robert Flatt  
3 Ralph Johnson  
7 Stephen Domek  
8 Howard West  
28 Andrew Brown  
32 Will Miller

MS (37) 12 Adam Bartley  
13 Carl Morris

WF (51) 13 Nicola Hull

WE (59) 3 Nicola Hull  
13 Jane Clayton  
15 Sara Spence

WS (23) 12 Lucy Wright

### Elite Epée - 23/3/2013

ME (90) 18 Chris Howser  
21 Neal Mallett  
27 Howard West  
40 Robert Flatt  
44 George Liston

### Hampshire Open - 23/03/2013

MF (30) 12 Paul Lowen  
ME (59) 3T Robin Davenport  
5 Will Miller  
15 Simon Pink  
20 Gerry Simpson  
22 Paul Gregory  
24 John Rees  
25 Mark Richardson  
27 Steve Tatner

MS (29) 8 Richard Bonehill  
14 Carl Morris

WF (22) 3T Dawn Townsend  
3T Angela Gould  
5 Caron Hale

WE (19) 6 Victoria Clements

WS (12) 2 Jane Hutchison  
3T Silvia Earl

### Glasgow Open - 06/04/2013

WE (34) 8 Angela Gould

### Uhlmann Trophy - 13/04/2013

MF (49) 10 Paul Kennea  
13 Mike McKay  
17 Duncan Salter

ME (61) 6 Adam Pollard  
12 Tom Chrisp  
13 Tristan Spicer  
15 Max Telfer  
28 Darryl Hazlewood  
29 Paul Willmott

WF (13) 5 Kati Archer

WS (5) 2 Frances Woodward

**Congratulations to  
Fiona Haldane - 1st place  
Belfast Open  
Women's Epée!**

## Members' news

### Congratulations to Fiona Haldane - Local Hero!



**Local Heroes Award  
WINNER:  
Fiona Haldane**

**Telegraph sports  
AWARDS 2012**

sponsored by **LINWOODS** supported by **sport Northern Ireland**

**F**iona Haldane is the type of inspirational person that Northern Ireland sport needs. At 62, the Ulster woman is still competing as a top fencer, becoming the Northern Ireland and Irish Women's Epee champion in 2012. In what was a highly successful year for the Grosvenor Fencing club member, she also won a bronze medal at the World Veteran Fencing Championships in Austria. That fabulous result, of course, reflected well on the club and Fiona herself. She never misses a training session and, importantly, is always willing to coach and advise younger fencers in her discipline, whatever their age or ability. Determined to keep herself fit, Fiona has been known to cycle over 30 miles on a Saturday afternoon and enter a fencing competition the next day - and win it. The biology teacher also finds time to sing in her church choir. Fiona is quite a lady - a real Local Hero.

Fiona Haldane presented with her award by Nick Harkness, acting Chief Executive of Sport NI. Above, right: Action woman Fiona

## News from Henry

I received a short letter from Henry few weeks ago before he was taken ill. He mentioned that if you had seen the Queen's Speech on Christmas Day, he could be seen in the background at one point, running with the Olympic Torch!

Get well soon Henry!

**Editor**

**Good luck to all 82 fencers who will be fencing in Terni!**

## Results in Feb/March issue errors

At the Merseyside Open (ME) 22nd position was taken by Joe Craig junior, who unfortunately isn't old enough to be a veteran! His father, Joe Craig senior, finished 95th.

Kate O'Connell finished 10<sup>th</sup> in the WF at the Slough Open. Her result was not picked up by our software.

Apologies - **Editor**



## Who are we?



*Can you recognise these two young boys who are now both Vets?*



*Do you know where and when this photo was taken and can you identify anyone?*

The  
**MALTA**  
**OPEN**  
**2013**  
22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> June



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## Editor's Note:

The BVF newsletter is your voice: a chance for you to put forward your views, send reports, letters, photos or articles.

Please speak up!

Send to me:

[g.aghajan@virgin.net](mailto:g.aghajan@virgin.net)

## Film photos answers (Feb/March)

1. Captain Blood 1935
2. The Adventures of Robin Hood 1938
3. The Mark of Zorro 1942
4. Scaramouche 1952
5. The Princess Bride 1987
6. The Black Swan 1942
7. The Man in the Iron Mask 1976
8. The Mark of Zorro 1920
9. The Three Musketeers 1921

## Caption Competition

April

send your entry to Editor

[g.aghajan@virgin.net](mailto:g.aghajan@virgin.net)



## Caption Competition Feb/March

*Editor's choice*

*'Friends show sympathy when told of Michelle's forthcoming nasal surgery'*

**Paul Brenda**

*'To err is human, to arr is pirate'*

**Peter Watson**

**Photos  
by Editor**



## BVF contacts

|                        |                               |  |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>Life President</b>  |                               | <b>Henry de Silva</b><br><br>6 Little Meadow<br>Andreas<br>Isle Of Man IM7 4HY<br><br>Tel: 01624 880863                           |
| <b>Officers</b>        | Chairman                      | <b>Frank Mills</b><br><br>Tel: 01908 310516<br><br><a href="mailto:millsfba@aol.com">millsfba@aol.com</a>                         |
|                        | Treasurer                     | <b>John Mason</b><br><br>Tel: 01225 761788<br><br><a href="mailto:BVF@jrmason.demon.co.uk">BVF@jrmason.demon.co.uk</a>            |
|                        | Membership Secretary          |  |
|                        | Webmaster                     |  |
|                        | Secretary                     | <b>Marcia Stretch</b><br><br>Tel: 01293 786 841<br><br><a href="mailto:marcia_stretch@hotmail.com">marcia_stretch@hotmail.com</a> |
| <b>Elected Members</b> | International Fencing Officer | <b>David Sweeney</b><br><br>Tel: 01453 758372<br><br><a href="mailto:mrdsweeney@hotmail.com">mrdsweeney@hotmail.com</a>          |
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| <b>Co-opted Member</b> | Publicity Officer             | <b>Malcolm Fare</b><br><br><a href="mailto:malcolm.fare@crossword.demon.co.uk">malcolm.fare@crossword.demon.co.uk</a>           |



**PLEASE NOTE**  
 Any articles or letters for the May BVF Newsletter should be sent to:-

**Gillian Aghajan**  
 by 20th May  
 Tel: **07747 792712**  
 email:  
[g.aghajan@virgin.net](mailto:g.aghajan@virgin.net)

